

(No Model.)

W. A. ALRICH.

RIPPING ATTACHMENT FOR SEWING MACHINES.

No. 281,330.

Patented July 17, 1883.

Fig. 1.

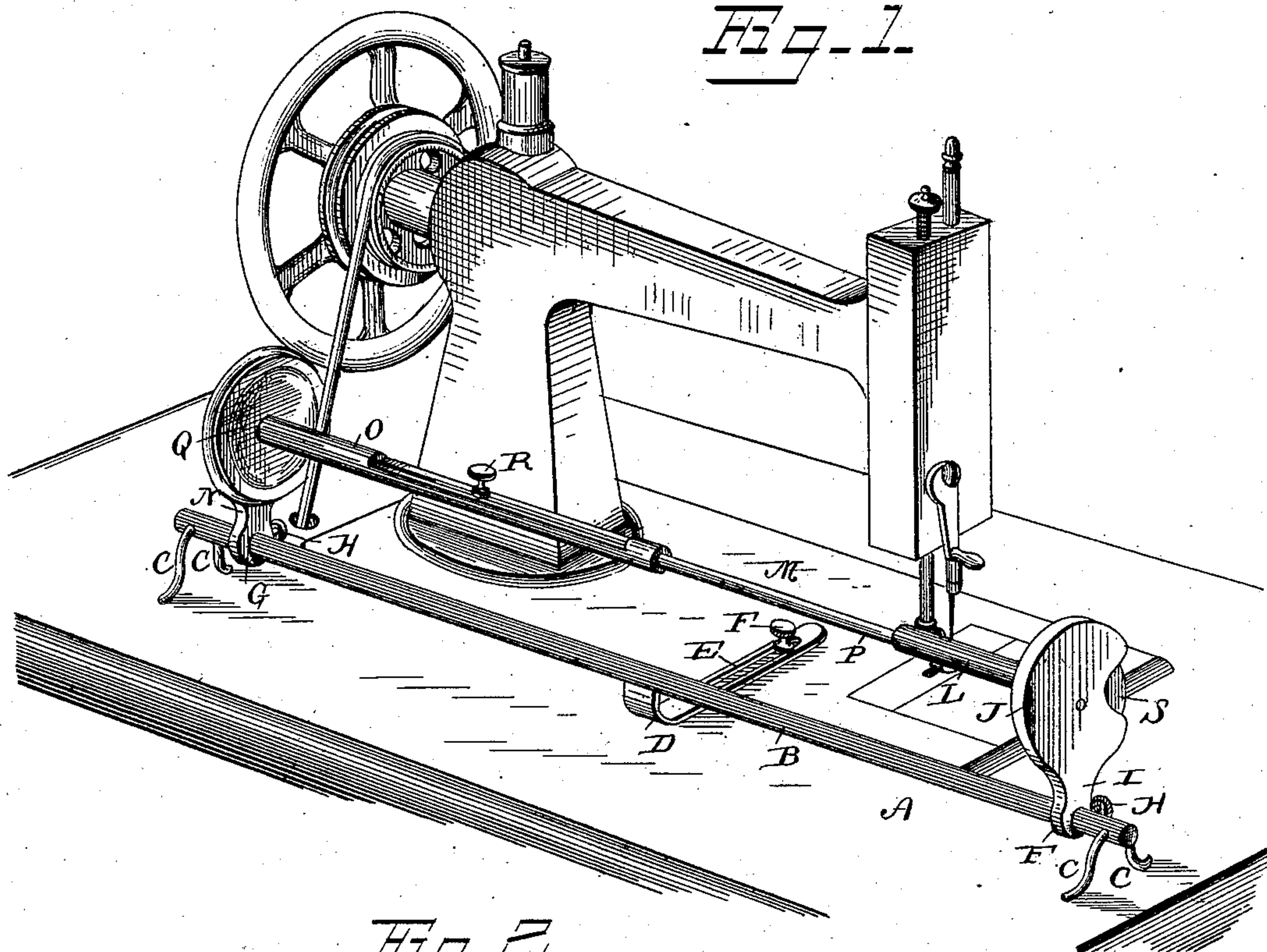


Fig. 2.

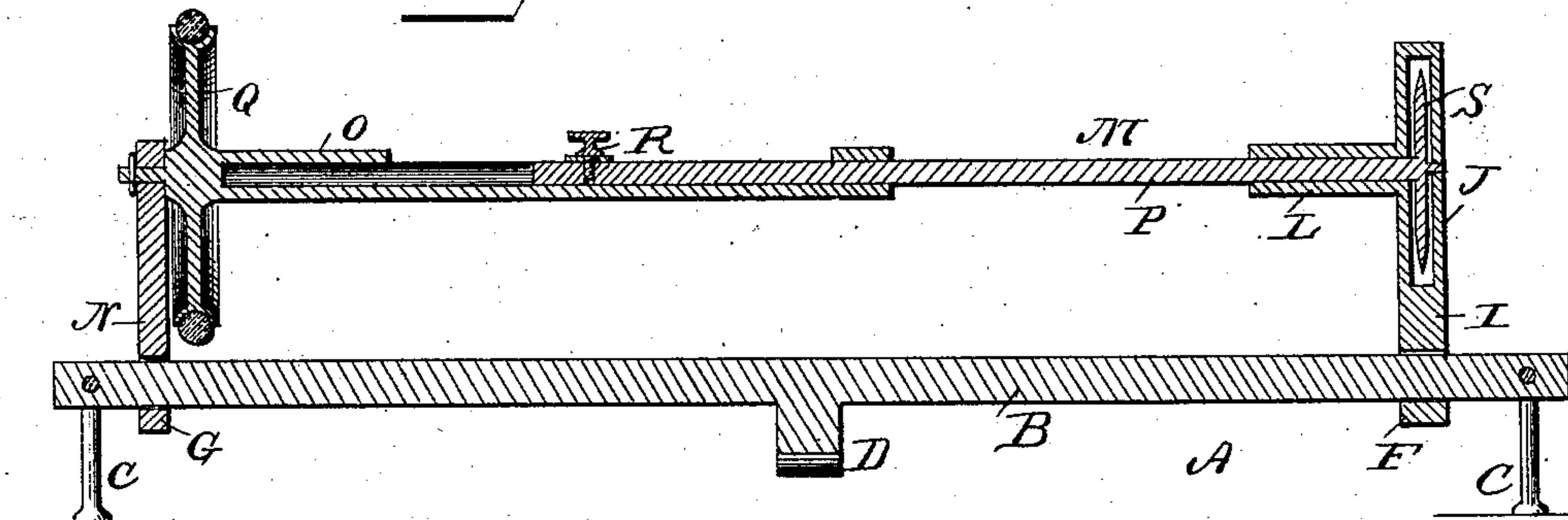
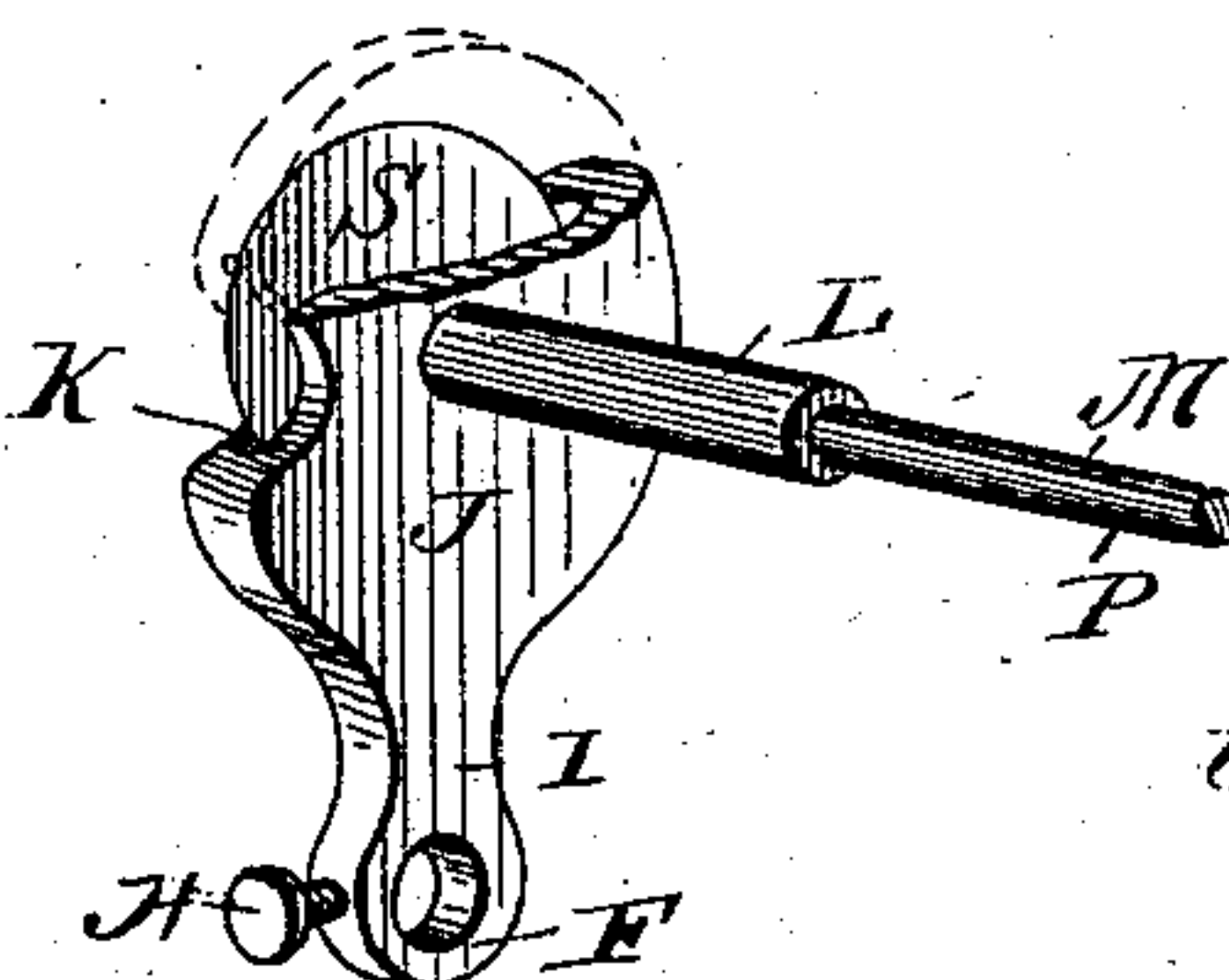


Fig. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## RIPPING ATTACHMENT FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,330, dated July 17, 1883.

Application filed May 9, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM A. ALRICH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chatham, in the county of Pittsylvania and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Ripping Attachment for Sewing-Machines, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to ripping attachments for sewing-machines; and it consists of certain improvements in the construction of the same, which will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing my improved ripping attachment attached to a sewing-machine in position for operation. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view of the ripping attachment; and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the knife or cutter and its casing detached.

The same letters refer to the same parts in all the figures.

A in the drawings represents the frame of my improved ripping attachment, which consists of a horizontal rod, B, mounted upon suitable legs, CC, and having an arm or bracket, D, extending horizontally on a level with the feet, and provided with a slot, E, to receive a set-screw, F, by which the device may be clamped or secured in position for operation.

F and G are collars, which are longitudinally adjustable upon the frame-rod B by means of set-screws H H. The collar F has an upwardly-extending arm, I, carrying at its upper end the cutter-casing J, which consists of a suitably-constructed nearly circular case, having at its front end a slot, K, through which a part of the cutter may extend, and having on its inner side a laterally-projecting tubular bearing, L, for the operating-shaft M. The collar G has an upwardly-projecting arm, N, the upper end of which forms the bearing for the other end of the operating-shaft.

The operating-shaft M consists of two parts or sections, O and P. The section O, which is tubular, is journaled in the bearing in the arm N, and is provided with a fixed friction-wheel, Q, the rim of which may be equipped with a rubber band. The section P slides in

the section O, which is provided with a set-screw, R, for retaining it in any position to which it may be adjusted, and it is journaled in the tubular bearing extending from the casing J, and carries the knife or cutter S, which consists of a circular sharp-edged disk of steel accommodated within the casing J and projecting through the slot K of the latter.

The operation of this invention will be readily understood from the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings hereto annexed. The device is secured to the sewing-machine table by the set-screw F in such a position that the friction-wheel upon the operating-shaft shall come in contact with and be operated by the balance-wheel of the machine. By lengthening or shortening the operating-shaft and adjusting the collar F upon the frame-rod, the cutting mechanism may be moved to the right or left to any position that may be convenient for the operator. By operating the treadle the revolving cutter will now be rapidly operated, so as to rip or cut any material held against the part of it which projects through the slot K.

This device is useful and convenient for ripping old garments, cutting dress-patterns, and for a variety of purposes that will readily suggest themselves.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. In a ripping attachment for sewing-machines, the combination of a horizontal frame-rod, two collars adjustable upon the same and provided with upwardly-extending arms, an extensible shaft journaled at the upper ends of said arms, and a rotary cutter and a friction-wheel secured to the ends of the said shaft, substantially as set forth.

2. In a ripping attachment for sewing-machines, the horizontal frame-rod mounted upon suitable feet, and having an arm or bracket extending horizontally on a level with the feet, and provided with a slot to receive a fastening-screw, in combination with collars adjustable upon said frame-rod, and having arms that form bearings for an extensible shaft, carrying a friction-wheel and rotary cutter, as set forth.

3. The combination, with the frame-rod, of an adjustable collar having at its upper end a

hood or casing provided with a laterally-projecting tubular bearing, a shaft journaled in the said bearing and carrying a circular sharp-edged knife or cutter, and the operating mechanism, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of the horizontal frame-rod, means for securing the same to a sewing-machine table in position for operation, a collar adjustable upon said rod, and having an upright arm carrying the cutter hood or casing at its upper end, said casing being provided with a laterally-extending tubular bearing, a shaft journaled in said bearing and having a circular sharp-edged knife revolving

within the casing, an adjustable collar having an upright arm, a tubular shaft journaled in the same, a friction-wheel upon the said tubular shaft, and a set-screw adapted to connect the said tubular shaft with the cutter-shaft, which slides within the same, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM AUGUSTUS ALRICH.

Witnesses:

L. SCRUGGS,

J. H. SHEPHERD.