M. M. Shellaberger.

Button-Hole Cutter.

No. 41,725. Patented Feb. 23, 1864.

Fig. 2.

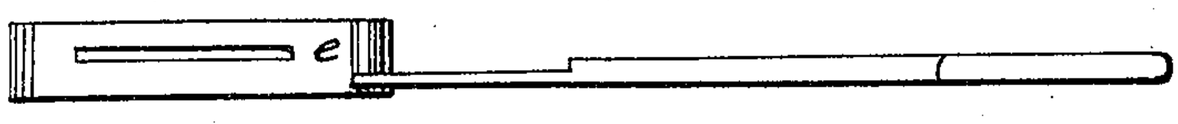
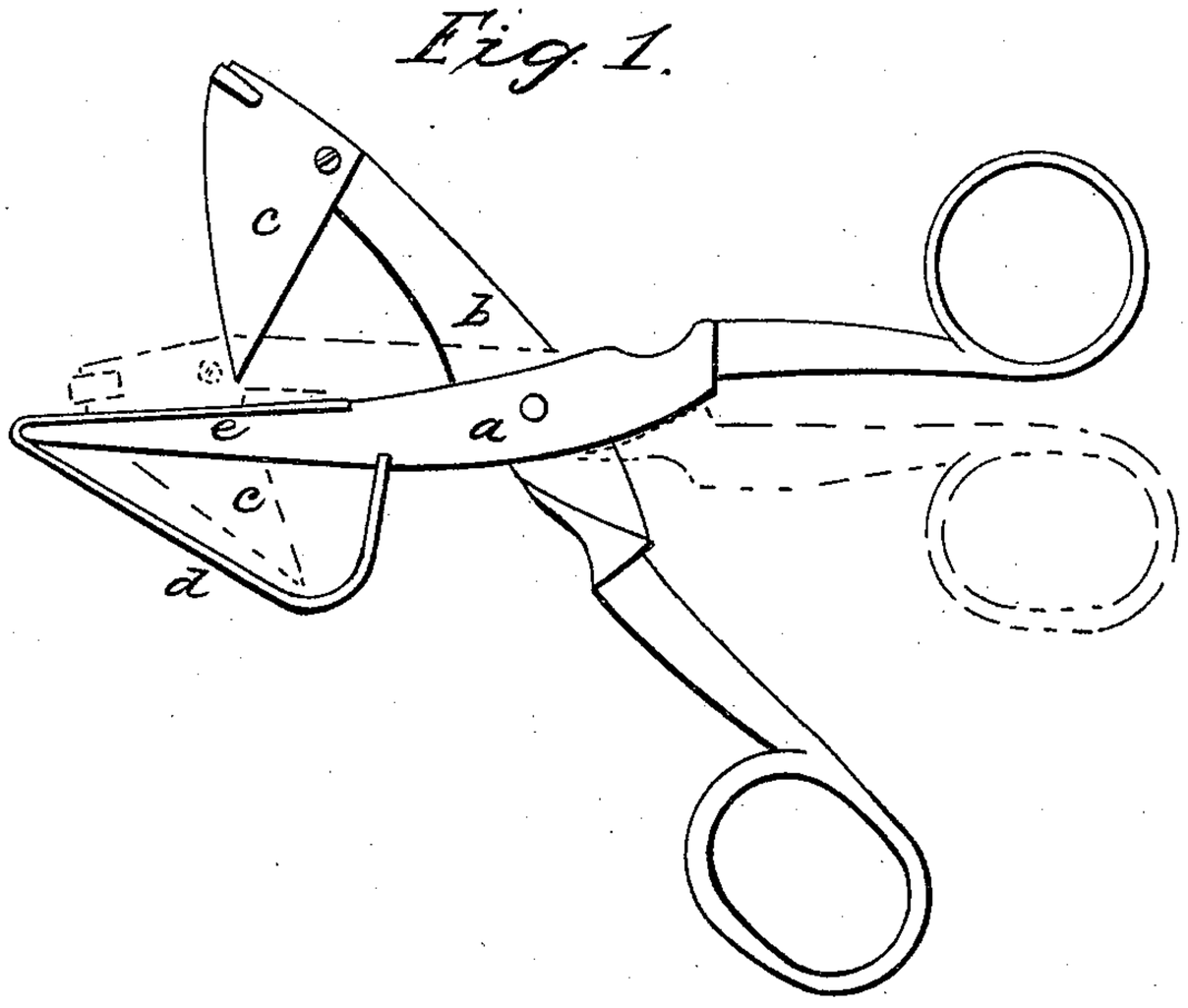


Fig. 1.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MICHAEL M. SHELLABERGER, OF RANDOLPH COUNTY, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTON-HOLE CUTTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **41,725**, dated February 23, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MICHAEL M. SHELLABERGER, of Randolph county, in the State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Button-Hole Cutters; and I hereby declare that the following is a true and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in the use of certain devices for facilitating the cutting of button-holes in cloth, whether single or in plaits.

Figure 1 in the annexed drawings represents a side elevation of my cutter. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the guide.

The letters *a* and *b* represent the two blades, which correspond in form to those of a pair of scissors. The upper blade, *b*, is made shorter than the lower one by about three-eighths of an inch, and is square at the end. To the inside of blade *b* the base of the triangular-cutter *c* is riveted. The cutter *c* is made to incline slightly inward when the blades *a* and *b* are closed, as seen in dotted lines Fig. 1. The hypotenuse or longest side of cutter *c* is beveled to an edge from the inner side, so that it may perform its office of cutting when it passes the lower blade, *a*. *e* represents an oblong slotted plate of metal, the slot being of sufficient length to suffer the cutter to pass through it when the blades *a* and *b* are closed. (See dotted lines.) The guide *e* is riveted to the blunt edge of the blade, *a*. The guard *d* consists of an extension of guide *e*. This extension passes over the point of blade *a*, and is then bent back at an angle nearly corresponding with the edge of cutter *c*, (see dotted lines, Fig. 1,) and having reached beyond the acute angle of *c* is made to curve downward and rest on the lower edge of blade *a*.

The advantages of this arrangement will be easily seen. When the cloth is single and laid on the guide *e*, it is kept smooth, and, being supported on both sides of the slot, it cannot recede when under the action of the cutter *c*. If the material to be cut should be double or in plaits, as in shirt-bosoms, the upper plait, which is not designed to be cut, is made to rest on the guard *d*, and thus placed beyond the reach of the cutter. The operator can with my machine cut button-holes of any desired length without having a screw to set the blades at a particular gage.

Having thus described my cutter, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The guide *e* and guard *d*, in combination with a button-hole cutter, constructed and operated substantially as herein set forth.

MICHAEL M. SHELLABERGER.

Witnesses:

RACHEL WARRELL,

HANNAH NICKLE.