

- No. 740,094.

PATENTED SEPT. 29, 1903.

M. CUMMINGS.

PLAITER ATTACHMENT FOR SEWING MACHINES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 20, 1903.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1.

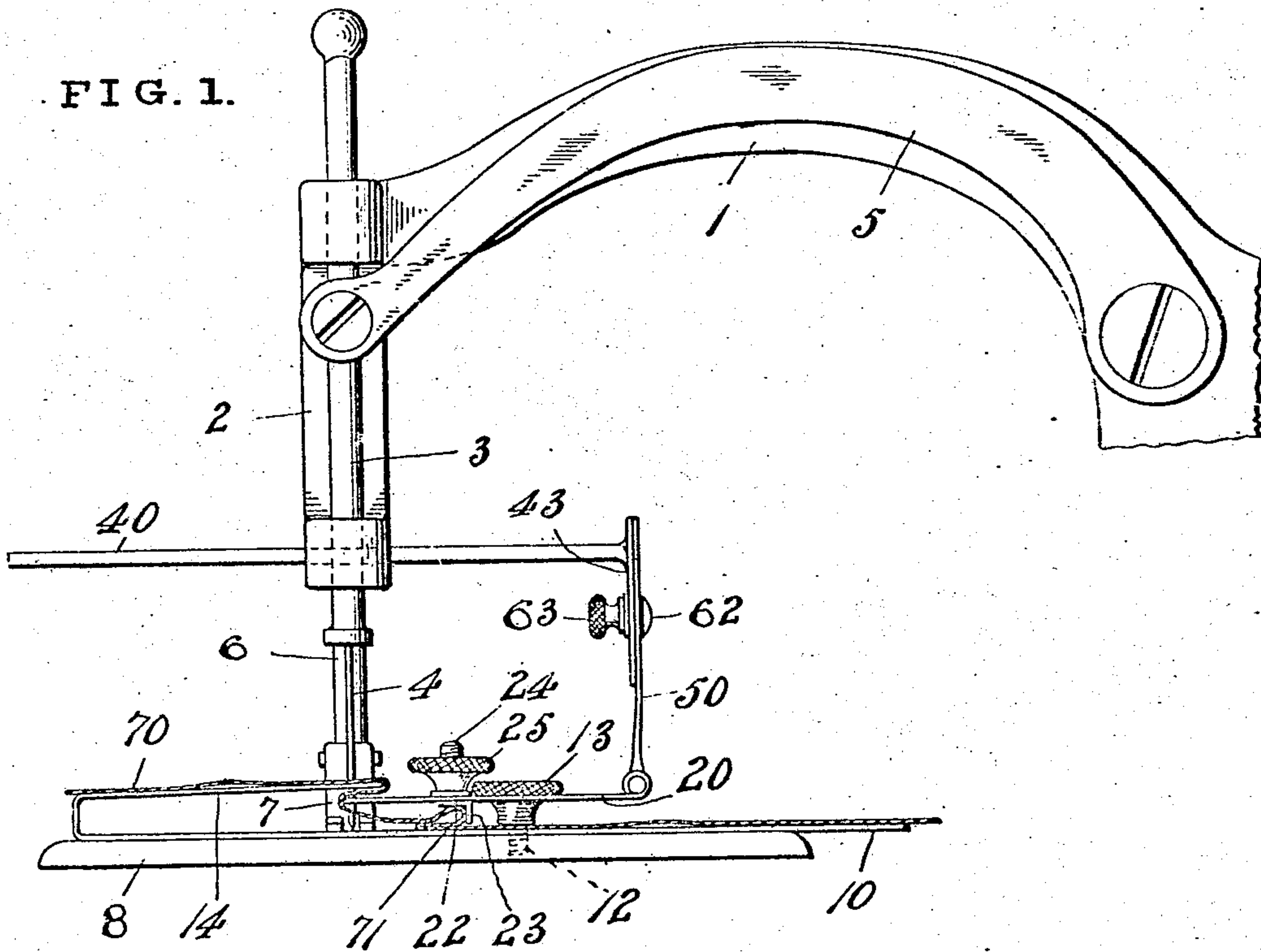
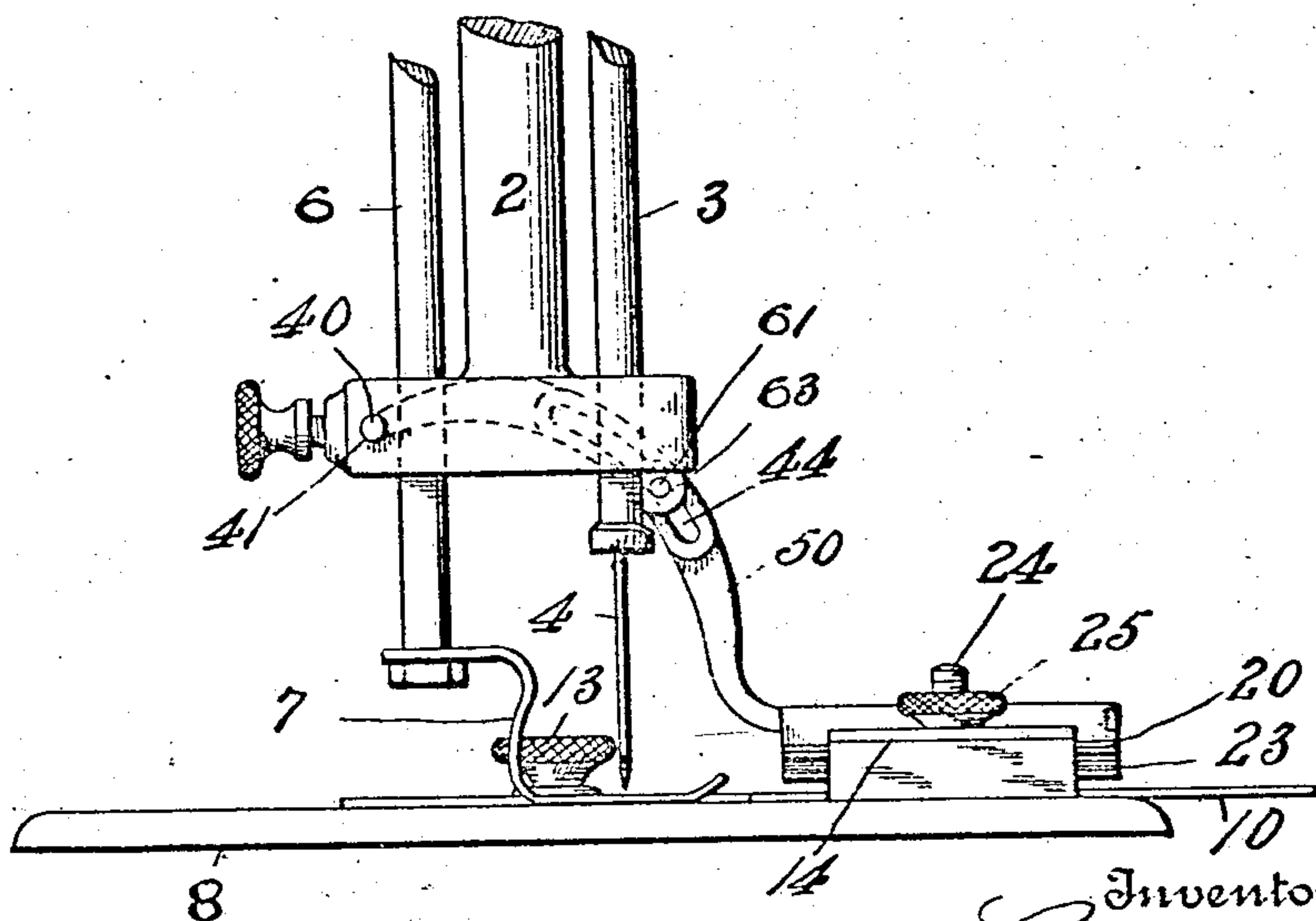


FIG. 2.



Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARGARET CUMMINGS, OF JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY.

## PLAITER ATTACHMENT FOR SEWING-MACHINES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 740,094, dated September 29, 1903.

Application filed January 20, 1903. Serial No. 139,785. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARGARET CUMMINGS, of Jersey City, New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Tucker or Plaiter Attachments for Sewing-Machines, which invention is fully set forth in the following specification.

While many tucker attachments for sewing-machines have been devised and some put upon the market, they are little used, particularly such as are adapted to form what may be styled a "three-ply" tuck or plait, wherein the stitches pass through three thicknesses of the goods, and thus better serve to hold the tuck in the desired position, even when the goods are stretched. In the ordinary tuck, wherein the stitches pass only through two thicknesses of the goods, the tucks are easily pulled out of shape and stand up perpendicular to the surface of the fabric when the latter is stretched. The limited use of tuckers heretofore placed upon the market is doubtless due to the more or less complicated structure thereof, the ordinary seamstress being unable to master the manipulation and proper use of the same.

The object of my invention is to provide an efficient tucker attachment of such extreme simplicity that it can be readily employed by any one who is at all familiar with the running of sewing-machines and can be manufactured and sold at minimum cost and readily adjusted to the different sewing-machines in common use.

Said invention will be best understood by reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is an elevation of parts of a sewing-machine having my tucker applied thereto. Fig. 2 is an end elevation from the left of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view, the head of the machine being shown in section; and Fig. 4 is a detail perspective of part of the tucker.

1 is the overhanging arm of a sewing-machine.

2 is the head.

3 is a needle-bar carrying needle 4 and reciprocated in the head by an oscillating arm 5, driven in the usual manner.

6 is the presser-foot bar movable vertically in head 2 and carrying a presser-foot 7 at its

lower end. In Figs. 1 and 2 the presser-foot is shown in its lowered position.

8 is the work-plate of the machine.

The parts constituting my improved tucker or plaiter will now be described.

10 is a plate of thin sheet metal having an elongated slot 11 therein, through which a clamping-screw 12 passes into a screw-threaded opening in work-plate 8, a milled head 13 on the screw bearing upon the plate 10 and tightly securing it in the desired position of adjustment.

14 is an overhanging blade formed integral with the plate 10 by bending upwardly and over a suitable extension on said plate. The fabric to be tucked or plaited is carried around the edge 15 of said blade, as described herein-after.

20 is a second plate or blade extending at its free end under the end of blade 14 and having therein an elongated slot 21. A gage for determining the distance between tucks or plaits is secured to blade 20. It consists of a horizontal part 22, bearing against the under side of blade 20, and a vertical flange 23, adapted to bear against the edge of a previously-formed tuck or plait, the two parts being formed together by bending a strip of sheet metal. A screw 24, projecting upwardly through slot 21, is engaged by a milled clamp-nut which bears against the top of blade 20 and secures the gage in the desired position of adjustment. The blade and its gage are suspended free of plate 10 by the following connections: 40 is a bar freely movable in an opening 41, usually provided in the heads of sewing-machines for the attachment of auxiliary devices. The bar is secured in said opening in the desired position of adjustment by a set-screw 42. At one end bar 40 has a right-angled curved and flattened extension in which is an elongated slot 44. A flattened, curved, and similarly-slotted arm 50 is secured to the right-hand end of blade 20. A screw 61, having a head 62 at one end bearing against arm 50, passes through the slots in said arm and in extension 43 and is engaged by a nut 63, which bears against said extension and clamps the parts together, thereby affording an adjustable connection whereby the blade 20 may be supported in



the desired position. As will be understood, the parts constituting my invention may be readily attached to a sewing-machine and removed therefrom.

5 In operation the set-screw 42 is manipulated and the rod 40 moved to secure blade 20 in the desired position, preferably with its free end extending across and slightly beyond the line of seam, so as to form a three-ply  
10 tuck or plait. The gage is adjusted to the position according to the desired distance between tucks. Plate 10 is adjusted to cause blade 14 to extend beyond the line of seam a distance corresponding to the width of tuck  
15 desired. The fabric 70 passes over blade 14, loops around its edge, and then around the edge of and under blade 20 and the gage. As it is advanced toward the needle the presser-foot 7 grips and holds the formed  
20 tuck until the stitches have passed there-through. The vertical flange 23 of the gage bears against a previously-formed tuck 71 and determines the distance between tucks.

What I claim is—

25 1. A tucker or plaiter attachment for sewing-machines comprising a plate having an overhanging tuck or plait forming blade thereon, means adjustably securing said plate to the work-plate thereby determining the width  
30 of tuck or plait to be formed, a second tuck or plait forming blade extending under and cooperating with said overhanging blade to form the tuck or plait, a gage extending across the underside of the second blade having an  
35 upright flange adapted to bear against a previously-formed tuck or plait to determine the distance between tucks, means securing said gage directly to the second blade in different positions of adjustment to vary the distance  
40 between tucks, said means consisting of a pin on the gage passing upwardly through an elongated slot in the second blade and a nut

engaging said pin to secure the parts in their adjusted position, and connections supporting said second blade and its gage in a suspended position so that the fabric can freely  
45 pass thereunder.

2. In a tucker or plaiter attachment for sewing-machines, the combination with an overhanging blade, of a second blade extending  
50 beneath the edge of the overhanging blade, and means for supporting said second blade in a suspended position so that the fabric can freely pass thereunder, said means consisting of a horizontal bar secured to a part of the  
55 machine above its work-plate and an extensible connection between the horizontal bar and the second blade for varying the distance between said parts in a vertical direction.  
60

3. In a tucker or plaiter attachment for sewing-machines, the combination with an overhanging blade, of a second blade extending  
65 beneath the edge of the overhanging blade, and means for supporting said second blade in a suspended position so that the fabric can freely pass thereunder, said means consisting of a horizontal bar adjustably secured to a part of the machine above its work-plate, a  
70 slotted angular extension on the horizontal bar, an arm projecting upwardly from the second blade, a screw passing through a hole in the arm and the slot in the extension and engaged by a nut for securely clamping the  
75 parts together in the desired position of adjustment.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MARGARET CUMMINGS.

Witnesses:

JOHN F. KELLY,  
CHARLES C. KELLY.