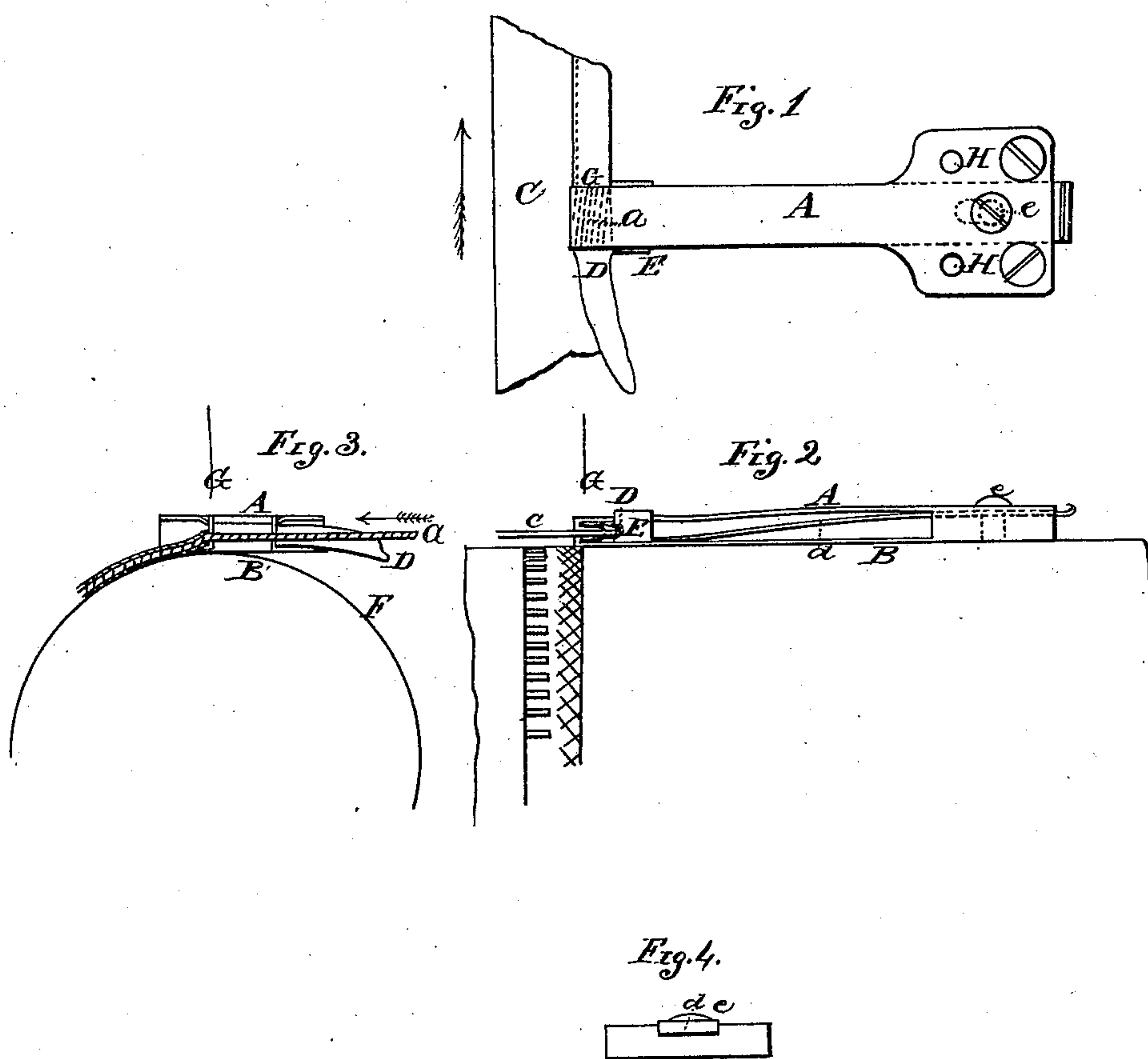


J. B. NICHOLS.
SEWING MACHINE.

No. 12,322.

Patented Jan. 30. 1855.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. NICHOLS, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SEWING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **12,322**, dated January 30, 1855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. NICHOLS, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful mechanism for or means of applying binding to cloth or any other material the edge of which is to be covered by a binding; 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 is a top view of my binding guide and folder, showing its operation and manner of applying and folding the binding. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of it, representing it as attached to the feeding and sewing elements of a sewing-machine; and Figs. 3 and 4 are elevations of each end of it.

This instrument is designed more particularly to be used in connection with sewing-machines, and to fold and apply the binding to the edge of the material to be bound, and to sew it upon the same by a continuous operation, and may be used with any of the usual forms of sewing-machines, or in connection with any other mode of fastening the binding upon the material that may be desired, and may thus be used to apply bindings or trimmings to the edges of paper boxes, or other similar uses, where the trimmings are fastened by paste, glue, or other adhesive substance.

A B in the drawings are two bars, made of sheet-iron or any other proper material, connected together, as shown, at one end, and having the other ends bent inward in a hook form, as shown in the drawings. One of these guides, A, works above, and the other, B, below the material C, to which the binding D is to be applied. The binding is folded together, and either edge in its folded state is embraced by the guide bars A and B, respectively, as shown in Fig. 2. The material is placed between the guide-bars A and B, by which the binding is applied equally upon each side of the same. The blade of the upper guide-bar, A, is elastic, so that it accommodates itself to any variation in the thickness of the material, and

holds it and the binding firmly in position while they are sewed together by the machine.

E is a movable slide, against which the edge of the material rests; and this slide is made adjustable to accommodate bindings of different widths. It is attached to the shank *d*, which is held by the clamping-screw *e* in a perfectly obvious manner.

F represents the feeding wheel or element of the sewing-machine, and G the position of the needle or sewing element.

H H are screw-holes, by which the binding-guide is fastened to the table of the machine.

The inner surfaces of the guide-bars A B, when they come in contact with the material, are slightly fluted in diagonal directions, as is shown by the dotted lines at *a*, Fig. 1, so as to draw the material in toward the slide E as it moves along.

When the parts are arranged as shown, the sewing-machine is put in operation in the usual manner, and sews a seam through both the material and the binding upon each side of it, which fastens them together, and, as the material is drawn along between the guide-bars the binding is also drawn along and folded together by them, and laid evenly upon either side thereof without any assistance of the operator or attendant.

The form and mode of constructing the parts may evidently be much modified and still embrace the principle of the invention.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of a binding-guide with a sewing-machine, meaning to claim the combination of mechanism whereby the operation of directing or applying the binding to the edge of any material and sewing it thereon are conducted by an automatic process.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my signature.

JOHN B. NICHOLS.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,
F. P. HALE, Jr.