(No Model.)

J. McCREARY.

HEM FOLDER AND GUIDE FOR SEWING MACHINES.

No. 263,054. Patented Aug. 22, 1882.

Fig. 1.

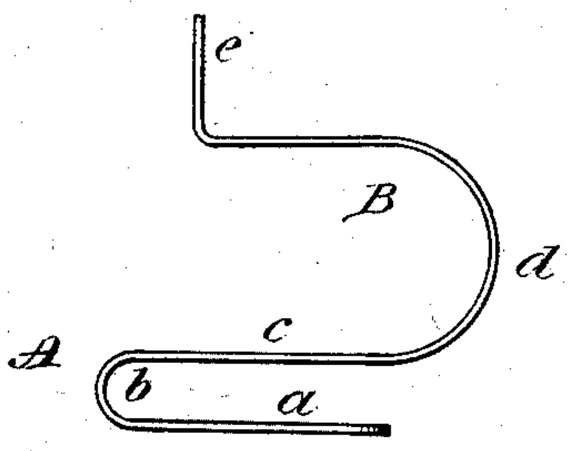


Fig. 2,

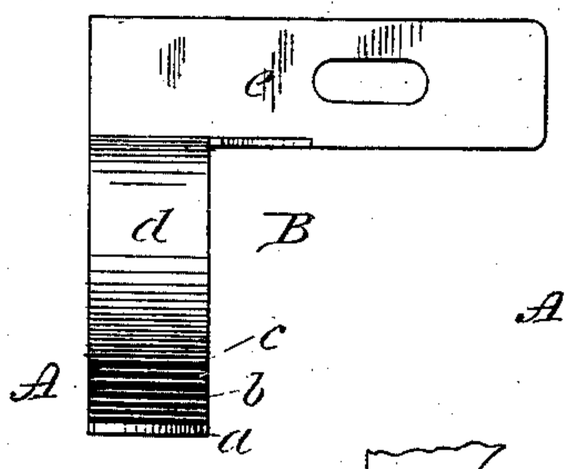


Fig. 3.

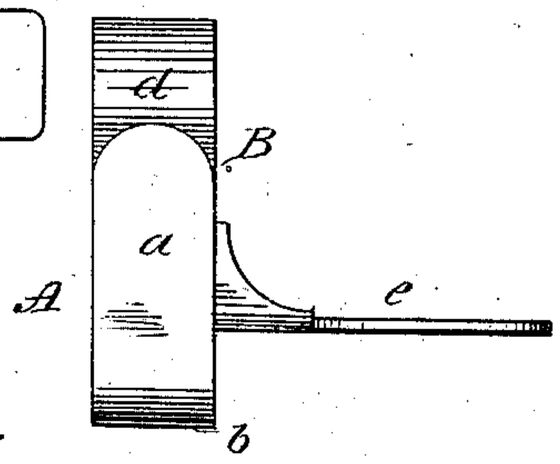


Fig. 4.

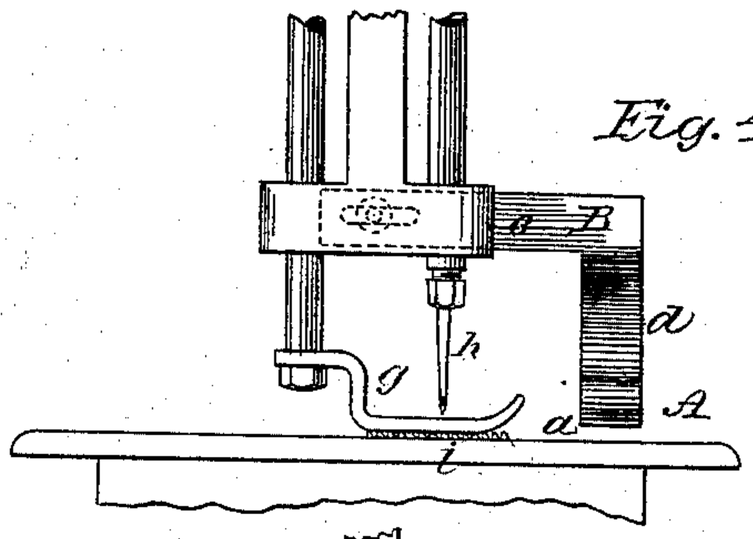


Fig. 5,

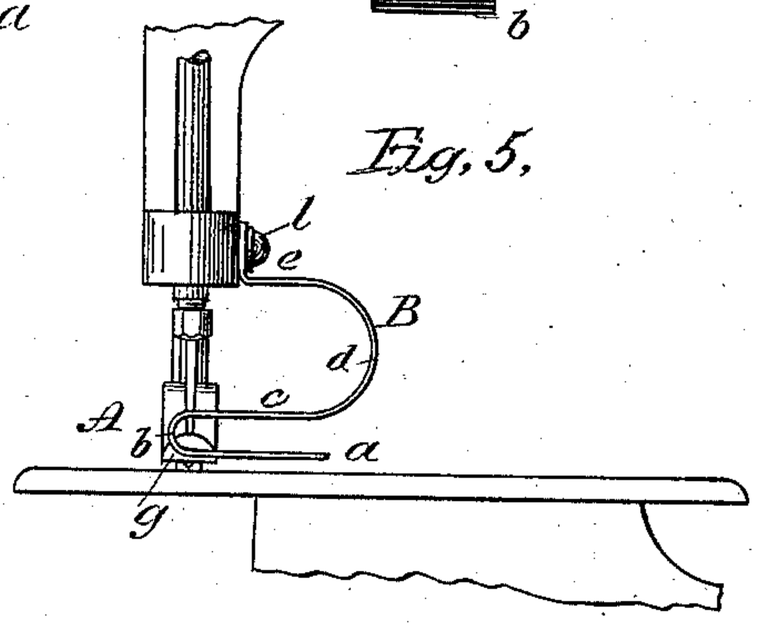


Fig. 6.

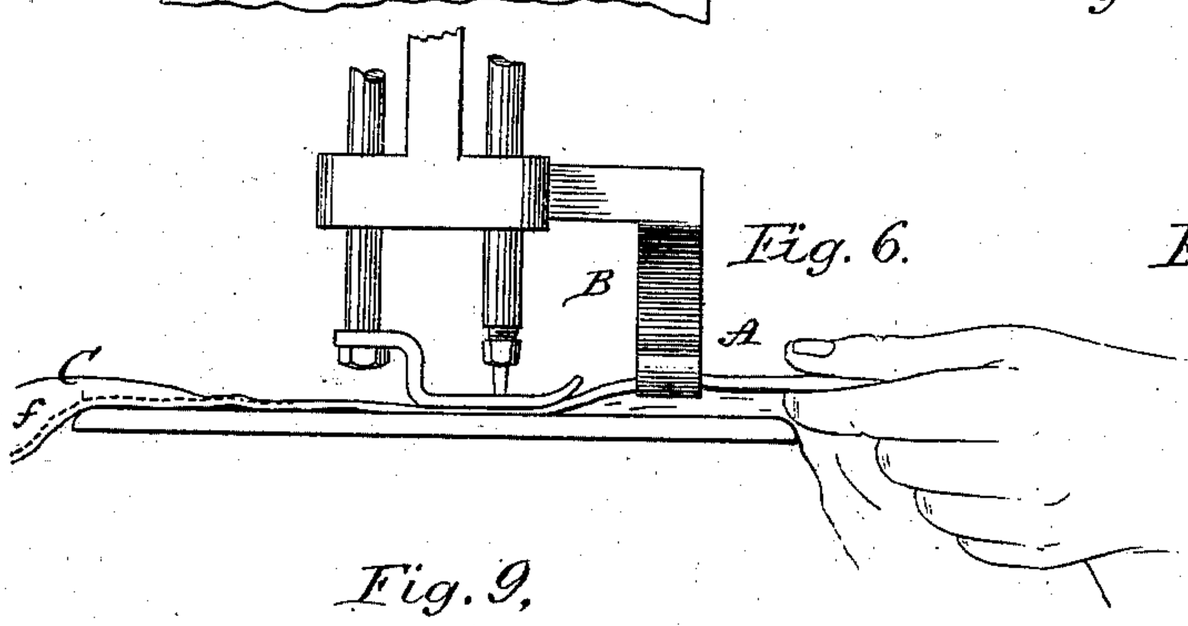


Fig. 7.

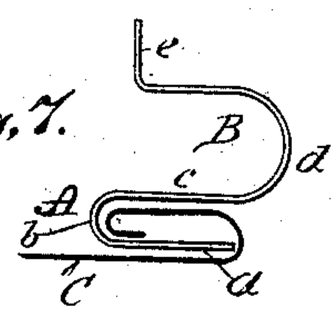


Fig. 9,

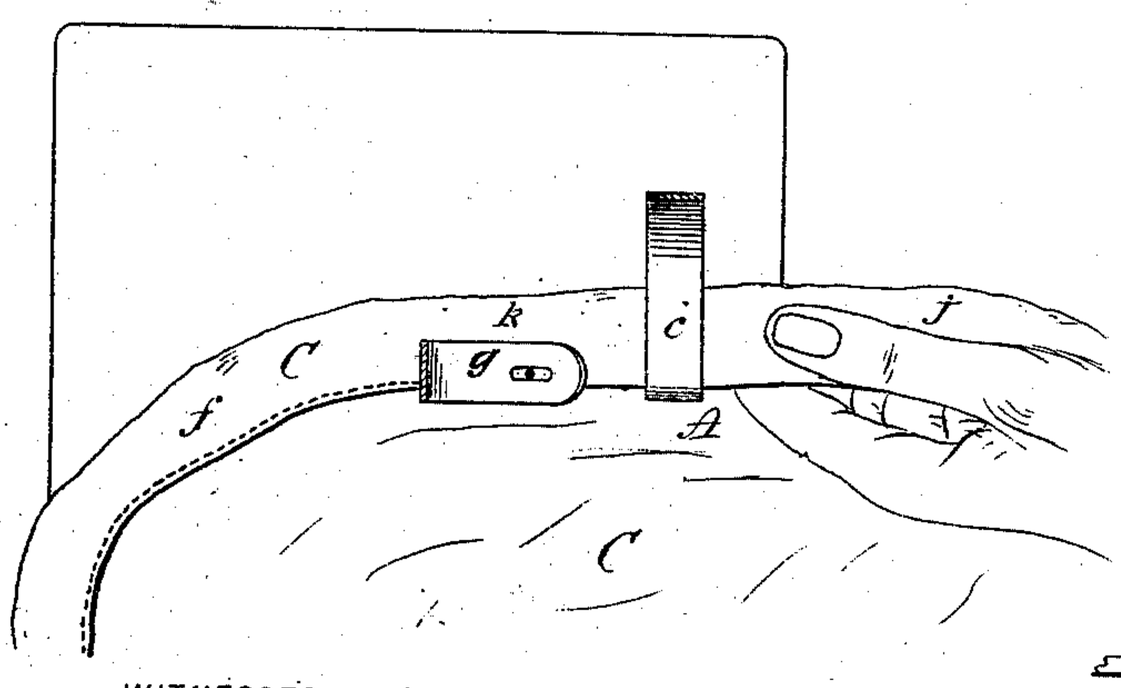


Fig. 8.

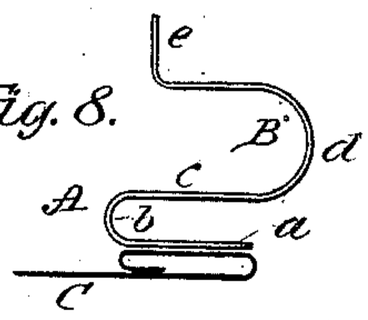
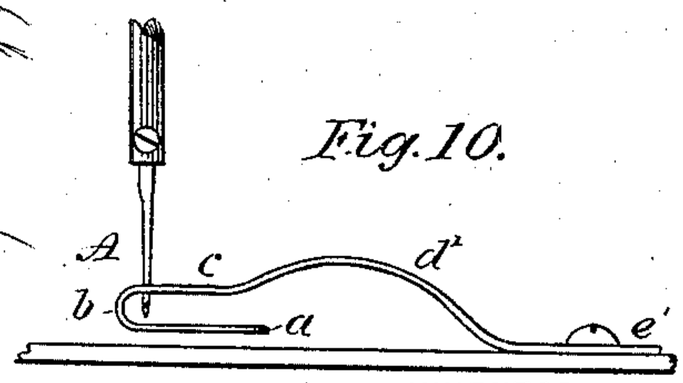


Fig. 10.



WITNESSES

Ernest Abshagen.

R. A. Smith.

INVENTOR

John Mc. Creary,

By his Attorney,

A. A. Smith.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN McCREARY, OF COHOES, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO C. F. NORTH, OF SAME PLACE, AND E. B. SKINNER, OF STILLWATER, NEW YORK.

HEM FOLDER AND GUIDE FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 263,054, dated August 22, 1882.

Application filed June 12, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MCCREARY, of Cohoes, county of Albany, and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hem Folder, Gage, and Guide for Knit Undershirts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of sewing-machine attachments employed in hemming to guide or fold the goods operated upon and gage the hem.

Hitherto great difficulty has been encountered in forming in a satisfactory manner the broad hem required around the lower extremity of the knitted undershirts. With any devices hitherto employed it has been found impracticable to turn under the raw edge with sufficient neatness and dispatch and produce by a single operation a neat hem, because of the unequal stretching of the fabric, the hem produced being awry or puckered and of unequal width in different parts of its length. So great has been this difficulty that manufacturers of knitted goods do not have the raw edge turned under, and instead, after the fold is stitched, have the projecting edges trimmed off close to the stitching, to improve the appearance of the work.

The object of my invention is to provide a device which will enable an expert sewing-machine operator to form with rapidity and ease a neat broad hem around the lower extremity of the knitted undershirt, the said hem having the raw edge neatly turned under and held by the stitching, thus producing a suitable finish without resort to any subsequent operation.

My invention consists in an adjustable U-shaped hem folder, gage, and guide, the upper part of which is prolonged into a slotted plate or arm adapting it to be adjustably attached to the machine, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view, Fig. 2 is a side elevation, and Fig. 3 an under side view, of my invention. Figs. 4 and 5 represent the manner in which my invention is attached to a Willcox & Gibbs sewing-machine. Figs. 6, 7, 8, and 9 illustrate the manner of operating the device. Fig. 10 is a modified form of the device.

Like letters in the drawings refer to similar parts of the device.

A is the U-shaped hem folder, gage, and guide, consisting of three parts, *a*, *b*, and *c*. The length of the part *a* determines the width of the hem. C is the knitted garment or undershirt, upon the lower extremity of which a broad hem, *f*, is required. The extremity of the part *a* is rounded, as shown in Fig. 3.

The garment being placed at the left of the operator, he draws the edge to be hemmed in under the part *a* up around the extremity of part *a* and in toward part *b* and turns the raw edge under, as shown in Fig. 7. The relative position of the device A and the presser-foot *g*, needle *h*, and feed *i* is such that when the machine is in operation and the hem started the goods will be drawn by the feed through the guide and under the presser-foot in such a manner as to bring the stitching near the folded edge.

Figs. 6 and 9 show the manner in which the edge is turned under by the left hand of the operator. The right hand also assists in the work of properly guiding the fabric into the device A. The part *c* assists the operator in keeping the turned edge against the part *b*. The part *c*, by bearing against the upper surface of the hem, also contributes to give the hem uniformity in width and otherwise. When the hem has been nearly completed, leaving undone only a short space, as from *j* to *k* in Fig. 9, the machine is stopped with the needle down in the goods, and the operator pushes the incomplete part, swinging it on the needle, out to the right from between the parts *a* and *c* and brings it around under the part *a*, as shown in Fig. 8, then starts up the machine, and finishes from *k* to *j* without further use of the device A in that part.

The device A may be secured in position and to the sewing-machine by an extension of the

part *c* upward or to the right, or in any convenient manner which will not interfere with the operation of the device.

d is a curved prolongation of the part *c*, terminating above in a slotted plate, *e*. In Fig. 10, *d'* is a curved prolongation of the part *c*, terminating in a slotted plate, *e'*, at the right.

B is the upper or shank portion of the hem-folder A, consisting of the parts *c*, *d*, and *e*, the curved part *d* terminating in the slotted plate *e*.

The device may be secured to the Willcox & Gibbs sewing-machine by a screw, *l*, passing through the slot of part *e* and into the head of the sewing-machine frame, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, and when so attached to the sewing-machine it can be nicely adjusted in position by turning or moving it about the screw *l*, or, if necessary, by slightly altering the form of the curved part *d*.

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

1. In a sewing-machine attachment, the herein-described hem folder, gage, and guide A, consisting of the parts *a*, *b*, and *c*, made in U shape, and provided with a curved shank terminating in a slotted plate for attachment to the machine, substantially as described.

2. The sewing-machine attachment herein described, consisting of an adjustable U-shaped hem folder, gage, and guide having the parts *a*, *b*, and *c*, and the curved part *d*, terminating in the slotted plate *e*, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of June, A. D. 1882.

JOHN McCREARY.

Witnesses:

J. LEONARD WHITE,

CHAS. O. EVEANS.