

Machines for Cutting Fabrics.

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G. Matthews.

Thos. D. Curand

Inventor:
William J. Cussen

Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM J. CUSSEN, OF RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN MACHINES FOR CUTTING FABRICS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **133,700**, dated December 10, 1872; antedated December 4, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. CUSSEN, of Richmond, in the county of Henrico and State of Virginia, have invented a Machine for Cutting Fabrics into Pieces for Bags, of which the following is a specification:

It consists in a spring-clamp, which is swiveled to side of table, holds the fractional parts of a previously-cut piece while others are being unfolded, and is turned to one side when its function has been performed.

Figure 1 is a side elevation, partly in section. Fig. 2 is a plan view.

A represents a bed-plate; B B, standards; C, a table; and D, the cutter-board, which may be a foot wide, and is provided with the plate *d*, let into it, flush with the top thereof. E is a cutting-blade, provided with rods *e e*, that pass through guides *b b* on each side of table and are attached to the arms *f f* of a rock-shaft, F. G is a treadle, having foot-piece *g* at one end and weight *g'* at the other. H is a gage, having an adjusting-screw, *h*, and the ears *h' h'*, one of which projects down on each side of cutter-board D. I is a clamp, having flanges *i i* at each end, which embrace the sides of frame J. It is also provided with an adjusting-screw, K, which plays in a thread through the top of frame J. L is another clamp, swiveled between table C and a piece, *c*, screwed thereto, having a lateral projection, *l*, and held by a coiled spring, *l'*.

The operation is as follows: The cloth, as it comes in original packages, is thirty-six inches

wide, is folded twice, thus conforms to the width of table, and is passed under clamp I, then under the knife, and finally against the gage H. By means of the treadle the knife is now operated to cut the desired length, the material is fed forward, and the operation repeated until all the piece has been cut up. One fraction of the piece is now unfolded, placed lengthwise upon the cutter-board D, and held by the spring-clamp L, which has been lifted and turned with its lateral projection *l* over the board. A second fraction of the cut piece is now unfolded, and adjusted upon the first so as exactly to coincide with it at every point. This is repeated until all, even to the number of three hundred thicknesses, have been carefully placed one upon another. They are all then pressed forward together against the gage, are firmly held by clamp I, and are cut simultaneously by the knife.

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

In fabric-cutting devices having a cutter-board arranged on a table, the spring-clamp L, provided with the lateral projection *l* and swiveled against side of table, as described, so that it may be raised and turned to or from the table, as and for the purpose set forth.

WILLIAM JAMES CUSSEN.

Witnesses:

SOLON C. KEMON,
CHAS. A. PETTIT.