

JAMES J. McLOUGHLIN.

Improvement in Thread Cutters.

No. 119,383.

Patented Sep. 26, 1871.

FIG. 1.

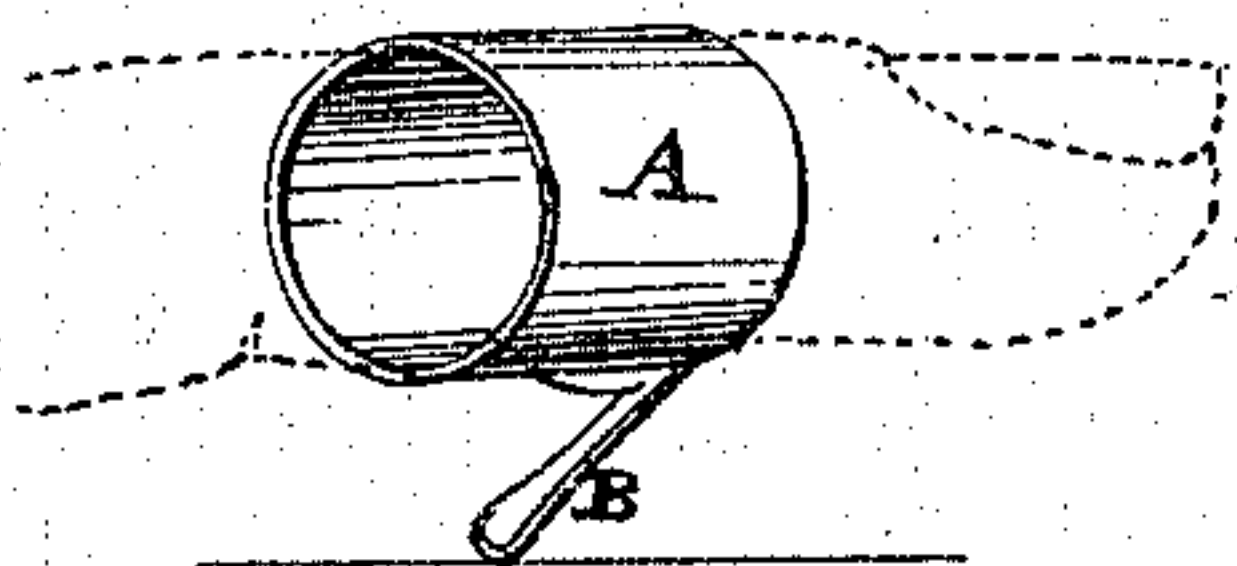
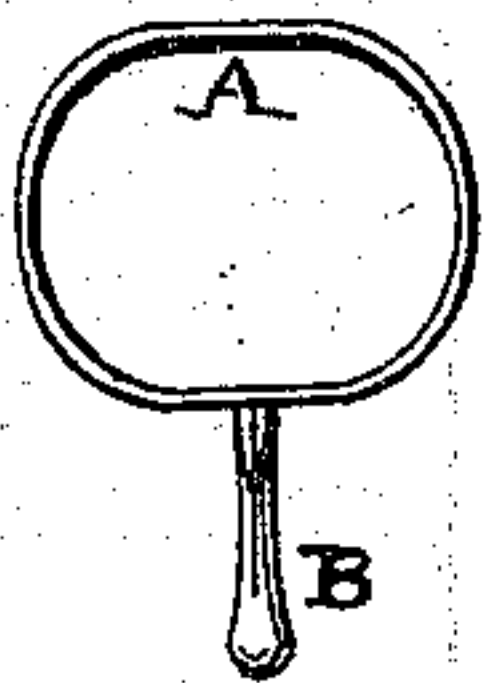


FIG. 2.



ATTEST.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES JOSEPH McLOUGHLIN, OF NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN THREAD-CUTTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 119,383, dated September 26, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES JOSEPH McLOUGHLIN, of Nashville, in the county of Davidson and State of Tennessee, have invented certain Improvements in Thread-Cutters, of which the following is a specification:

My improvement is a tubular thimble of elliptical cross-section, to be worn upon the second of the phalanges of the finger, and having a V-shaped cutter on a projecting fang, whose end is bulbous to prevent it catching the fabric when the hand is employed in feeding, cutting the thread, or managing the work upon the cloth-plate of the sewing-machine.

The drawing represents the thimble or thread-cutter in perspective, Figure 1, and in elevation, Fig. 2, the latter view being introduced to exhibit the ellipticity of the thimble A.

In Fig. 1 the finger is shown by dotted lines to show the way in which the thimble is worn. The cutter B is a piece of steel having a double or V-shaped or arched edge, so that the thread may be more readily cut than it could by a single edge. The invention is particularly designed for a seamster or seamstress working at a sewing-machine.

It is well known that, in sewing on the machine, when the operator comes to the end of a seam where the thread is to be broken or cut, the work is pulled so as to draw out both the threads in order to get a clear place for a break, and also

to leave ends for the work to recommence. If sufficient be pulled out for the hands to grasp and break them in the usual manner, there is a waste of thread and the action abrades the skin of the fingers. The scissors is a remedy for this, but it is not convenient to be reaching after them constantly. This device of mine is always ready and yet not in the way at other times, as it would be were the fang pointed or presented toward the end of the finger. It is also better that the thimble should be worn upon the second of the phalanges, as a slight crooking of the end phalanx will prevent its being drawn off when cutting by a pull motion. A cot-shaped thimble cannot be so firmly held on the finger without pinching.

The cutter may be made detachable so as to slip in a groove, or it may be attached to a ring, which slips onto the thimble. These are details of possible modifications that have occurred to my mind. The tube is made of elliptical shape, so that the flattened sides which rest against the upper and under surfaces of the finger may prevent rotation of the thimble, the cutter being thus always kept in position for duty.

I claim as my invention—

As a new article of manufacture, a thread-cutter, constructed as herein shown and described.  
JAMES J. McLOUGHLIN.

Witnesses:

EDWARD H. KNIGHT,  
WALTER ALLEN.

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