(Model.)

R. F. HOLLEY.

WICK TRIMMING SHEARS

No. 271,982. Patented Feb. 6, 1883.

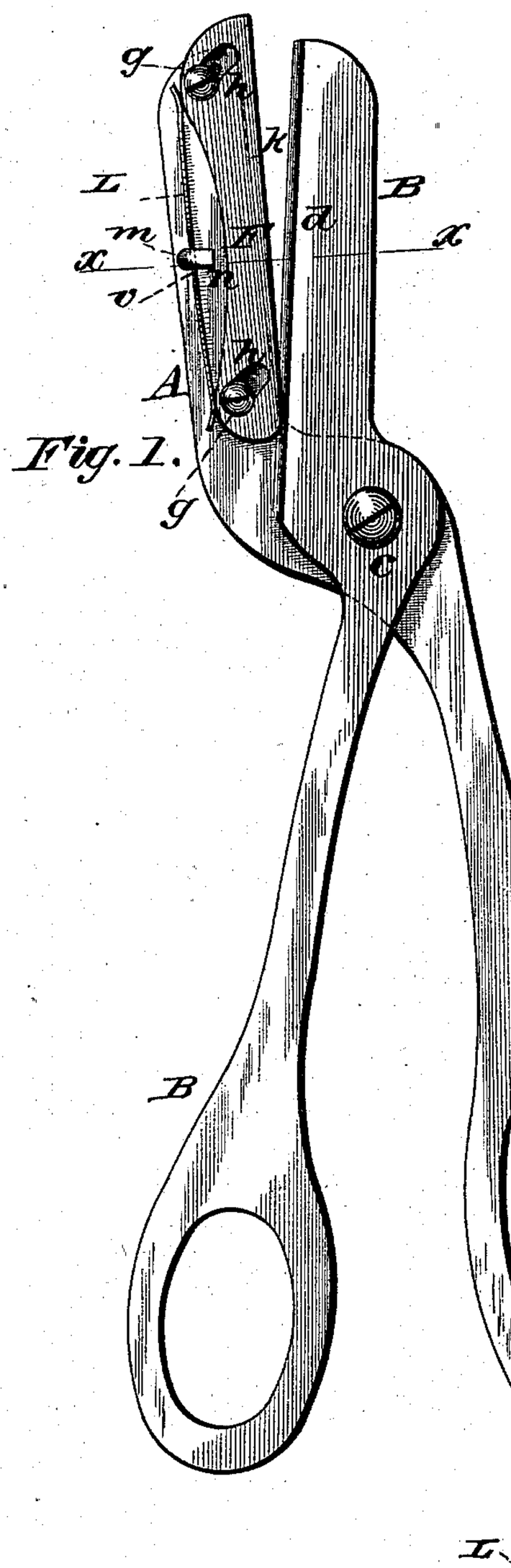

Fig. 1.

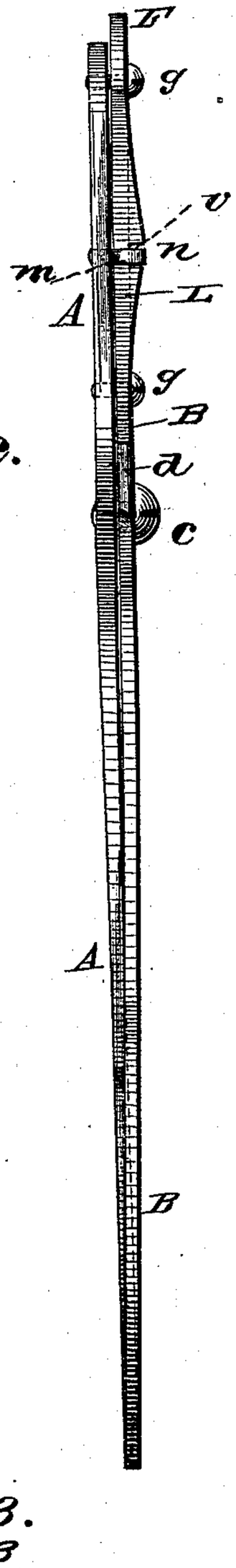

Fig. 2.

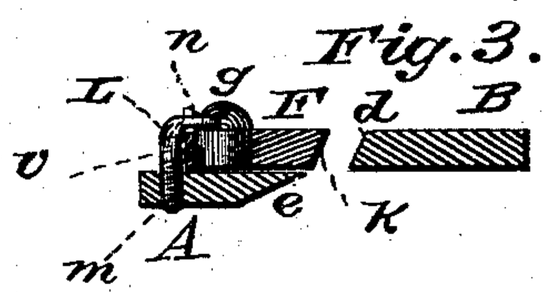

Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
Philip C. Wallace.
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Inventor:
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by Anderson & Smith
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH F. HOLLEY, OF LOCKPORT, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO WILLIAM RICHMOND, OF SAME PLACE.

WICK-TRIMMING SHEARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 271,982, dated February 6, 1883.

Application filed July 15, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH F. HOLLEY, a citizen of the United States, resident of Lockport, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Shears; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a side view of my shears. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a cross-sectional view on line *x x* of Fig. 1.

This invention has relation to shears for trimming lamp-wicks and other purposes; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claim appended.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the outer angular blade, and B the inner angular blade, of a pair of shears. These blades have their cutting-edges directed eccentrically with relation to the pivot *c*, whereby the blades are connected, so that they have a draw-cutting action. The cutting-edge *d* of the upper blade is beveled abruptly from the edge outward, and the points of said cutting-edge *d*, in passing the cutting-edge *e* of the other blade, A, move upon oblique lines.

F represents the compression-bar, which extends along the inner face of the outer blade, A, and is connected to said blade by means of screws *g*, which pass through the oblique slots *h*, which are made in said compression-bar near its ends. The direction of these slots is designed to correspond with the direction of movement of the cutting-edge *d* of the blade B. The edge *k* of the compression-bar is beveled from the outer face thereof inward, in conformity to the beveled edge of the inner blade, against which the beveled edge of the compression-bar is designed to be pressed when the shears are closed. When the blades are opened the operating-edge of the compression-bar extends beyond the cutting-edge of the blade A, to which it is connected, and said compression-bar is designed to close upon the material being cut in advance of the action of the cutting-edges of the blades, so that the material is constantly held firmly in position for such action.

The yielding movement of the compression-bar is provided for by placing a spring, L, in engagement with its back edge. This spring is connected to the blade A by means of a screw, *m*, which is usually provided with a catch-head, *n*, designed to engage a notch or bearing, *v*, of said spring. The action of this spring is such that the compression-bar is forced beyond the cutting-edge of the blade when the shears are open, and it therefore causes the compression-bar to be constantly pressed against the material being operated upon when the shears are in use, said material being therefore held between the edge of the compression-bar and the edge of the opposite blade.

The object of this invention is to provide for the production of a perfectly straight and smooth cut in the fabric or material to which the shears may be applied. The compression-bar is designed to be brought to bear on the fabric or material before the shears begin to cut, and this action of the compression-bar is continued in advance of the cut until the shears are fully closed. As the material being cut is held in firm position, all tendency thereof to crowd toward the point of the shears when pressed by the action of the blades in rear is overcome.

A pruning-implement having a compression-bar operated by a spring to hold the severed stem of the fruit has been employed prior to my invention; but it has been differently constructed, and cannot be operated upon fabrics, as mine may be. Its cutting-edge has not been beveled, and the result produced has been entirely different from that accomplished by my invention.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A pair of shears consisting of the pivoted angular or draw-cutting blades, the bevel-edge compression-bar having oblique slots *h* and connected to one of the blades by the

screws *g*, and the detachable back spring connected to the same blade and engaging said compression-bar, the operating-edge *k* of which extends beyond the line of the cutting-edge of the blade to which it is connected, whereby the compresser-bar is adapted to close upon the material to be cut in advance of the action of the cutting-edges of the blades, so that the material is constantly held firmly in position for such action, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

RALPH F. HOLLEY.

Witnesses:
THOMAS RYAN,
JOHN MCLEAN.