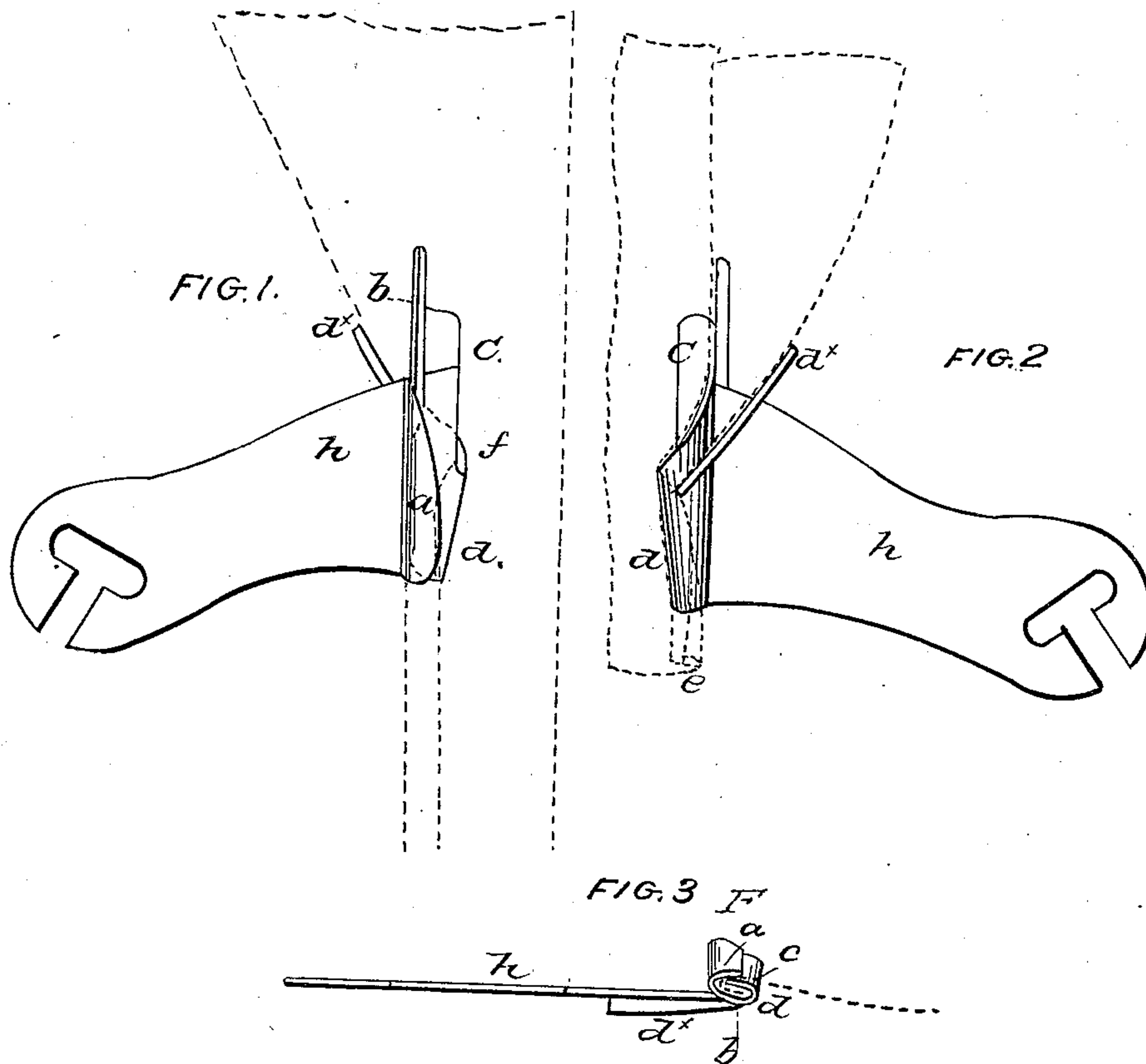


W. H. THOMAS.
Hemmer for Sewing Machines.

No. 75,079.

Patented March 3, 1868.



WITNESSES

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W. H. THOMAS, OF GALVESTON, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEMMERS FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 75,079, dated March 3, 1868.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, W. H. THOMAS, of Galveston, in the county of Cass and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Hemmer-Attachment 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.

This invention relates to a new and improved hemmer for sewing-machines; and it consists in a novel construction of the same, as hereinafter fully shown and described, whereby a hem may be turned or folded underneath the fabric, and without the necessity of previous folding and holding the hem or fabric during the process of stitching, the fabric being folded and retained in a folded state by the hemmer as the former is drawn through the latter under the feed-motion of the sewing-machine and the hem is being stitched.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings, Figure 1 is a plan or top view of my invention; Fig. 2, an inverted plan of the same; Fig. 3, a transverse section of the same, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

I construct the hemmer out of a piece of sheet metal, bent so as to form three guides, *a b c*, the front edges of the upper and lower guides *a b* being beveled at their front edges, and the two guides being what may be termed of "scoop form," having a very gradual curve to facilitate the turning or folding of the fabric.

The central guide *c* is connected with the lower guide *b* at the right-hand end of the device, for a short distance only, as shown at *d* in Figs. 1 and 2. This central guide *c* is of uniform width its whole length, and has a horizontal central position between *a* and *b*, the spaces between *a c* and *b c* being gradually diminished from the left to the right hand end of the device.

To the under side of the bottom guide *b* there is attached a narrow plate, *d*^x, which extends backward in an oblique direction, and serves as a deflector to turn the fabric under as it is drawn along by the feed-motion of the machine.

Between the inner edge of the guide *c* and the curvature formed by the junction of the guides *a b*, there is allowed a space for the fabric to pass downward from above the central guide *c* underneath the same, the edge of the fabric turning over the outer or front edge of *c* to form a small or narrow fold. This small fold, designated by *e*, is formed by the angle *f* at the left-hand end of the curve *d*, which forms the connection between the central guide *c* and the lower guide *b*.

The needle of the machine passes through three thicknesses of the fabric, as shown clearly in Figs. 1 and 2. As the fabric is drawn through the device, the deflector *d*^x causes the fabric to turn or fold under, and assists in forming or giving the proper direction to the fabric, all the folds of which given by the hemmer are shown in Fig. 3.

In commencing the work of forming a hem, the fabric is folded at one edge by hand—say for a distance of about two inches—and adjusted in the hemmer, and drawn through sufficiently that the feed mechanism of the machine may engage with and draw it along, the hemmer then doing the rest of the folding.

It will be understood that the fabric first passes over the central guide *c*, downward around the inner edge of the same, and thence along underneath *c* to the front edge of the same, and upward over the front edge of the same, it being made to lap over the front edge of *c* at the angle *f* to form the fold *e*, before alluded to.

The hemmer has a tongue, *h*, attached, provided with a slot, through which a set-screw passes into the cloth-plate, to secure the hemmer to the same.

These hemmers may be made of different sizes to admit of hems of different widths being made or folded.

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

The deflector *d*^x, in combination with the guides *a b c*, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 13th day of December, 1867.

W. H. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

MEREDITH H. THOMAS,
H. L. THOMAS.