

## Button-Hole Cutters and Punches.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN BUTTON-HOLE CUTTERS AND PUNCHES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 137,745, dated April 8, 1873; application filed February 21, 1873.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AUGUSTUS L. WHITNEY, of Fitchburg, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Combined Button-Hole Cutter and Punch; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

In the manufacture of clothing, and in cutting button-holes for such manufacture, where great numbers of button-holes are made of various sizes it is very desirable to have an instrument by which not only can slits of uniform length be cut, and a hole or eye at one end of each slit, but slits may be cut of various lengths and with eyes of various size.

This invention relates to the construction of such a tool; and the invention consists in a button-hole cutter having a pointed angular cutting-blade applied to a sleeve at the end of one jaw of the tool, (said cutter working through a slot cut through the other jaw,) said sleeve having, extending radially from it, one or more punches, and the sleeve being movable rotatively to bring the punch, or either punch, into position to punch a hole at the end of the slit formed by the blade, a suitable locking mechanism detaining the punch or the blade in position for its proper action.

The drawing represents a construction embodying my invention.

Figure 1 shows a side view of the tool. Fig. 2 is an end view of it. Fig. 3 is a front view of the jaw *b*.

*a b* denote two jaws, pivoted at *c*, and having, extending rearward from the pivot, two handles, *d*, said handles being forced apart to spread open the jaws by a suitable spring, *e*. From the end of the jaw *a* extends a pin or circular projection, upon which is mounted a sleeve, *g*, held in place by a washer, *h*, and screw *i*. At one side of this sleeve is an arm, *k*, to which is fixed the blade *l*, the front edge of the blade being a cutting-edge, and being in-

clined to a point or angle, *m*, and the rear edge of the cutter being concentric with the center or pivot *c*. This blade works through a slot, *n*, cut through the opposite jaw *b*. In rear of the slot *n* is an adjustable edge-gage, *o*, against which the edge of the work may be laid when the button-hole or eye is to be cut, the distance of the cut from the edge being regulated by holding the edge of the work against the guide, and this distance being adjustably varied by moving the gage. The length of the slit cut depends upon the extent to which the blade enters the slot *n* of the jaw *b*, and to cut slits of defined length one side of the cutter may be marked with a scale to determine the length at various points, the movement of the cutter being limited for any particular length of slit by means of a set-screw, *p*. From the sleeve *g* extend two punches, *q r*, for punching the eyes at the ends of the button-hole slits, and after the blade *l* has operated to cut the slit the sleeve is turned until one of the punches is brought to position to cut the eye. The punches are of different size for different eyes, and either may be used, as occasion requires. To hold the sleeve *g* in place for the action of the blade, or of either of the punches, a spring-catch, *s*, may be used, this catch being operated by a spring, *t*, to throw the front end into either of a series of notches, *u*, made in the sleeve for its reception.

By pressing down the outer end of the lever against the stress of the spring the sleeve may be turned to bring the cutter, or either punch, into position.

I claim—

1. In combination with the cutter, one or more punches, *q r*, the punch or punches and the blade being attached to the sleeve *g*, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination of the screw-stop *p* in the shank with the scaled knife-blade, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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Witnesses:

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