

(No Model.)

W. J. FERGUSON.
THIMBLE

No. 585,930.

Patented July 6, 1897.

Fig. 1.

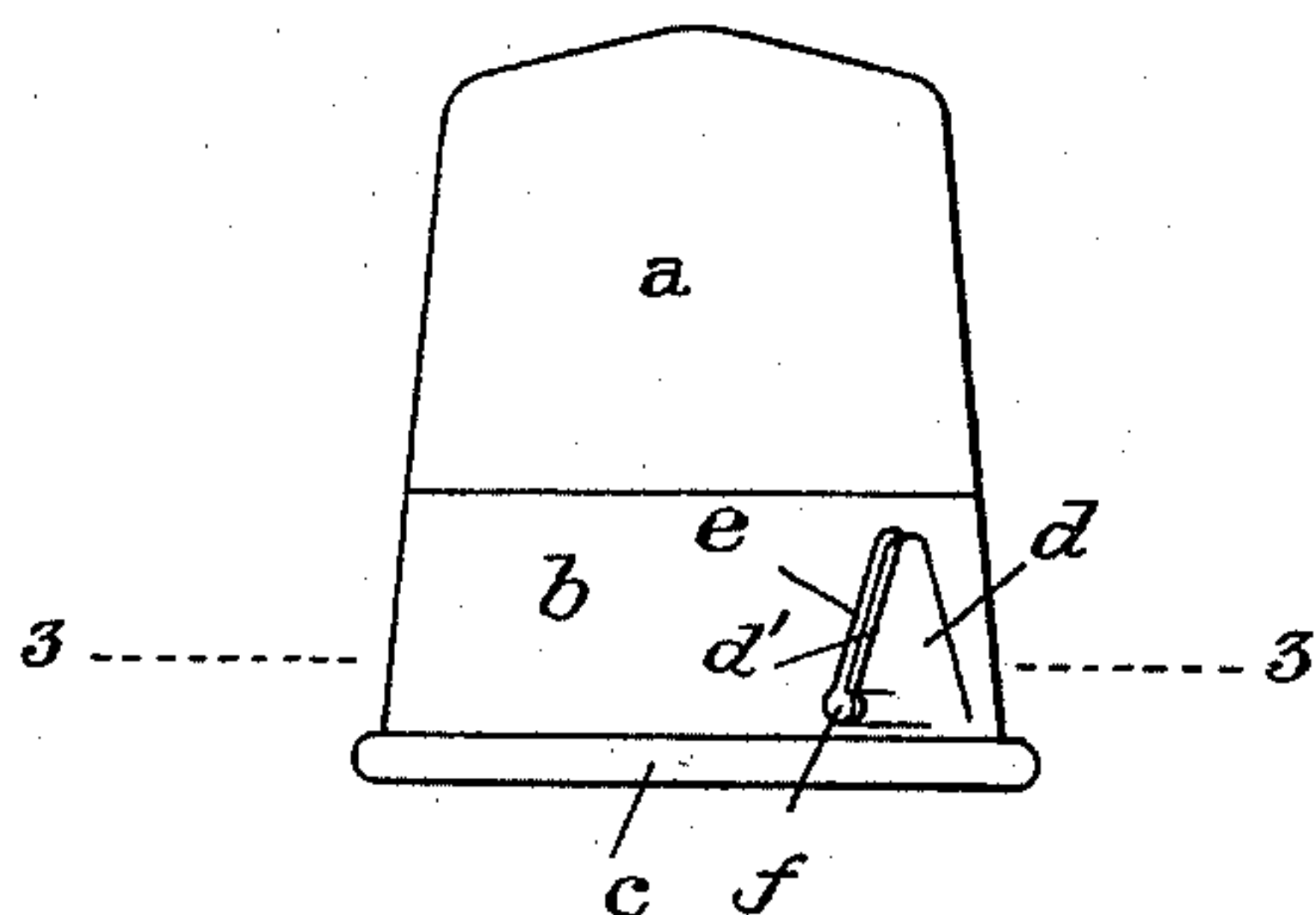


Fig. 2.

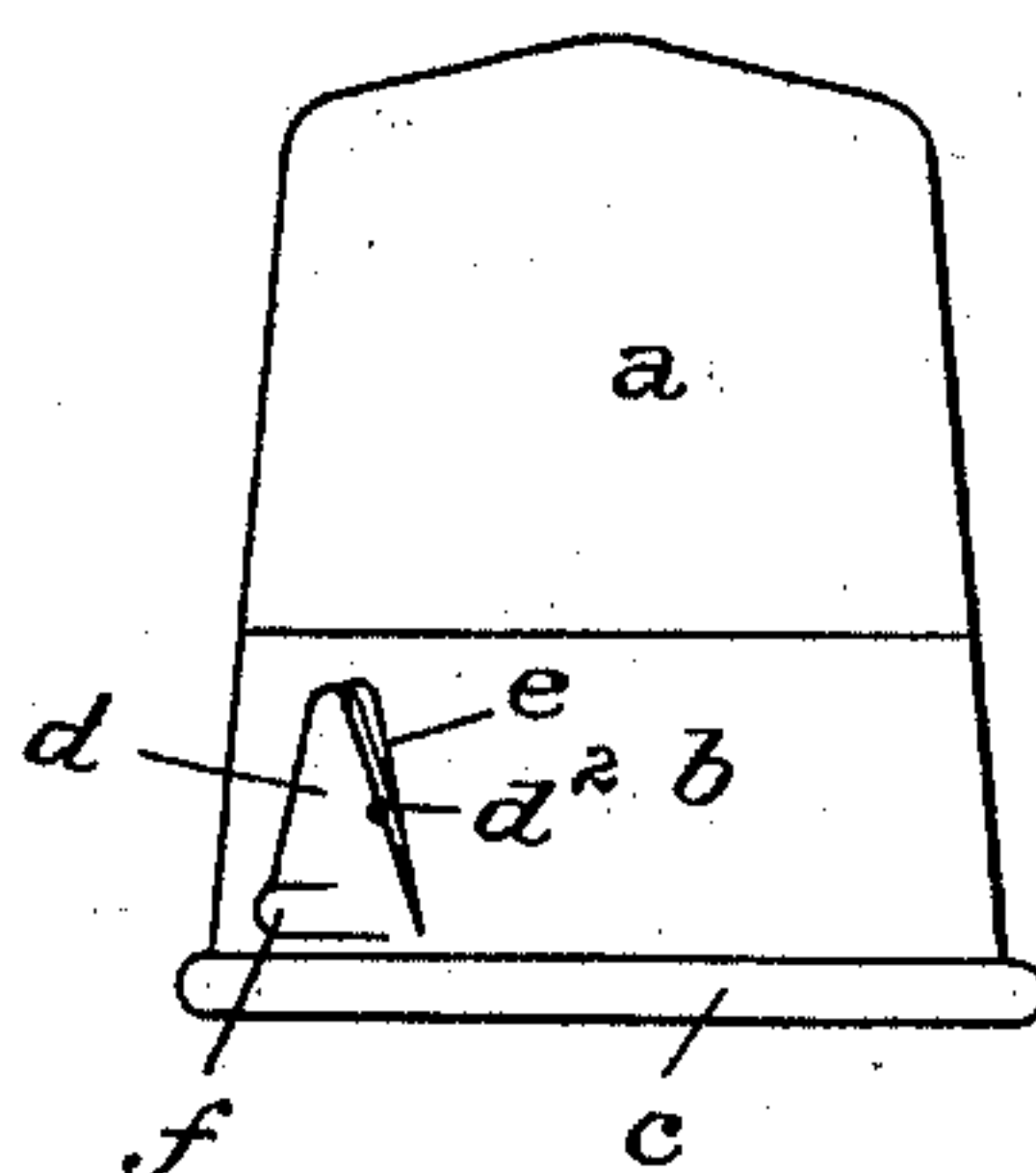
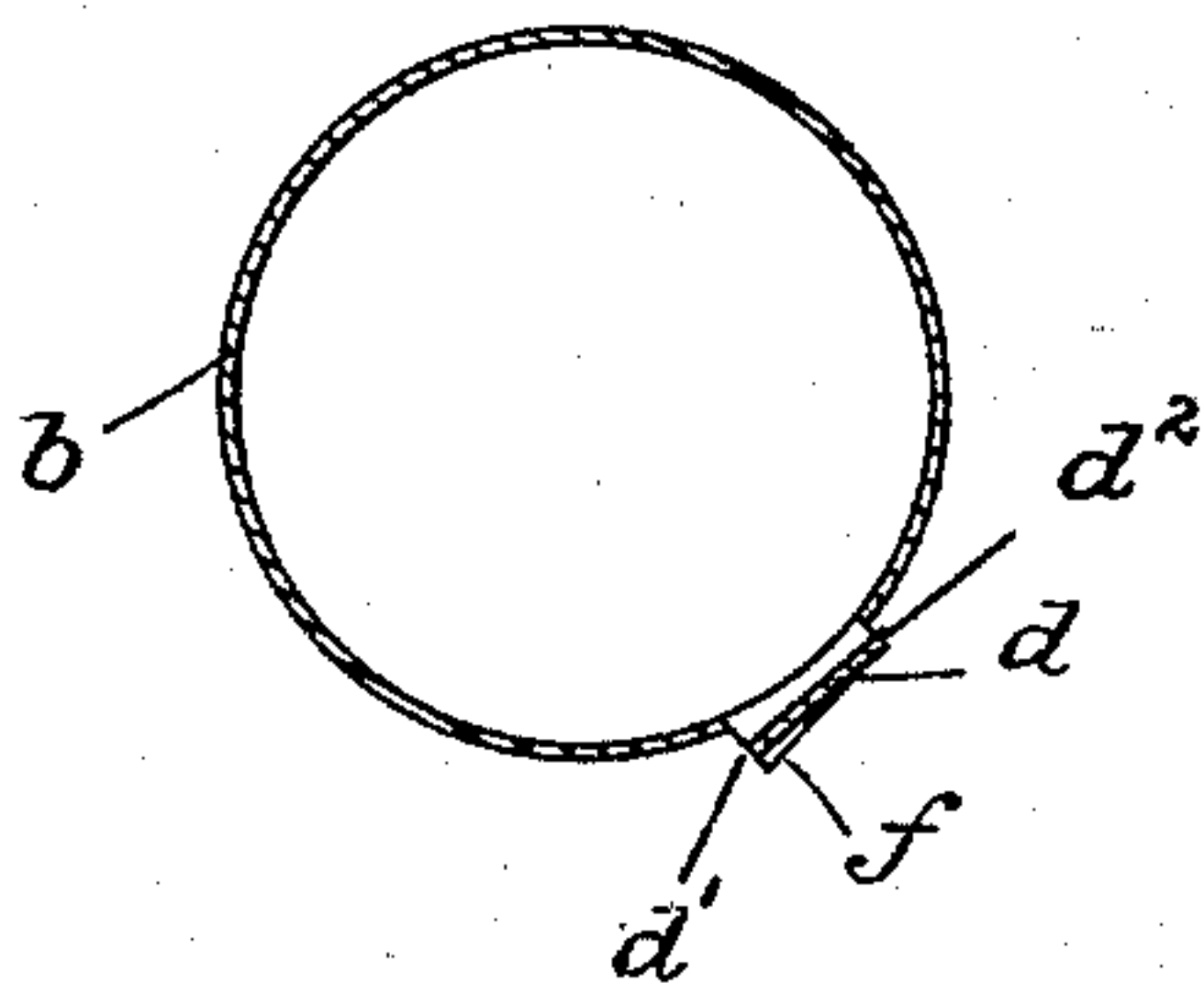


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES : -

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THIMBLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 585,930, dated July 6, 1897.

Application filed December 15, 1896. Serial No. 615,755. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. FERGUSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thimbles, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide thimbles which are used for sewing with the ordinary needle, with a thread-cutter of improved construction and made part of the thimble.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a thimble having the improved thread-cutter. Fig. 2 is also a side view of the thimble, taken in a different position. Fig. 3 is a cross-section view of the thimble, showing the peculiarity of the cutter-blade.

The thimble is of the ordinary kind, made of metal. Below the usual pits, located at *a*, which receive the end of a needle when pushing the needle through the fabric, is usually a smooth belt-surface *b*, adjoining the rim *c*. The improved cutter-blade *d* is formed in said smooth surface and the blade is integral with the metal wall of the thimble. The blade is formed by making a V-shaped cut or slit *e* in said wall, and the point of the blade *d* is bent outward slightly, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2.

The blade is slightly twisted on its base—that is, one inclined edge *d'* stands off farther from the slit *e* than the other inclined edge *d''*. By this peculiar construction all the cutting is devolved on that edge *d''* which is closer to the slit. This edge *d''* of the blade and the

corresponding edge of the slit comprise a shear which does the cutting exclusively. There is so much space between the other edge *d'* and the corresponding edge of the slit that the thread will pass in and out of said space freely without being cut. At the base of the blade and the bottom of the space between the non-cutting edge *d'* and slit is a smooth or rounded-out opening *f*. This allows that part of the thread which extends across the inner side of the blade and which has been cut by the opposite edge *d''* to be drawn out freely without scraping the thread end.

The thimble is used in the ordinary manner, and when it is desired to cut or break the thread the blade *d* is engaged therewith in a manner that will be readily understood.

The thimble may be made of metal that will magnetize, and by having it permanently magnetized it will serve to pick up needles.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

A metal thimble having a cutter-blade integral with the wall of the thimble, said blade partly separated from said wall by a V-slit, the point of the blade bent outward slightly and having one inclined edge of the blade standing off from the slit farther than the other inclined edge so that only one edge cuts the thread, and also having at the base of the non-cutting edge a smooth or rounded-out opening, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM J. FERGUSON.

Witnesses:

CHAS. B. MANN, Jr.,
LEE I. VAN HORN.