(No Model.)

G. P. JOHNSON.
SCISSORS OR SHEARS.

No. 558,494.

Patented Apr. 21, 1896.

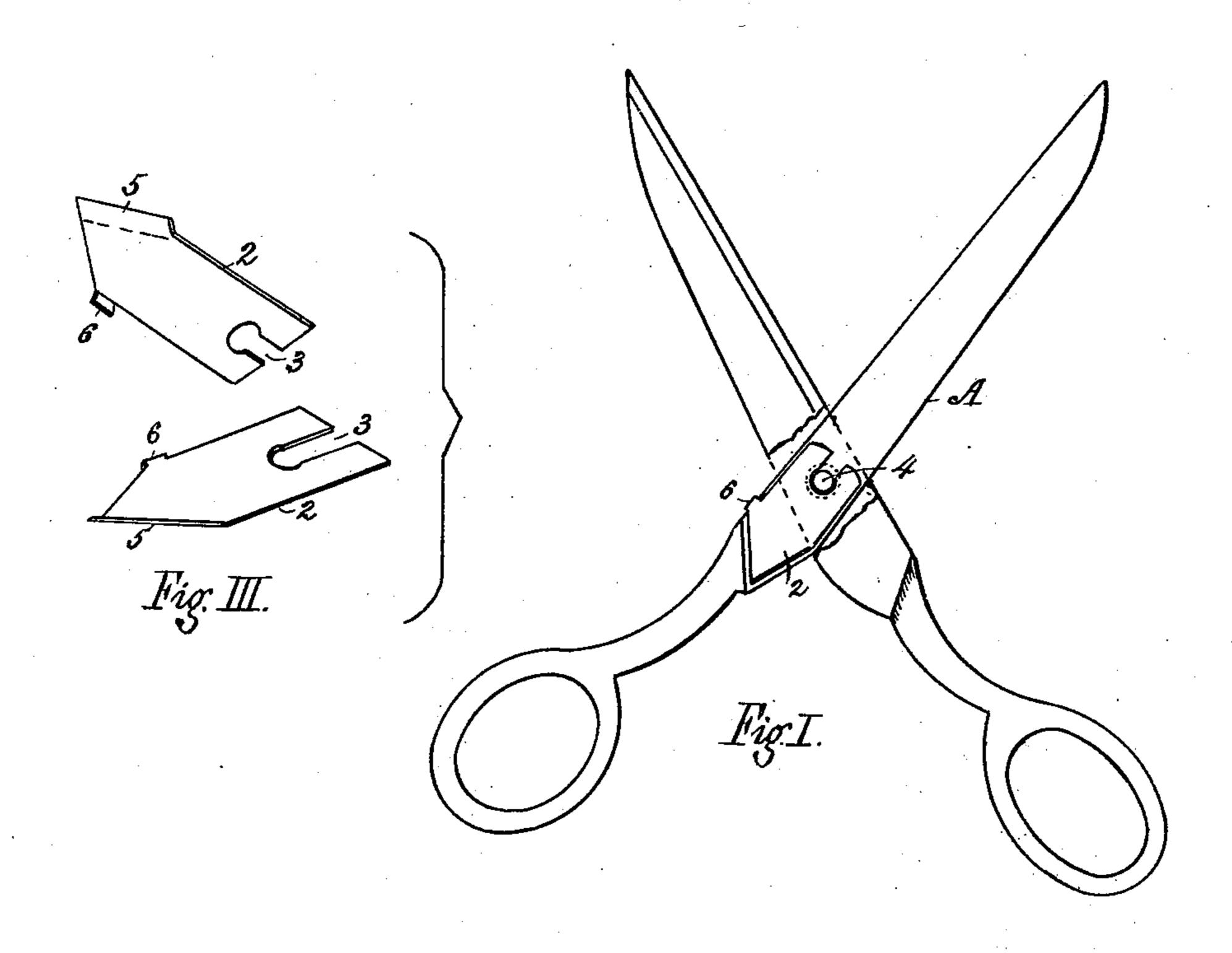


Fig.II.

Witnesses In.

K. M. Millar L. M. Adams! Inventor

Geo Bohnson

By

## United States Patent Office.

GEORGE P. JOHNSON, OF GLOVERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

## SCISSORS OR SHEARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 558,494, dated April 21, 1896.

Application filed September 17, 1895. Serial No. 562,811. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, George P. Johnson, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gloversville, in the county of Fulton and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Scissors or Shears, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view, partly in section, of a pair of scissors provided with my improvement; Fig. 2, a rear view of the same, and

Fig. 3 perspective detail views.

My invention relates to improvements in 15 the construction of scissors, shears, and other cutting instruments of that class; and its object is to provide a simple, inexpensive, and efficient attachment designed to relieve the fingers of the operator from the usual cramp-20 ing and painful exertion required to maintain a close and uniform cutting contact of the blades. It is well understood by all who are familiar with the operation of these instruments that whenever the blades are per-25 mitted to separate they will slide over instead of cutting the cloth or other fabric, and if the process be continued the edges soon become dull and the evil increases. If, on the other hand, the blades be kept in contact, 30 they mutually sharpen each other.

My invention consists of a peculiarly-shaped thin and resilient plate which is interposed between the blades of a pair of scissors and having its slotted front portion engaging the pivot of the shears, its rear end being sloped to a point, the angles of which correspond to the rabbeted rear ends of the scissors-blades, one side of said slope being turned up, forming a spring, the other side of the slope having a lug which is bent over one of the blades and in conjunction with the pivot holds the

plate in place.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, A designates a pair of scissors of the usual form, provided between the rear ends of the blades 45 with a plate 2, the forward end having a slot 3 to engage the pivot 4, while the rear end slopes to a point, the angles of which correspond to the rabbeted rear ends of the scissors-blades. One side of the slope is turned up, 50 forming a spring 5. The opposite side of the plate has an integral lug 6, which is bent over one of the blades and in conjunction with the pivot holds the plate in proper position.

The operation of the device is apparent. The spring acting in the rear of the pivotal point tends to separate the handles, and the blades are conversely held in contact. If the spring should become deranged in any man- 60 ner, it may be readily removed and replaced by unbending the lug 6, and it will also be understood that the tension of the spring may be regulated by the screw-pivot.

What I claim as new is—

The combination with a pair of scissors or shears of the herein-described spring-plate provided at its front end with a slot to receive the pivot of the shears, and provided with the rearwardly sloped or tapered rear 70 end, one of the slopes being turned up to form a flange the other edge of the plate being provided with an upturned lug at the junction of the straight and sloped portions, as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, this 2d day of September, 1895, in the presence of witnesses.

GEORGE P. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:
HORTON D. WRIGHT,
WM. J. WILSON.