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Patented Nov. 15, 1898.

A. M. HUNTER & L. ILLMER, JR.

THIMBLE THREAD KNIFE.

(Application filed June 7, 1898.)

(No Model.)

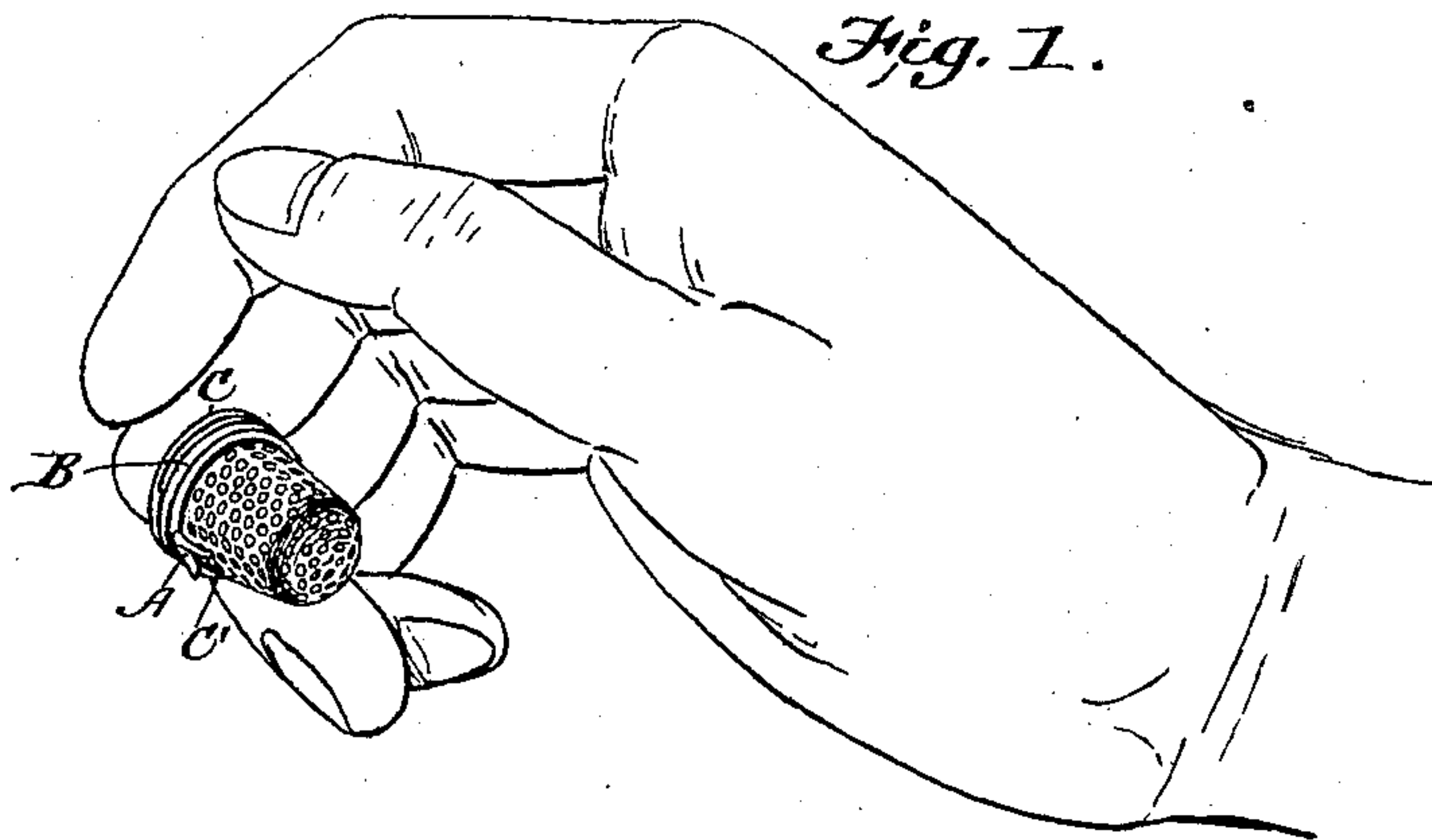


Fig. 2.

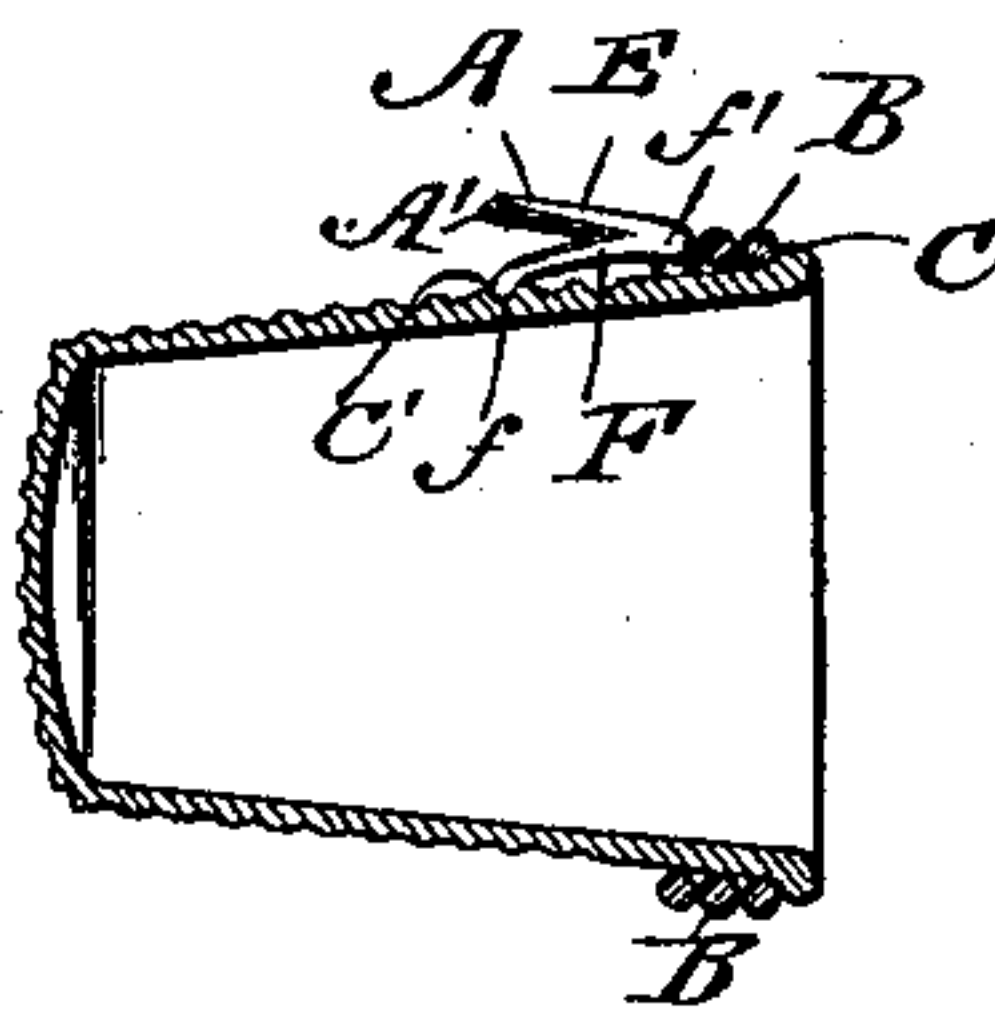


Fig. 3.

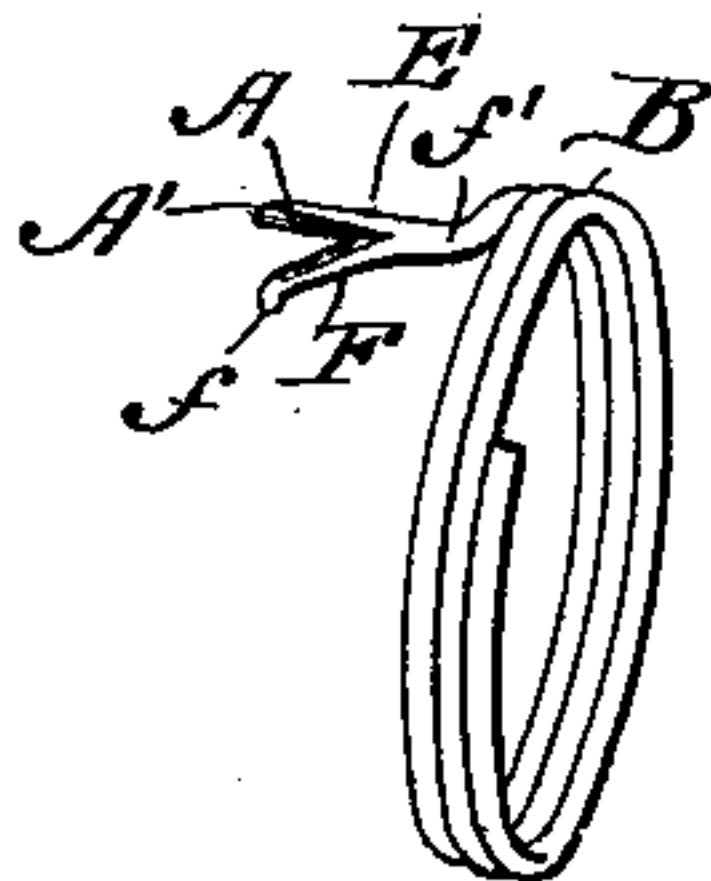
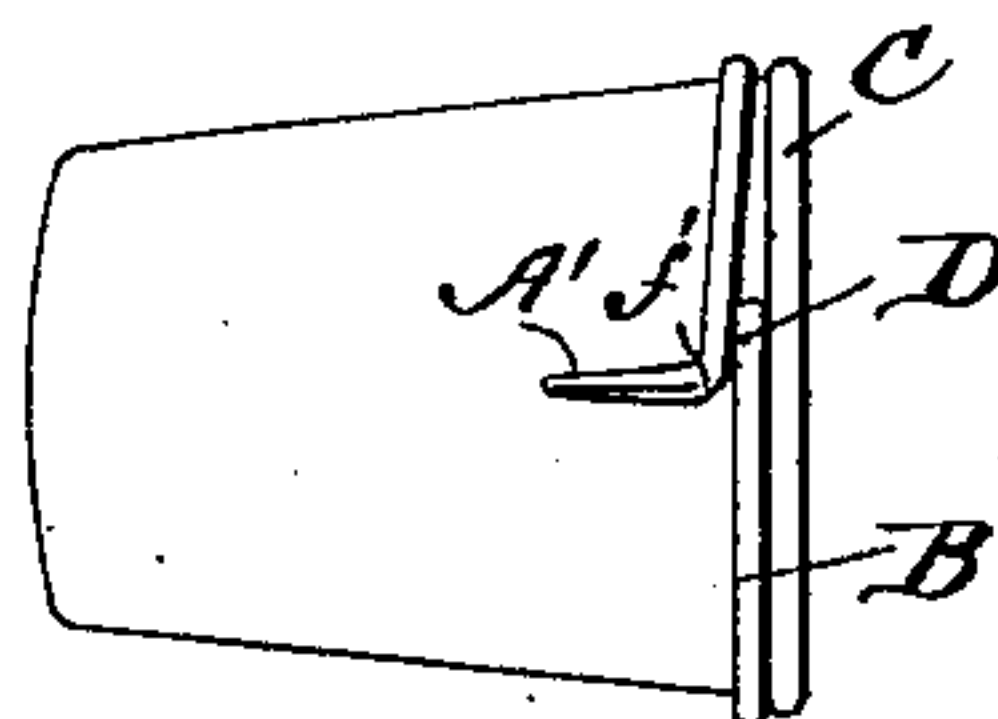


Fig. 4.



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THIMBLE THREAD-KNIFE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 614,389, dated November 15, 1898.

Application filed June 7, 1898. Serial No. 682,822. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ANNAH M. HUNTER, residing at Paris, in the county of Edgar and State of Illinois, and LOUIS ILLMER, Jr., residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Thimble Thread-Knives, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention is an improvement in thread-cutters designed for use on the ordinary thimble; and the invention consists in the construction and combination hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing a hand with our improvement as in use. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of a thimble provided with the improved cutter. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the cutter, and Fig. 4 shows a slightly different construction within the broad principles of our invention.

The thread-cutter is shown as comprising a cutting blade or edge A and a clasp B for securing the same upon a thimble. This clasp is composed of wire coiled helically to embrace the thimble and to abut against the bead C at the open end of the thimble, as shown. A special feature of this coil is that it exceeds a complete circle, so that the front coil or end of the clasp which carries the blade A', having the cutting edge, will be overlapped in the direction of the axis of the helix by the coil in rear, so the latter will form a bearing for the blade-carrying end of the clasp and the latter will not have a tendency to spread open and slip over the bead C of the thimble when pressure is exerted on the blade in cutting a thread. This is well secured by the preferred form of clasp shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, wherein several coils are formed in the wire, because by such construction we get a broader bearing and a stronger clasping of the thimble than by the construction shown in Fig. 4, wherein the coil is only slightly in excess of a circle providing a short portion at D, which laps in rear of the portion of the coil carrying the blade A'. It is manifest this construction shown in Fig. 4 is within the broad fea-

ture of our invention, which includes a clasp whose length exceeds a circle, so its ends may overlap, and for its simplicity this construction shown in Fig. 4 may in some instances be preferred.

The blade A' extends forward parallel with the axis of the coil and thimble and is preferably an extension of the front end of the coil-clasp, with its cutting edge A formed in the shape of a V-notch, which bifurcates the end of the blade, forming the upper and lower members E and F, with the notch between, which receives the thread and is edged to cut the same in the operation of the device. At its front end the blade A' is provided with a nib or projection f, preferably at the lower edge of the extremity of the member F, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, whose purpose is to enter one of the pits or indentations C' in the thimble and positively hold the cutter in place, preventing any slipping of same either longitudinally or rotarily on the thimble.

As best shown in Fig. 2, it is preferred to give the blade a slight inclination upward from its nib f to its juncture with the clasp at f', so the tension and form of the blade, together with the tension of the clasp, will operate to press the nib firmly in the pit C' of the thimble, such form of the blade also permitting the ready removal of the thread-cutter when desired. The arrangement of the device on the thimble and its position when in use are well shown in Fig. 1.

The clasp being formed of spring-wire may be easily forced onto the thimble and will properly fit several sizes and shapes of thimble, the use of a helical wire coil enabling the accurate fitting and adjustment of the clasp to thimbles having different tapers. As shown in Fig. 2, the cutting edge of the member F merges or coincides at its front end with the thimble, so the latter will operate to accurately guide the thread into contact with the cutting edge, as desired.

It should be understood that we do not limit ourselves to the number of coils in the clasp, as the same may be increased or decreased, nor do we limit ourselves to the exact construction shown.

Having thus described our invention, what

we claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A thimble thread-cutter having a cutting portion and a clasp to embrace the thimble and composed of a helical coil whose length exceeds a circle whereby the clasp overlaps in the direction of the axis of the helix substantially as set forth.
2. A thimble thread-cutter composed of a clasp and a cutting portion and having a nib or projection to engage one of the pits or indentations of the thimble, substantially as set forth.
3. A thimble thread-cutter having a clasp to embrace the thimble and a cutting-blade and provided on said blade with a nib or projection to engage in the pit or indentation of the thimble, substantially as set forth.
4. A thimble thread-cutter composed of a clasp to embrace the thimble and a knife extended from such clasp and having a nib or projection to enter one of the pits or indentations of the thimble, the blade being inclined or elevated from the said nib to the juncture of the blade with the clasp, substantially as set forth.
5. The herein-described thread-cutter com-

posed of a clasp in the form of a coil whose length exceeds a circle and is adapted to embrace a thimble and the blade projecting from said clasp and having a nib or projection to engage in one of the pits or indentations of the thimble, substantially as set forth.

6. A thimble thread-cutter having a cutting portion and a clasp composed of a coil of wire wound helically and adapted to embrace a thimble whereby the clasp may be adjusted to fit varying sizes and shapes of thimbles, substantially as set forth.

7. A thimble provided with pits or indentations combined with a thread-cutter composed of a clasp consisting of a coil of wire adapted to embrace and fit thimbles of different sizes and tapers and extended at one end to form the cutting portion or blade, the latter having a nib or projection to engage in one of the pits or indentations of the thimble, substantially as set forth.

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