P. H. Niles.

Sewing-Guide.

No 72751 Patented Dec. 31, 1867

Fig: 1.

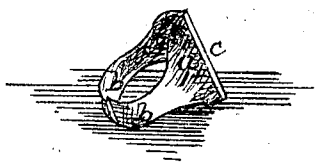


Fig: 2.

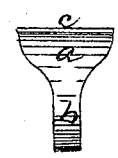
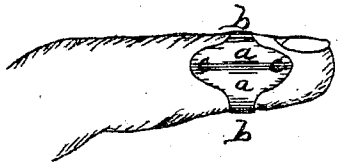


Fig: 3.



Witnesses

Frank W. Marston
Geo Ethridge

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United States Patent Office.

PETER H. NILES, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 72,751, *dated December* 31, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN SEWING-GUIDES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

Be it known that I, PETER H. NILES, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sewing-Guide; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation. Upon the accompanying drawings—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the guide.

Figure 2 is a side view.

Figure 3 is a view of the guide placed in proper position upon the finger.

I construct a clasp, of any suitable elastic material, composed of the top *a* and the bands *b*, formed to fit the finger above the first joint, and secure the clasp upon it. These bands lap over each other, to allow the guide to adjust itself and yield to the finger without nipping the flesh between its ends. The top is enlarged, and a rib, *c*, is raised upon it, at right angles with the bands. I do not, however, confine myself to a right angle, as for some sewing another angle will do as well. The guide not being a perfect circle, but of an oval form, the needle finds a bearing upon it that guides it up to the rib, (which is the shape of an inverted V rounded at the base,) and is there turned up by it through the material, with precision, at each stitch.

To use this instrument, place the guide upon the fore-finger, above the first joint, the top *a* over its outer side. This brings the rib *c* in its proper position. Draw the material tightly over the clasp. Enter the needle into the material in front of the rib at the distance required to commence the stitch, and press it forward. The rib guides it through the material, defining and limiting the forward distance, and insuring regularity in sewing.

In the usual mode of hand-sewing, it is extremely difficult to regulate the stitch without much loss of time, especially with those learning to sew. The movements of the hand and arm are acquired only after long practice and great care. These movements are identical with those given to the needle by the formation of the rib, and which the hand and arm naturally follow in pressing the needle forward. By the use of this guide, the line of stitching is regulated with precision by the means described above.

The advantages in the use of this guide are, first, the facility with which one can learn to sew correctly; second, the superior quality of the sewing; and, third, the greatly increased rapidity with which sewing is done, resulting from the slight care and attention required.

I do not claim a sewing-shield, which only protects the finger from injury; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is —

A sewing-guide, composed of a ring or clasp, provided with a rib, *c*, substantially as herein described, and for the purpose specified.

P. H. NILES.

Witnesses:

FRANK H. MARSTON,

GEO. ETHERIDGE.