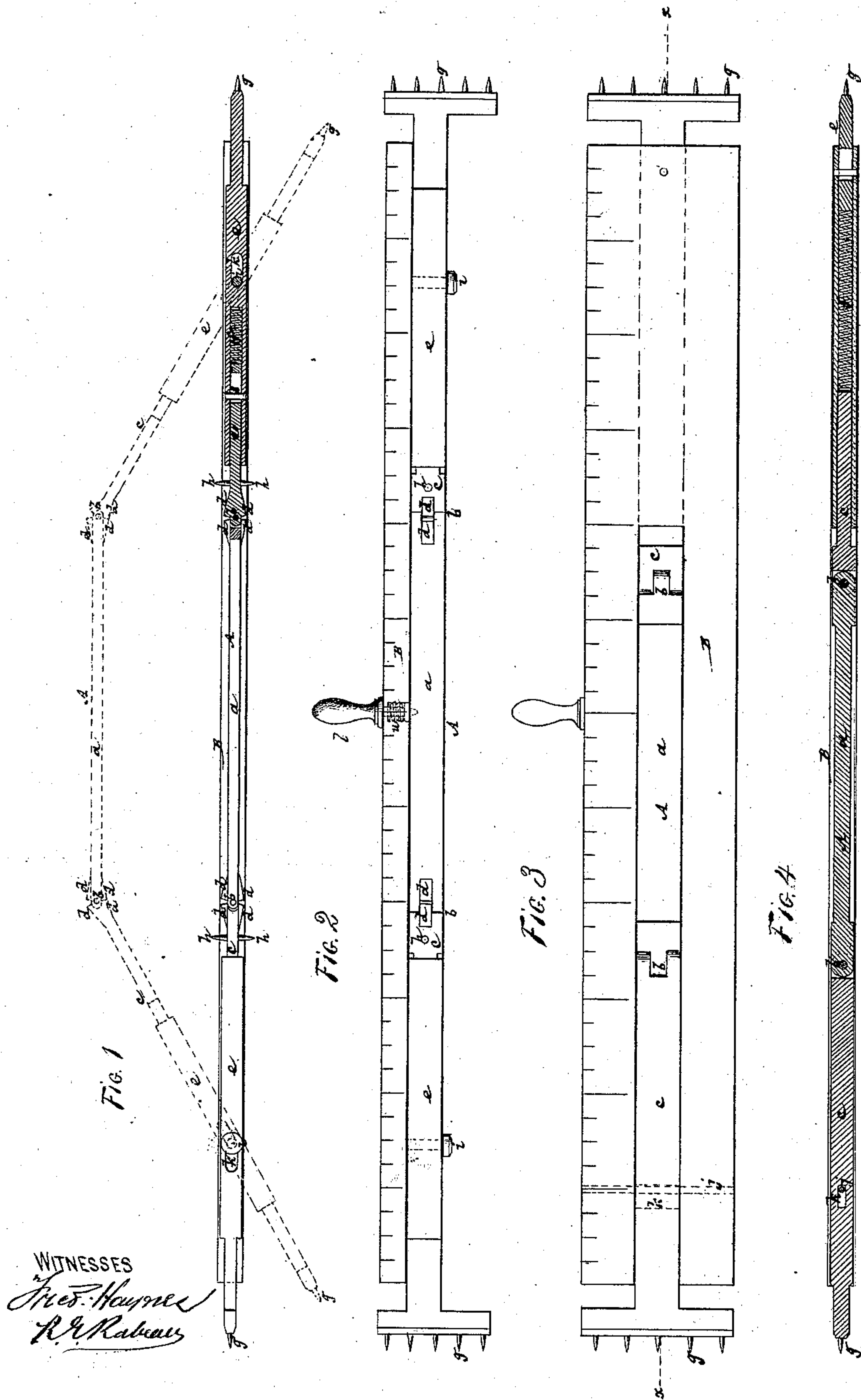


F. T. GRIMES.  
Baster for Sewing Machines.

No. 111,199.

Patented Jan. 24, 1871.



WITNESSES  
*Fred. Haymer*  
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# United States Patent Office.

FRANKLIN T. GRIMES, OF LIBERTY, MISSOURI.

Letters Patent No. 111,199, dated January 24, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BASTER-GUIDES FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

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

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FRANKLIN T. GRIMES, of Liberty, in the county of Clay and State of Missouri, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Basters for Sewing-Machines, applicable also in part as a Ruler and Measurer, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a partially sectional longitudinal view of a combined baster, ruler, and measurer, constructed in accordance with my improvement; and

Figure 2, a plan of the same.

Figure 3 is a plan of a like device under a modified construction of its parts; and

Figure 4, a longitudinal section thereof, taken as indicated by the line *x x* in fig. 3.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

My invention is, in its general principle or action, similar to the baster described in a previous specification, for which an application for Letters Patent was allowed me June 2, 1870; but this invention essentially differs therefrom in several important particulars. The present baster, like my previous one, hereinabove referred to, is designed as an attachable and detachable device for a sewing-machine, or rather forms a separate adjunct, and is provided with teeth at its opposite ends for insertion within the fabric to be basted, and whereby the fabric is kept smoothly extended and prevented from drawing or puckering. Unlike my former device, however, this one dispenses with a guiding-plate carried by the sewing-machine for the basting-bar to be supported by and slide through, and a jointed and sectional sliding bar is substituted for a rigid one, having a piece of elastic material with teeth at one of its ends, such different construction favoring adjustment in the stretch or elastic hold on the goods by the device. This sectional sliding bar is likewise provided with face-teeth intermediate of its length, for restraining the fabric from pull or stretch laterally out of the line of seam, and is reversible to adapt it to a continuous length of seam over and above its whole length. Combined with said bar also, if desired, is a ruler and measurer, the same serving as a convenient carrier and means for handling the basting-bar and as a ruler for marking out the seam and measurer. Under one form of construction the combined ruler and measurer is made detachable from the basting-bar, to allow of the separate use of these devices as occasion may require.

Referring in the first instance to figs. 1 and 2 of the accompanying drawing—

A represents the basting-bar or baster proper designed to lie lengthwise with the seam on the fabrics

in and during the support and feed of the latter over the cloth-table of the machine. This bar is made up of jointed sections, of which there may be any desired number; but three jointed sections will suffice, namely, a central and two end ones, with a sliding provision under the control of a spring or springs in one or more of such sections for securing to the bar an elastic action in the straightening of it out when setting it to its hold on the goods.

Thus the central section *a* of the bar may be made rigid or solid, and be jointed, as at *b b*, to a divided or tongue portion, *c*, of either end section, to secure to the basting-bar its necessary flexure under limit, if desired, of stops *d d*, as more clearly represented by dotted lines in fig. 1.

These tongue portions *c* of the end sections are made to fit socketed extensions *e e*, within each of which is arranged a spring, *f*, to secure to the bar its necessary elastic grip or action, each of said end portions *c* preferably being slotted and controlled by a stop-pin, *s*. If desired, only one of the bar sections (central or end) may be fitted in spring and socketed connection with the adjacent section to secure a like result.

Each end section or portion *e* is armed at its end with a cross row of teeth, *g*, which, after the fabrics have been properly straightened on the table and the bar A suitably flexed, are, in the application of the bar to the seam to be produced, made to enter the fabrics, and on straightening out the bar caused to stretch and hold the fabrics in a firm but elastic manner, the stretch being regulated according to the quality and condition of the goods by the degree of flexure given to the bar when or prior to inserting the teeth *g g*.

Said baster travels along with the cloth as the seam is being stitched, and, after a certain length of seam has been run, may be turned over by detaching one of its ends from the cloth and made to retain its hold upon the cloth in the same line for a continuance of the seam, both faces of the bar being similarly constructed, so as to admit of such reverse or repeated use of it without endangering its being displaced from its proper line or course by reason of its one end remaining in the goods when reversing it.

To effect a more perfect and smooth extension of the goods and prevent them from being puckered or drawn out of line, as, for instance, drawn curvilinearly by pull on the goods from under the bar between its ends, the face or faces of the bar may be provided with teeth *h h*, which hold on the goods between the ends of the bar when the latter is extended.

Connected with the baster A, by screws *i i* passing through slots *k k* in the end pieces *e e* of the bar, so as to provide for flexure of the latter, is a ruler and



measurer B, which, when attached to the baster or bar A by the screws *i i*, serves to carry and give additional heft to the baster, and to give it a broader bearing on the cloth; also, to facilitate the handling of the baster, which likewise may be used as a ruler for setting out the seam and as a measurer generally, so useful and necessary in the performance of certain work. For these purposes of ruling and measuring the bar B may, by slackening or taking out the screws *i i*, be detached from the baster A, and to facilitate the handling of it, either when detached from or combined with the baster, it may be provided with a handle, *l*, which latter it is preferred to attach, subject to draft inward by a spring, *u*, so that said handle may be made to lock with the bar A when extended to hold said bar from accidental flexure, but which handle may be drawn out or retracted against the pressure of the spring *u* when it is required to provide for flexure or detachment of the baster.

In figs. 3 and 4 of the drawing the basting-bar A is shown as combined with the ruler and measurer B in a permanent manner by being let into the body of it, the whole being reversible to provide for a continuation of the seam, as hereinbefore described, and the central section *a* being jointed, as at *b b*, to end portions *c c*, the one of which is slotted, as at *k*, and works on a pivot or cross-pin, *j*, projected through the ruler and measurer, while the other end portion *c* is of a tongue-like construction and fits within a socketed portion of the ruler and measurer B, said sock-

eted portion also containing the spring *f* and a slotted sliding end extension or piece, *e*, between which and the last-mentioned end portion *c* the spring *f* acts to secure to the baster its required elastic grip on the cloth. The sliding extension piece *e* and the end portion *c*, at the opposite extremity of the bar, are each provided with cross rows of teeth *g* to fasten the baster to the goods, and, on straightening it from its flexed position, to stretch and hold the goods as required.

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

1. The baster or basting-bar A, made up in sections jointed together, as described, and one or more of said sections made capable of sliding, subject to spring pressure or control in direction of the length of the bar, in combination with the teeth *g* at the extremities of the end sections, substantially as specified.

2. The combination of the teeth *h* on the face or faces of the sectionally-sliding and jointed basting-bar A, with the teeth *g* at extremities of the end sections, essentially as shown and described.

3. The combination of a ruler and measurer B with a basting-bar A, constructed in sections, for operation as herein described.

FRANKLIN T. GRIMES.

Witnesses:

FRED. HAYNES,  
R. E. RABEAU.