

No. 608,206.

Patented Aug. 2, 1898.

L. MERRILL.
SEAM RIPPER.

(Application filed July 24, 1897.)

(No Model.)

FIG. 1.

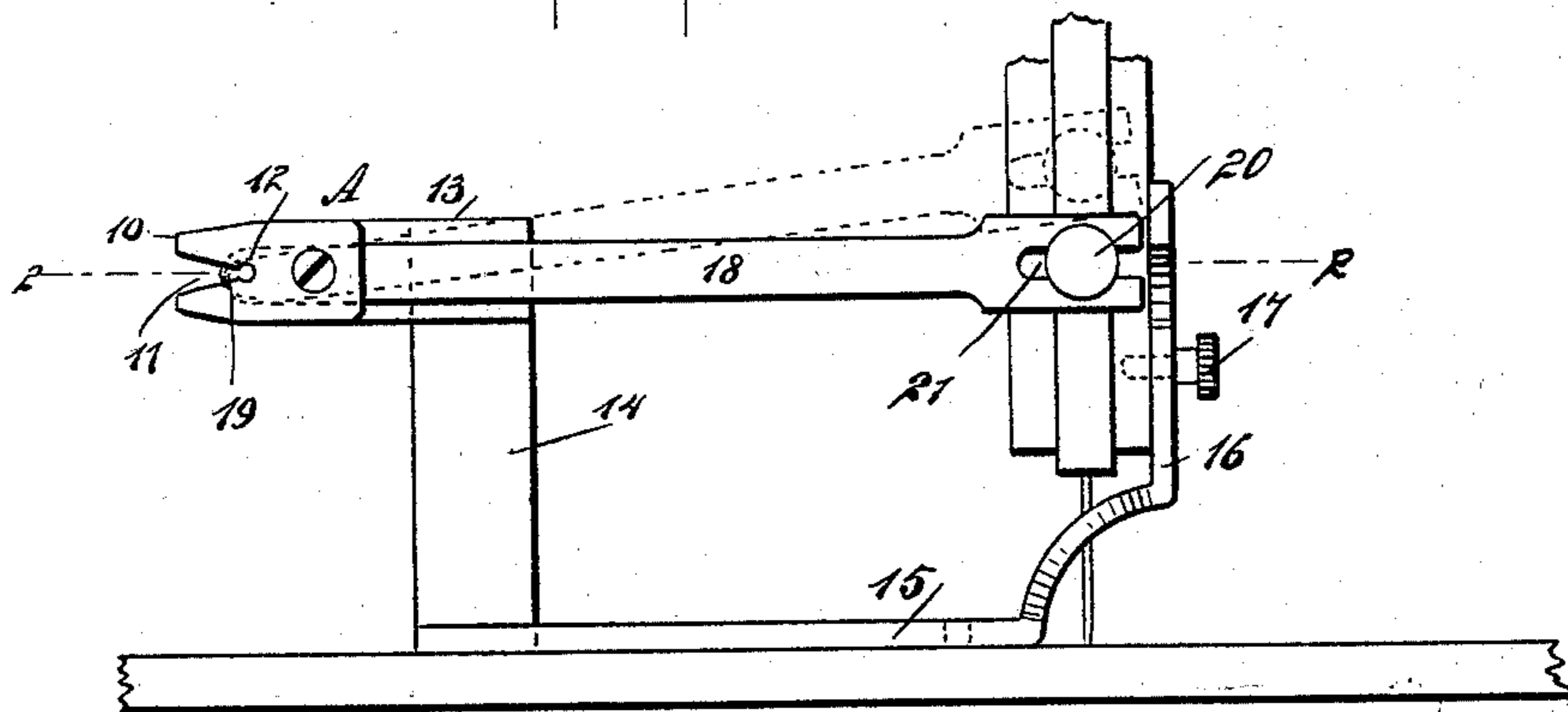
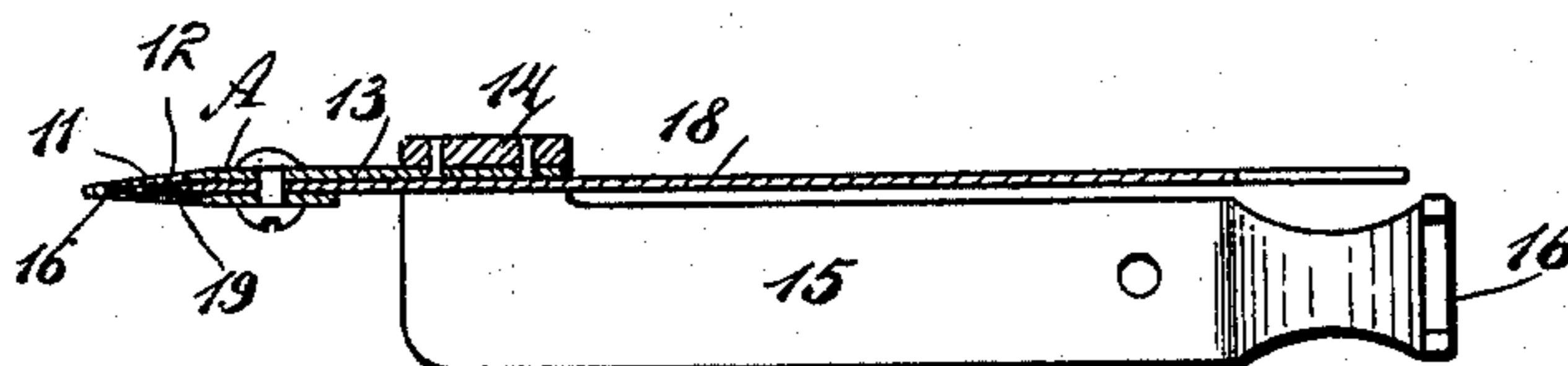


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES:

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LEMUEL MERRILL, OF MELROSE, MASSACHUSETTS.

SEAM-RIPPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 608,206, dated August 2, 1898.

Application filed July 24, 1897. Serial No. 645,847. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEMUEL MERRILL, of Melrose, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and
5 Improved Seam-Ripper, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of my invention is to construct a device for ripping seams which will be of exceedingly durable and simple construction
10 and capable of being operated either by hand or by applied power—as, for example, by attachment to the needle-bar of a sewing-machine.

Another object of the invention is to so construct the ripper as to embrace a body-section and a knife held to reciprocate within the body-section in such manner as to cut the threads of a seam at both its up and its down movement, the cutting operation being practically a continuous one.
20

Another object of the invention is to so construct the body of the ripper that it will readily enter a seam, and whereby the seam may be conveniently and expeditiously fed to the
25 knife.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.
30

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the improved
35 ripper, illustrating it as applied to a sewing-machine. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section through the ripper, taken practically on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1.

The body A of the ripper is in the nature
40 of a shield tapered longitudinally, its outer end 10 being quite thin, and in the said outer end a slot 11 is longitudinally made, which slot is shown as tapering or of V shape, connecting at its contracted inner end with an
45 aperture 12 of circular form, the aperture being provided to facilitate the cut threads readily leaving the shield. In the drawings the shield is shown as consisting of one piece of metal bent upon itself to form two mem-
50 bers more or less widely separated at their inner ends and brought closely together or

flattened at their outer end, and the outer end of the shield may be termed the "bill." If desired, the shield may be made of separate pieces.
55

When the device is to be used in connection with a sewing-machine, one member of the shield is carried rearward beyond the opposite member, forming an extension 13, which is secured to or made integral with an upright
60 14, the said upright being attached to a base-bar 15, and from the inner end of the base-bar an upright 16 is carried, adapted to be attached to the stationary drop-arm of a sewing-machine through the medium of a set-
65 screw 17 or its equivalent, the base 15 of the attachment being adapted to rest upon the bed or plate of the machine.

A ripping-arm 18 is pivoted between the members of the shield near their diverging
70 portions, and the forward end of this ripping-arm is made convexed or rounding and is sharpened at its top, front, and bottom edges to form a knife 19. This knife has play between the members of the shield at the contracted portion of the slot 11 in the bill of the
75 shield.

Thus it will be observed that no matter whether the arm 18 be moved upward or downward the knife 19 will cut the threads of the
80 seam fed to the shield, and this constant or continuous cutting operation of the knife is due to its rounded or cylindrical cutting edge. When the device is to be used in connection with a sewing-machine, the ripping-arm 18 is
85 attached to the needle-bar of the machine by means of the set-screw 20, that is used to hold the needle, said set-screw being passed through a slot 21 in the said arm and into the said needle-bar, as illustrated also in Fig. 1.
90

It is evident that when used in connection with a machine the ripper can be quickly operated and both hands of the operator may be used to guide the work. The ripper is furthermore of such a construction that while
95 the threads in a seam will be quickly and cleanly cut there is no danger of cutting the material, since the knife is entirely protected by the shield, except at that portion which is to be brought directly in engagement with the
100 threads.

Having thus described my invention, I

claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A seam - ripper, comprising a shield
formed of two opposing plate members slightly
5 separated in the body thereof and tapering
to a contact at one edge, said plates having a
tapering notch in this edge terminating in a
circular enlargement, and the cutter-blade
having a rounded sharpened end and pivoted
10 between said members to reciprocate across
said notch.

2. A seam - ripper, comprising a shield
formed of a plate bent upon itself, the halves
in the main being parallel and slightly sepa-
15 rated but tapering to a sharp edge at the bend,

said shield having a saw-toothed notch formed
therein across the apex of the bend and termi-
nating in an enlargement, a base supporting
the same and adapted to be secured to a sew-
ing-machine table, a cutter-blade having a 20
sharpened end extending into the apex of the
shield and pivoted between the two parts
thereof to reciprocate across the notch there-
in and a rearward extension to said blade
adapted to be secured to a reciprocating mem- 25
ber of a sewing-machine.

LEMUEL MERRILL.

Witnesses:

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ARTHUR G. DAVIS.