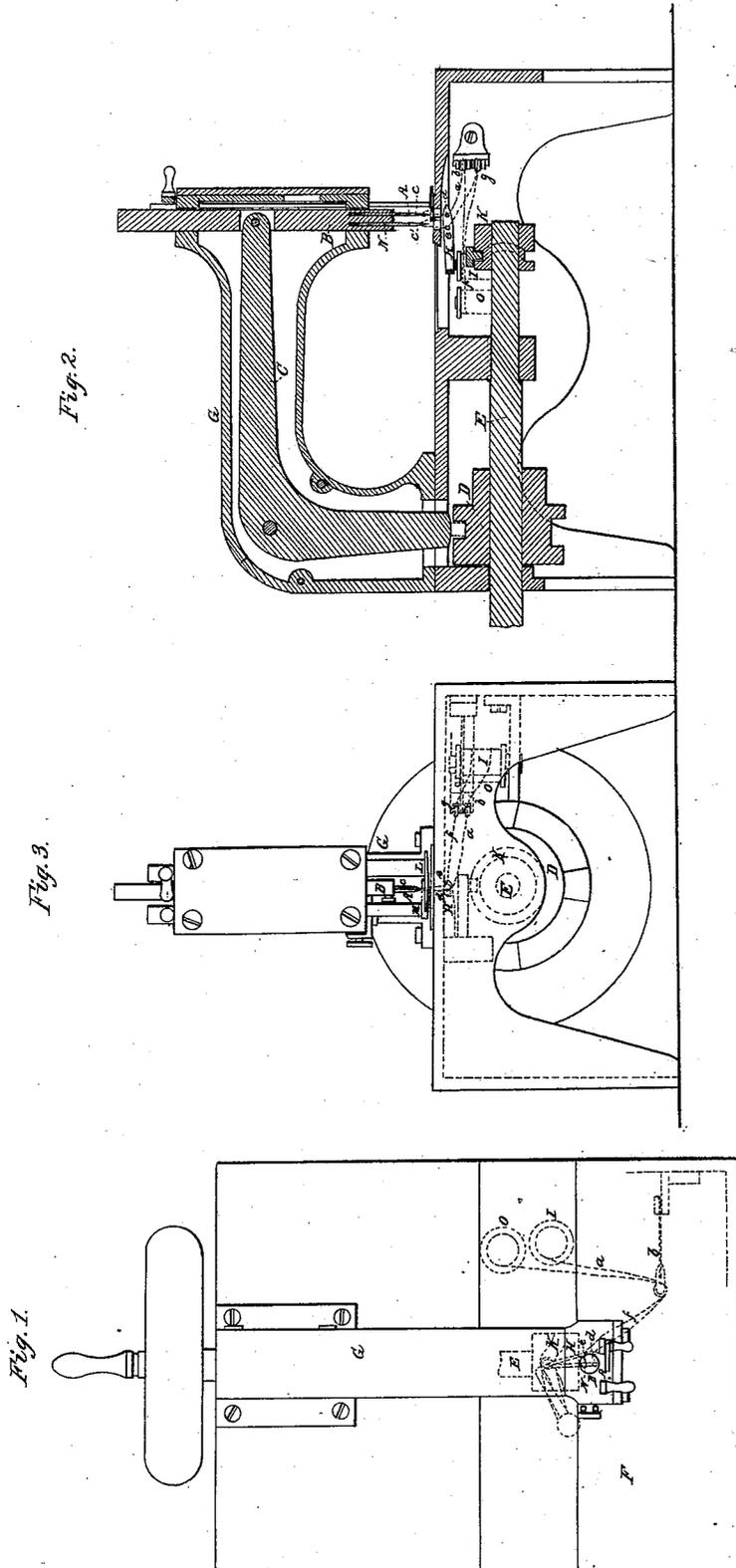


W. WICKERSHAM.
Sewing Machine.

No. 10,615.

Patented Mar. 7, 1854.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM WICKERSHAM, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SEWING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 10,615, dated March 7, 1854.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WICKERSHAM, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful improvement in the sewing-machine for performing the chain-stitch with one or more threads; and I do hereby declare that the same is fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, letters, figures, and references thereof.

Of the said drawings, Figure 1 denotes a top view, and Fig. 2 a central vertical and longitudinal section; and Fig. 3 is a front end elevation of my improved sewing-machine.

In the said drawings, A represents the hooked needle as applied to a vertical needle slide or carrier, B, to which a reciprocating rectilinear and vertical motion is given by a bent lever, C, acted on by a grooved cam, D, fixed on the driving-shaft E. F is the table of the machine, and G is the hollow arm which rises above the same, and contains the lever C. H is the thread-carrier, which receives the thread *a*, that passes from the bobbin I and through a take-up spring, *b*, such carrier being a bent lever worked by a grooved cam, K, and so as to lay the thread in the hook of the needle every time it descends through the cloth. The needle is provided with a closing slide, *c*, to its hook, which is made to work in the usual manner. There is nothing new in such machinery so far as described, it being that of a common chain-stitch sewing-machine; nor is there anything new in the machinery by which the cloth or material to be sewed is held down on the bed and fed along under the action of the needle. Of such machinery, L represents the presser, and M the feed propeller, they being operated in a manner well known, and which, together with the mode of operating the needle-slide, is fully described in the specification of an application for a patent recently made by me.

My invention has no reference to the feeding apparatus, only so far as it makes part of the sewing-machine.

To the needle-carrier B of the machine I affix a second hooked needle, N, in such manner that such second needle shall stand parallel and at such a distance from the first as may be desirable. This second needle I provide, if necessary, with a closing slide, *c'*, and ap-

pliances to operate it like those belonging to the first needle. These closing slides, however, are not necessary to my invention, as two needles made with eyes may be used, as in other well-known chain-stitch machines, in which case a hooked thread-carrier would be necessary. The two needles will be moved simultaneously up and down by the action of one carrier B and its operating mechanism. The thread-carrier H, besides the hole *d* for the reception of the thread *a*, has another hole, *e*, made through it for the reception of another thread, *f*, which passes through a second take-up spring, *g*, and from a second bobbin, O, arranged as seen in the drawings. The thread-carrier is thus made to bear two threads instead of one, as it usually does, the holes through it for their reception being made the same distance apart as are the two needles. By means of an additional thread-carrier made to carry two more threads, and providing such threads with take-up springs and making the thread-carriers to alternately lay threads in the hooks of the needles, each of the two lines of sewing may be effected by interlooping two threads in chain-stitch.

It is often very desirable to perform two parallel rows of sewing, and to do this at different times with the same machine, or at the same time with two machines, is attended with serious difficulties. By my improved machine I produce two perfectly-parallel lines of sewing in the same time that the machine can produce one of them. By increasing the number of needles on the needle-carrier, and in the same proportion, the number of the thread-holes in the thread-carrier; and providing the machine with a corresponding number of bobbins and take-up springs, or the equivalents thereof, a greater number of lines of sewing may be produced at one and the same time. Thus it will be seen that my improvement becomes a highly useful and important one, particularly to harness-makers or other workers in leather, as well as to tailors and various other trades.

I do not claim the mere duplication of a sewing-machine, or the placing of one of such machines by the side of or near to another and similar machine, so as to perform two rows of stitches by the operation of both machines; but

What I claim as my invention consists more properly in—

So combining, with one sewing-machine having one needle and a thread-carrier, or their mechanical equivalents, another or second needle and a second hole in the thread-carrier, or the equivalents therefor, that by the action of the same needle-moving machinery two needles are made to operate simultaneously, so as to perform at one and the same time two par-

allel rows of stitches with separate threads, substantially as hereinbefore specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereto set my signature this 5th day of March, A. D. 1853.

WILLIAM WICKERSHAM.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,

T. P. HALE, Jr.