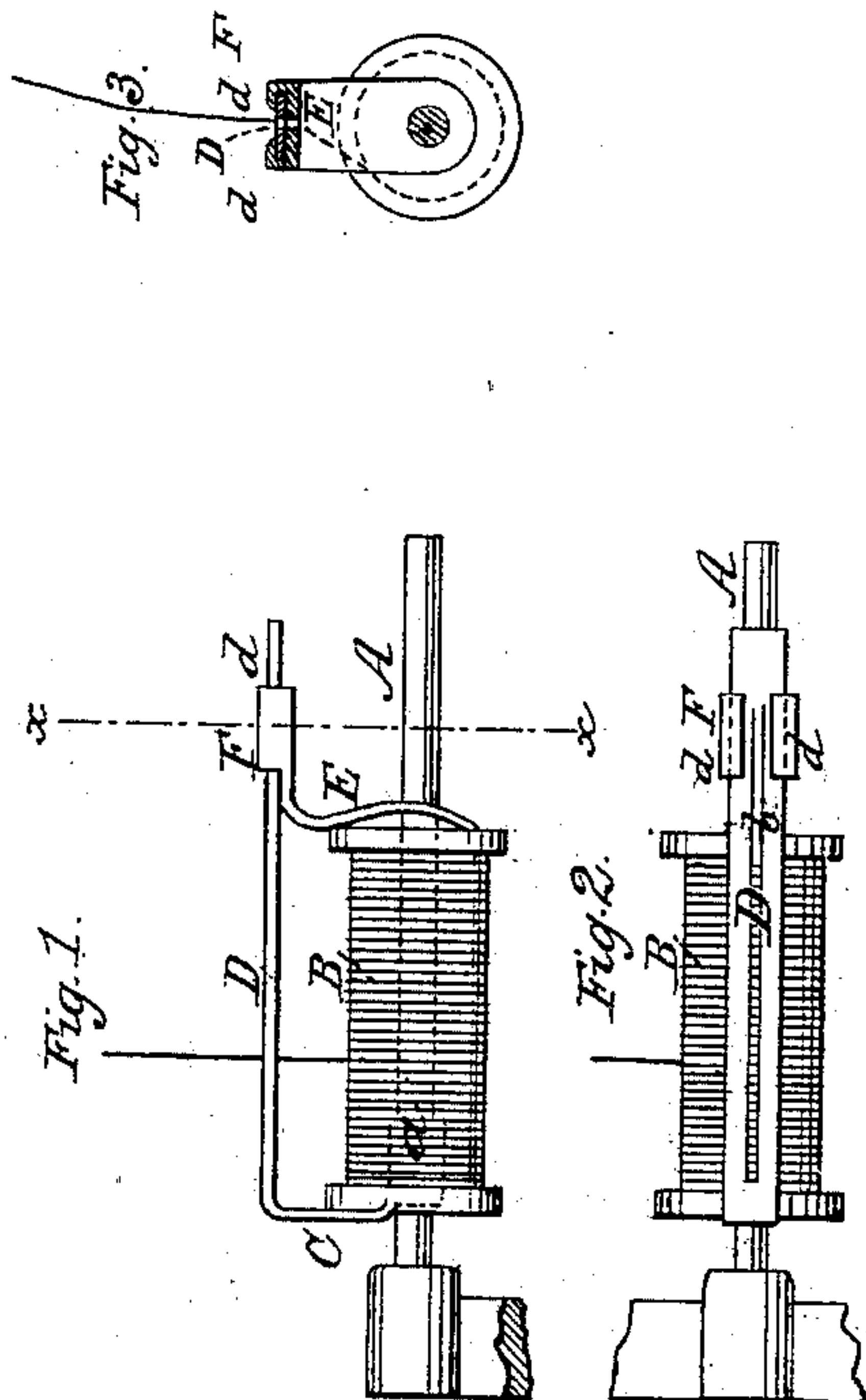


W. H. HAWKINS.

Spool Thread Regulator for Sewing Machines.

No. 55,417.

Patented June 5, 1866.



Witnesses.
Wm. Greer
H. L. Tusch

Inventor.
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Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. HAWKINS, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND JAMES D. ORNE, OF THE SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SPOOL-THREAD REGULATORS FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **55,417**, dated June 5, 1866; antedated May 30, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. HAWKINS, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Thread-Regulator for Sewing-Machines; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the device. Fig. 2 is a top view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical section taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

Much embarrassment occurs in using sewing-machines where the thread is drawn directly from the spools by the thread, when it first commences to unwind, catching on the flanges of the spool and uncoiling so rapidly as to fly over the ends of the spool and wind around the spindle. In any such case the thread will break and become somewhat soiled. The object, therefore, of my invention is to remedy this difficulty; and it consists in clamping or holding the spool between two metallic arms or plates, one of them operating as a slide, by which the apparatus can be made to conform to different-sized spools.

To enable others to understand my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a spindle, which is to be attached to a sewing-machine in any suitable place, and a spool of thread, B, is shown in red as being placed upon it.

C represents one of the arms or plates of the device. It has formed upon its lower end an eye or sleeve, *a*, through which the spindle A extends. The length of this arm is intended to be greater than the diameter of the largest-sized spool that would be used. Having allowed for this length I bend the strip of metal at right angles to the arm C. This I call the "blade," and have designated it by the letter D. Through this blade I make a slot, *b*, running in the direction of the length of the blade, through which the thread is drawn.

I will here remark that it is not necessary

that the arm and the blade and the sleeve should be in one piece, for it is obvious that two or three pieces could be suitably connected together and produce a similar thing; nor is it necessary that the slot *b* should be as illustrated in the drawings; for instance, transverse slots or holes could be made in the blade and serve the same purpose.

E is the other arm. This I term the "slide" or "clasp." It has an eye in its lower end to allow its being placed upon the spindle. The upper part of this slide has a head or plate, F, made by bending over the top, or it may be a plate attached to it. This plate F is provided with lips *d d*, to allow of the edges of the blade D being inserted under them. The said slide is made or bent so as to have enough springing power to keep it from casually moving out of any position in which it may be placed.

To use the device the spool is placed upon the spindle A and shoved up to the arm C, the sleeve *a* on said arm entering the bore of the spool. The slide or clamp E is then put upon the spindle, the latter passing through the eye thereof, and the blade D pressed under the lips *d d*, and the slide E crowded up against the spool. Thus it will be seen that the spool will be confined between the arm C and slide E in such manner that the coils of thread cannot fall over the ends of the spool, and thus the purpose of my invention is accomplished in a manner that will not interfere at all with the tension of the thread, or otherwise, to the hindrance of the working of the sewing-machine.

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

The adjustable thread-regulator herein described, the same consisting of the slotted arm C D *b*, sleeve *a*, sliding arm E, and plate F, arranged to operate in the manner and for the purpose specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 1st day of September, 1865.

WILLIAM H. HAWKINS.

Witnesses:

L. B. KING,

E. F. STILWELL.