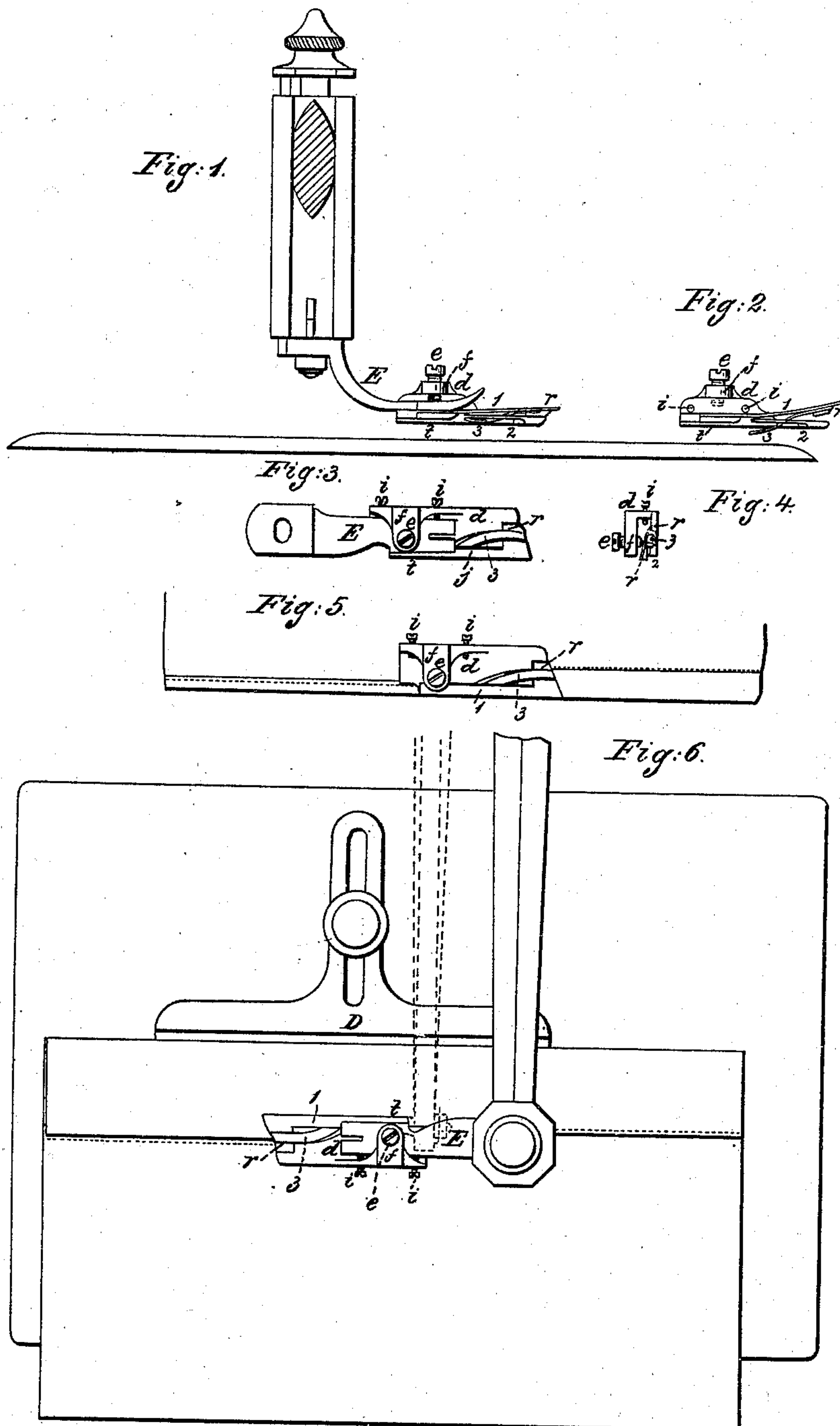


G. L. JENCKS.
Sewing Machine Guide and Hemmer.

No. 32,519.

Patented June 11, 1861.



Witnesses:
John H Salisbury
David Heaton

Inventor:
George L Jencks

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. JENCKS, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEMMING-GUIDES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 32,519, dated June 11, 1861.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. JENCKS, of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hemmers for Sewing-Machines; and I do hereby declare the following specification, with the drawings hereto annexed as part of the same, to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Figure 1 in the said drawings is a side view of my hemmer attached to the pressure-pad of a sewing-machine. Fig. 2 is a like view of the hemmer detached. Fig. 3 is a plan of the hemmer and pressure-pad. Fig. 4 is an end view of the hemmer. Fig. 5 is a plan of the hemmer detached in the act of turning a narrow hem. Fig. 6 is a plan of the hemmer in the act of turning a wide hem, in connection with well-known parts of a sewing-machine.

Similar letters of reference denote like parts in all the figures.

In those hemmers or hemming-guides which have hitherto been applied to sewing-machines it has been ascertained that unless provided with some means of adjustment they are confined in their operation to turning one width of hem in one class of goods exclusively, and when provided with means of adjustment so much skill and experience are required to place the parts in proper relative position that such instruments have been rejected as useless.

The object of my invention is to provide an instrument which may be applied to all sewing-machines for turning hems, running tucks, felling seams, and stitching in every variety and thickness of goods without requiring a special adjustment of its parts to change it from one kind of work to another, thus presenting the said instrument in a useful form to the inexperienced operator.

My invention therefore consists in the peculiar arrangement or method of uniting three flexible metallic fingers—which constitute the effective part of the instrument—relatively with each other, whereby the said fingers adjust themselves by an elastic action to the different varieties of work to be performed.

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

The stock *d* of the hemmer is formed as shown

in the several figures of the drawings, and is secured to the pressure-pad *E* of a sewing-machine by means of the screw *e*, passing through the projection *f* upon the stock. The screws *i* serve to adjust the stock with relation to the needle, and, being once placed, need not to be afterward moved. This fastening and adjusting arrangement admits of an application to the pressure-pad of nearly all sewing-machines. In case the stock cannot be thus attached the pressure-pad and stock may be made in one piece and attached to the arm of the machine by a nut, as shown.

The hemming parts consist of three flexible metallic fingers, 1 2 3, which are arranged upon the stock as follows: Finger 1 is fixed at one end to the projection *t* of the stock. The other end is loose and extends with an upward inclination past the end of the stock, terminating in a fluke, *r*, extending at right angles from said finger, and, curving down at the end, rests upon the stock. The fluke *r* forms the entrance or mouth of the hemmer, and serves to lay the cloth flat as it enters therein, and to determine the width that shall enter to form the hem. Finger 2 is fixed beneath the loose end of finger 1 to a projection upon the stock, and the loose end extends toward without meeting the fixed end of finger 1. The loose end of finger 2 pinches the cloth slightly as it passes between it (finger 2) and finger 1, which gives position to the cloth and directs it beneath the needle. Finger 3 is fixed to the fluke *r* at the loose end of finger 1, and curves downward and extends sidewise beneath and terminating near the end of finger 2, and, thus arranged, serves to fold the loose edge of the cloth beneath that portion which passes between fingers 1 and 2. It will be observed that in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings fingers 1 and 2 extend from their fixed end in opposite directions, and that the loose end of each terminates near the fixed end of the other; also, that finger 3 is fixed to the loose end of finger 1; and from being thus arranged the loose end of finger 1 yields to the passage of the cloth at the fixed end of (2) finger 2, and the loose end of finger 2 yields to the passage of the cloth at the fixed end of finger 1, and the loose end of finger 3 yields to the passage of the cloth with the counter action of finger 1, as shown in Fig. 2. Ac-

cordingly, if a thicker or thinner fabric is introduced to the hemmer, the fingers preserve the same relative position and act with the same effect, but most forcibly upon the thicker fabric; and if a seam or any other irregularity presents itself the loose ends of the fingers separate from the opposite fixed end of the other in turn, thereby permitting such seam to pass, after which the fingers resume their natural position.

I am aware that similar fingers or tongues to those shown and described herein have been previously employed, as will be ascertained by reference to the patents of L. W. Serrell of May 11, 1858, and of November 22, 1859, in which, however, the arrangement of the fingers or tongues differs essentially from that above described, and the fingers or tongues

are adapted to the exigencies of the work by means of screws and other adjustments, which render the machine complicated and otherwise objectionable, which, in the arrangement which constitutes my invention, I have successfully overcome. I therefore disclaim the invention of the fingers or tongues, either separately or in combination, for the specified purpose; but

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is--

The peculiar arrangement or method, substantially as described, of uniting the fingers 1 2 3 upon the stock of a pressure-pad, for the purpose specified.

GEORGE L. JENCKS.

Witnesses:

ISAAC A. BROWNELL,
H. P. TILLINGHAST.