

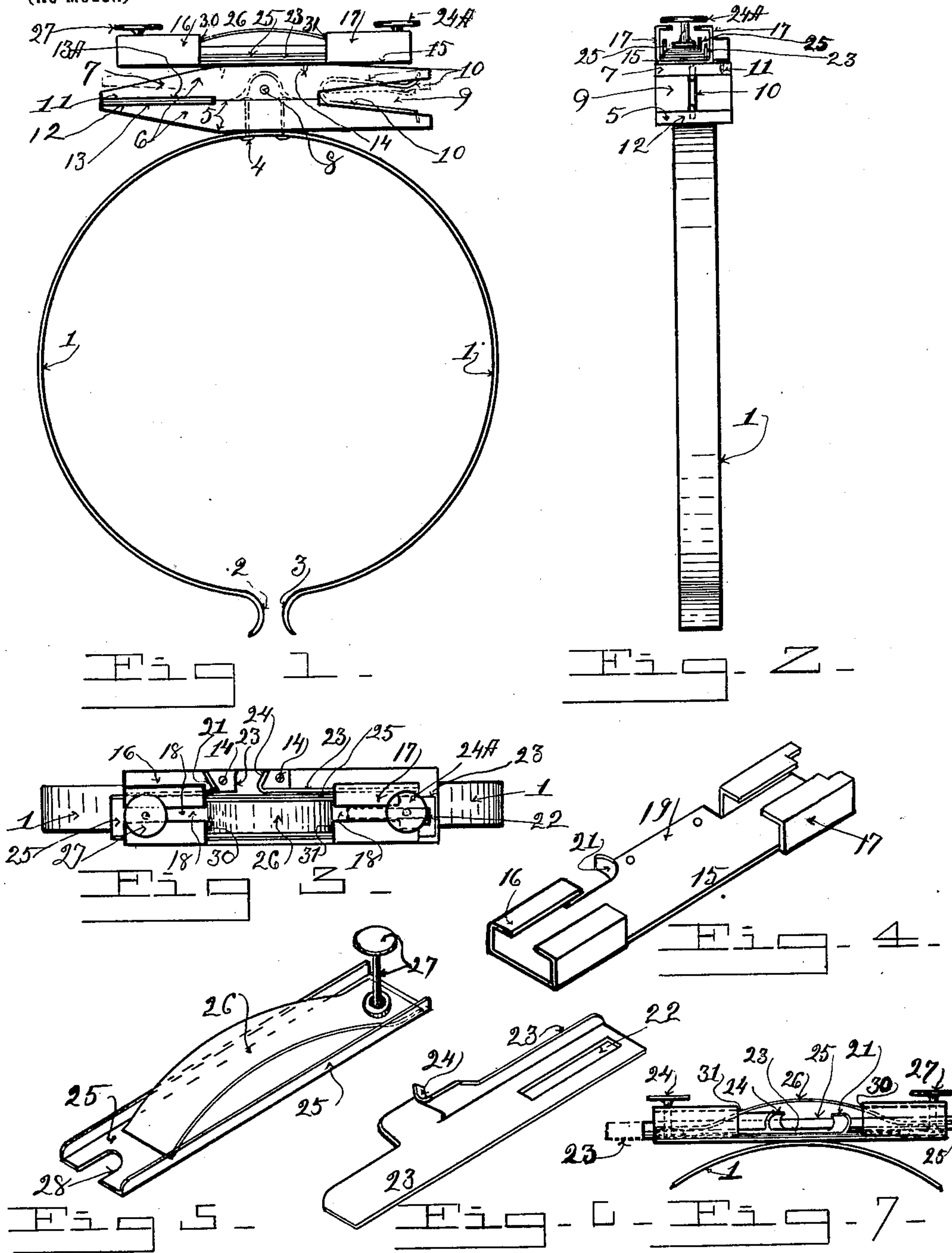
No. 678,945.

Patented July 23, 1901.

N. P. DENCKLA.
CLOTH FOLDING AND HOLDING DEVICE.

(Application filed Oct. 4, 1900.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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NELSINE P. DENCKLA, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

CLOTH FOLDING AND HOLDING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 678,945, dated July 23, 1901.

Application filed October 4, 1900. Serial No. 32,024. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELSINE P. DENCKLA, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Denver, in the county of Arapahoe and State of Colorado, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sewing-Work Devices; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to a sewing-work-supporting device and to a band-forming device adapted to be attached to a person's leg for holding one end of fabrics while manually sewing them and to form bands of narrow strips of cloth; and the objects of my invention are, first, to provide a resilient clamping-ring that a person can spring around the leg either above or below the knee and having secured to it a spring-controlled clamping-vise and a pair of adjustable die-jaws adapted to turn over and flatten down the edges of a narrow strip of cloth and to form narrow bands with turned edges of the strips. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved band-forming and sewing-work-supporting device. Fig. 2 is an end elevation of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the bed-plate of the band-forming device. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the cap of the band-forming device. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the adjustable jaw-plate of the band-forming device. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of the band-forming device, showing the opposite side from that shown in Fig. 1 and a fragment of the clamping-ring; and Fig. 8 is an end view of the spring clamping-clasp, showing the opposite end view from that shown in Fig. 2.

Similar figures of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Referring to the drawings, the numeral 1 designates a round flat divided ring of resilient material, preferably steel. Its free ends 2 and 3 are made blunt by curving them

outward and backward from the periphery of the ring. To this ring at a point opposite its free ends I secure by any suitable means, preferably by rivets 4, the lower jaw 5 of a clamping-vise 6, the upper jaw 7 of which is pivotally attached to the lower jaw by a pivotal pin 8. A wedge-shaped space 9 is formed in one end of the jaws, in which a spring 10 is secured. One end of this spring bears on and is secured to the lower jaw, and the opposite end bears on and is secured to the upper jaw and holds them constantly under resilient pressure apart, thus holding the opposite ends 11 and 12 of the jaws forcibly together. These ends are the cloth-clamping ends of the cloth-clamping device. The opposing surfaces of these jaws may be fluted or serrated by flutes or corrugations 12^A; but I preferably secure a piece of rubber 13 and 13^A to each jaw and provide its opposing surfaces with flutes or corrugations. The rubber makes a soft cushioning frictional surface that holds cloth securely with but little spring-pressure of the jaws upon it without allowing cloths or fabrics to slip through the jaws and without danger of fraying or turning them. To the upper jaw of the work-clamping device I secure the band-forming device by screws 14. This device may be made of any suitable material and comprises the bed-plate 15, which contains at its ends box-shaped portions 16 and 17, that are formed by upward-extending side portions, which extend above the top of the plate and over its top toward each other, leaving a slot 18 between them at their central portions. The plate contains at one side a laterally-projecting portion 19, through which the screws 14 pass that hold it to the upper jaw of the clamping device. At one end of this laterally-projecting portion a jaw 21 is formed. This jaw comprises an upward-turned portion, which is turned up from the bed-plate and is curved over to form a segment of a circle and is also diverged or flared outward from the bed-plate. An adjustable plate 23 rests on the floor of the bed-plate. The plate 23 rests on the bed-plate and extends slidably into the box portions at its ends. In one end of the plate a slot 22 is formed, and at one edge there is an upward-extending side portion 23, extending from the slot

end to the central portion of the length of the plate, where it is curved outward to form a jaw 24. This jaw is curved to form a segment of a circle at its outer end and is also flared outward from the plate and is arranged to stand opposite the jaw 21, and together they form a taper channel with segmental curved sides that operate when a strip of cloth is drawn through them of slightly-wider width than the distance apart they are set at to turn or fold its edges over as the cloth is drawn through them. A thumb-screw 24^A extends through the slot in the plate and is screwed loosely to the bed-plate and extends slightly through it, and its ends are slightly upset, but only enough so as to prevent its being unscrewed from the bed-plate, which at the same time allows it to be turned a half or a full revolution, so that it can be turned enough to either loosen the jaw-plate, so that it can be moved along, or to clamp it in an adjusted position. Consequently the jaw and its plate can be moved either toward or from the jaw 21 and secured at any desired point within the range of its sliding movement, and thus enable bands of varying widths to be formed. A cap-plate 25 rests on the jaw-plate and also extends loosely through the boxes at the ends. This cap-plate comprises a strip of metal with upward-turned side edges. A bow-shaped spring 26 is secured permanently at one of its ends by a pin 27 to one end of the cap, and its opposite end rests loosely on the plate between its sides near its opposite end, which contains at its extremity a recess 28, that enables this end to pass by the thumb-screw 24. The cap is held by the pin in the fingers of an operator and is pushed into the boxes at the ends of the bed-plate. As it is pushed through the first box its spring bends down and passes under the top portion of the box, and when it is pushed its full length into both boxes of the bed-plate the spring bears resiliently against the inside edges 30 and 31 of the boxes and holds the cap by its elastic tension down on the jaw-plate, while at the same time it can be easily withdrawn from the boxes of the bed-plate by the fingers of the operator.

50 The operation of the device is as follows: It is preferably sprung over the leg of an operator either above or below the knee and a strip of cloth that is to have its edges folded over and sewed into a band of some predetermined width is taken, and the jaws of the forming device are set to the width it is desired the band to be. For example, suppose you wish to make a band about one-half inch wide. The jaws are set at that distance apart by sliding the jaw to that position and the jaw-plate is set by tightening the thumb-screw. A strip of cloth about one inch wide is then taken and after removing the cap from the bed-plate is laid between the jaws and with one end extending just across the jaw-plate far enough to catch hold of. The cap is then pushed into the bed-plate boxes,

which clamps the strip between the cap and the jaw-plate. The strip is then drawn through the jaws, which curls and turns the edges of the strip over onto the body of the strip, and as it is drawn under the cap presses them down against the body of the strip, thus forming a band with turned and pressed edges, it requiring but a few seconds to set the jaws and draw through a long strip or a number of strips, while the work of folding these edges by hand would require a good many moments, or perhaps an hour. This band-former makes a smoothly-folded band of even width. After the band is made one end is placed between the jaws of the clamping device and the edges can be sewed by hand, if desired. The clamping device is more particularly adapted for holding any kind of a fabric or cloth at one end while sewing-work is being done on it.

While I have shown and described the band-forming device attached to the top portion of the clamping device, I do not wish to be limited to this arrangement, as I wish to also place the former on a supporting-ring by itself, as shown in Fig. 7.

My invention is simple, useful, and easily operated.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a band-forming and sewing-work-clamping device, the combination of a divided spring-ring, with a band-forming device comprising a bed-plate secured to the top of said clamping-clasp, and having an inwardly-curved, flaring jaw formed on one of its side edges, an adjustable jaw-plate slidably mounted on said bed-plate, and having also an inwardly-curved flaring jaw arranged opposite the jaw of said bed-plate, a thumb-screw arranged to clamp said jaw-plate to said bed-plate and a spring-controlled plate arranged to hold a strip of cloth under resilient pressure against said adjustable jaw-plate and in said band-forming jaws, substantially as described.

2. In a device for forming cloth bands by hand, the combination of an elastic clasp-ring adapted to spring over the leg of an operator, a bed-plate secured to said ring having a stationary jaw, a sliding plate resting on said bed-plate also having a jaw arranged opposite the jaw on said bed-plate and having said jaws curved toward each other and flared outward from said bed-plate, and a spring-controlled cap arranged to hold a strip of cloth down on said sliding plate by resilient pressure, substantially as described.

3. The combination of the spring-ring, with the band-forming device comprising the bed-plate, the adjustable jaw and its plate, the thumb-screw and the spring-cap, substantially as described.

4. The combination of the divided spring-ring, with the band-former comprising a bed-plate secured to the clamping-vice and com-

prising the bed-plate, the boxes at the ends
of said bed-plate, the lateral projection on
said bed-plate, the inwardly-curved, out-
wardly-flared jaw formed on said bed-plate,
5 the adjustable jaw and its plate slidably
mounted on said bed-plate and having its
jaw formed like, and disposed opposite the
jaw of said bed-plate, and both jaws arranged
to form a tapering die with curved sides
10 adapted to turn over the edge of a strip of
cloth when inserted between them and drawn
through, the slot in the end of said adjust-
able jaw-plate, the thumb-screw arranged to
secure said jaw-plate in adjusted positions,

and the cap-plate fitting slidably in the boxes 15
of said bed-plate and having a spring ar-
ranged to hold it resiliently against said jaw-
plate, and adapted to hold and press the
bands down on said jaw-plate and flatten and
press their edges after the jaws have turned 20
them, substantially as described.

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

NELSINE P. DENCKLA.

Witnesses:

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