

A. Hunter.

Needle Threader.

N^o 88,717.

Patented Apr 6, 1869.

Fig 1.

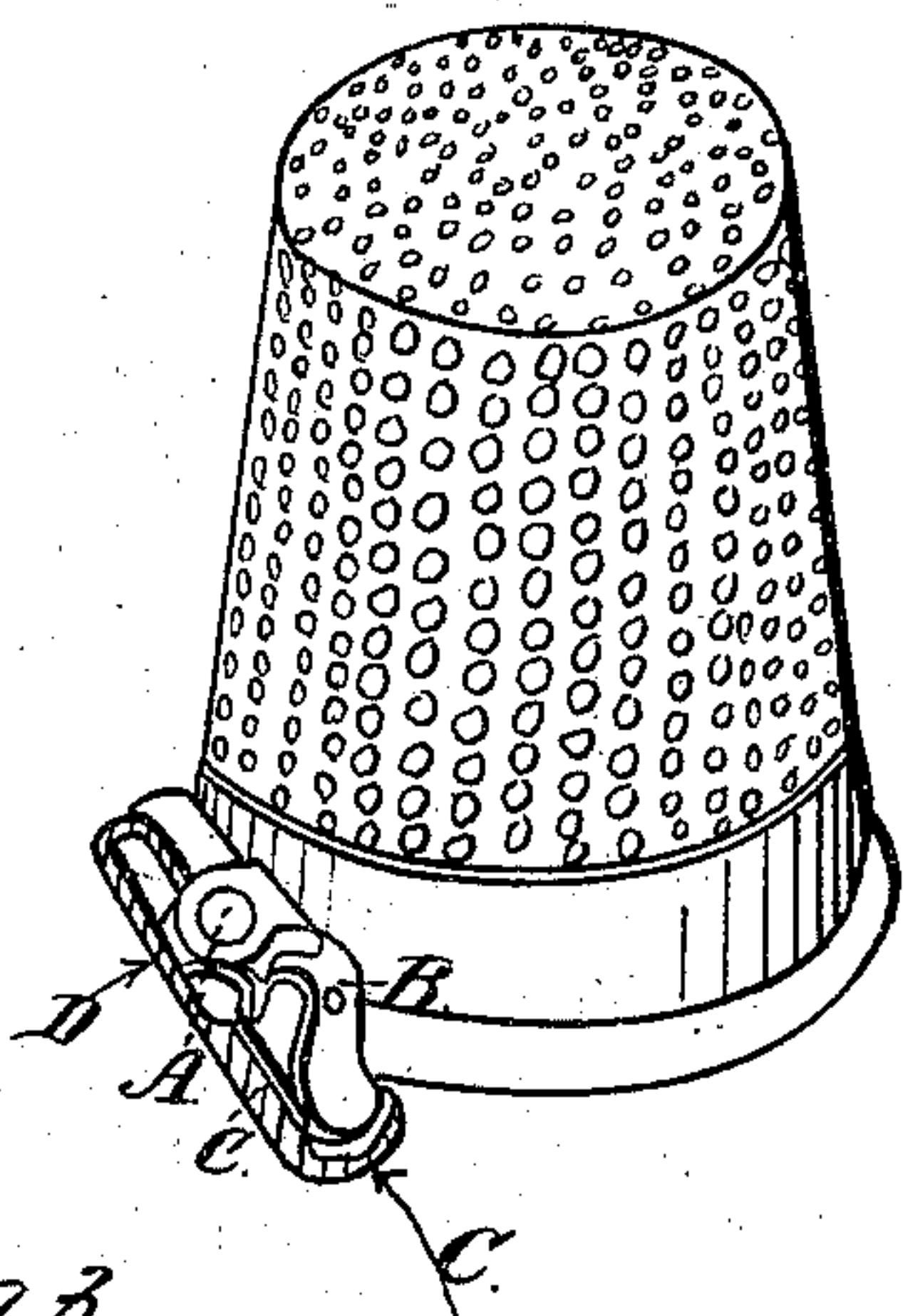
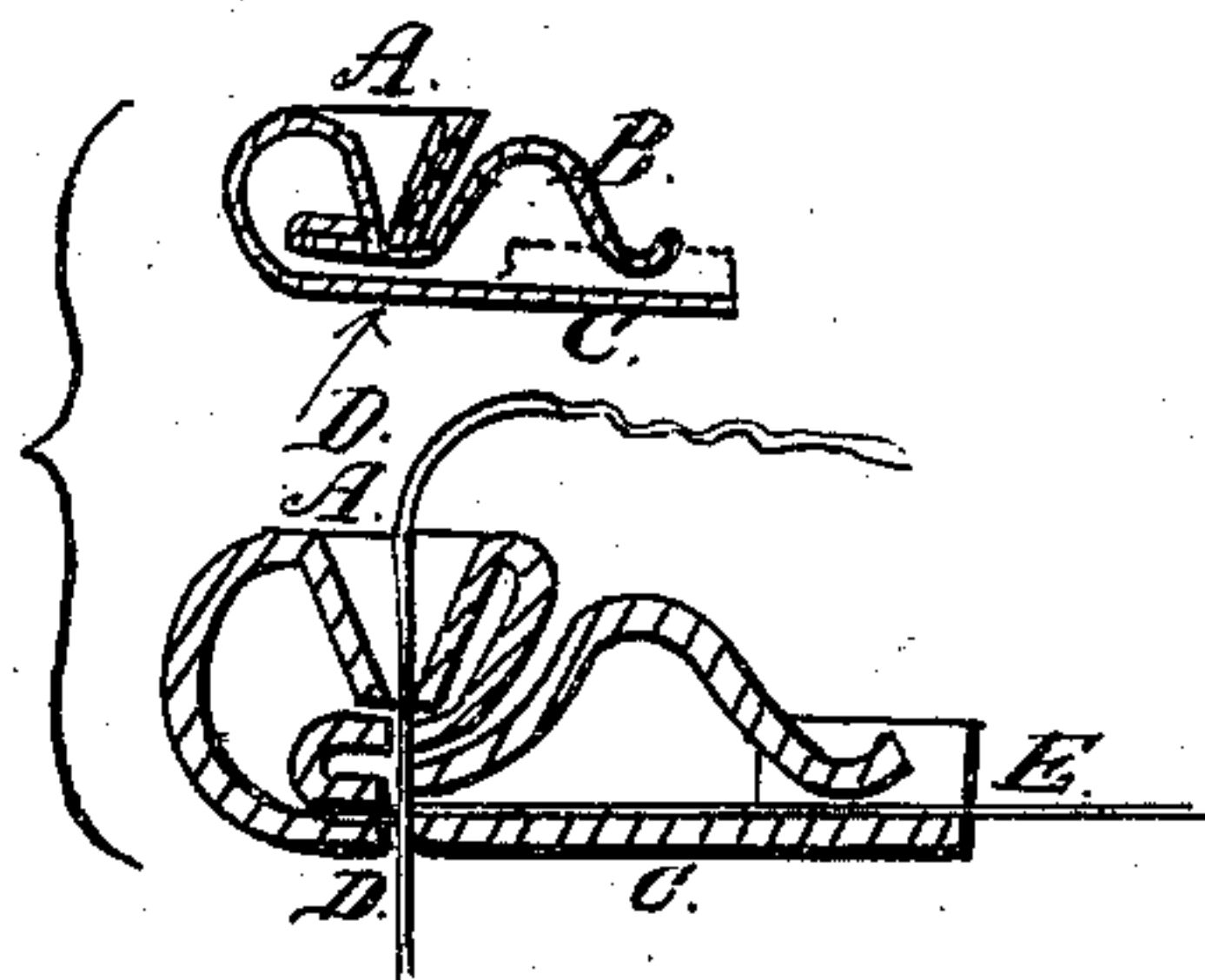


Fig. 3.



Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

H. Wm. Dyer.

Frank M. Jones.

Inventor.

A. Hunter



ALEXANDER HUNTER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 88,717, dated April 6, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN NEEDLE-THREADERS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER HUNTER, of Buffalo, county of Erie, in the State of New York, have invented a new and improved Apparatus for Threading Hand-Sewing Needles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which like parts are indicated by like letters in the several figures.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing my apparatus of one piece of sheet-metal, which can readily be struck out by suitable dies, and its shape perfected by subsequent manipulation with a simple tool, such as a pair of "tweezers," when it can be attached to a thimble for permanent use.

In the drawings—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my apparatus, attached to a thimble;

Figure 2 is a longitudinal section of the same, detached; and

Figure 3 is a plan of the metal piece, as struck out by the dies, and before being bent into shape for use.

E represents a small groove, or depression in one end of the plate, or apparatus made by the dies, and on each side of it, where the plate is wide, these edges are turned up, and between them, and over E, the other end or spring, B, rests.

This portion of the plate, or apparatus, I call C, or the needle-holder.

B serves to hold the needle in position in the groove E, which receives and guides the needle.

A is the funnel-shaped depression, terminating in a hole, being the guide for the thread on its way to pass through the eye of the needle underneath.

The depression A may be enlarged by pressure, if desired, after the strip is cut out, and this is put into shape as follows:

First, the part between A and the end B is bent down, alongside of and underneath the bottom of A, extending a short distance beyond, as seen in fig. 2, when it returns upon itself, rising as high as the top of A, or as far as necessary, and then curving down,

as seen in the figure aforesaid, whereby it acquires a desirable spring-shape. The other end, between A and C, is then bent down, around, and underneath the part which has just been formed, bringing the groove E in the end of C, underneath the spring B.

The lips on the end of C, can now be turned up so as to embrace the lower end of B, forming a channel-guide for it, or they can be turned down, before this end is brought down and around, as described.

There are now three thicknesses of metal underneath the conical guide A. The holes through these, for the passage of the thread, may be drilled at one operation, the drill passing through the small hole in the bottom of A.

These holes may be punched in at the striking out of the plate, but this would require very nice manipulation to bring them all in line, during the bending-process by hand.

The lower hole, I call D, or the "determinating" hole, inasmuch as the needle stops when its eye is pushed in and over said hole, and in a line with the several ones above it. A thread, introduced in A, will now pass through the several holes, and the eye of the needle, and out at D, the needle being secured by the spring B pressing it down lightly upon C. The needle thus threaded can now be withdrawn.

I am aware of the patent of O. Kane, April 19, 1864, as also of that of O. Cox, June 14, 1864, neither of which I claim, the construction of my apparatus differing from them; but,

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

A needle-threading apparatus, for attachment to thimbles, made of sheet-metal, constructed and operated in the manner as shown and described.

ALEX. HUNTER.

Witnesses:

H. WM. DOPP,
FRANK M. JONES.