

No. 744,581.

PATENTED NOV. 17, 1903.

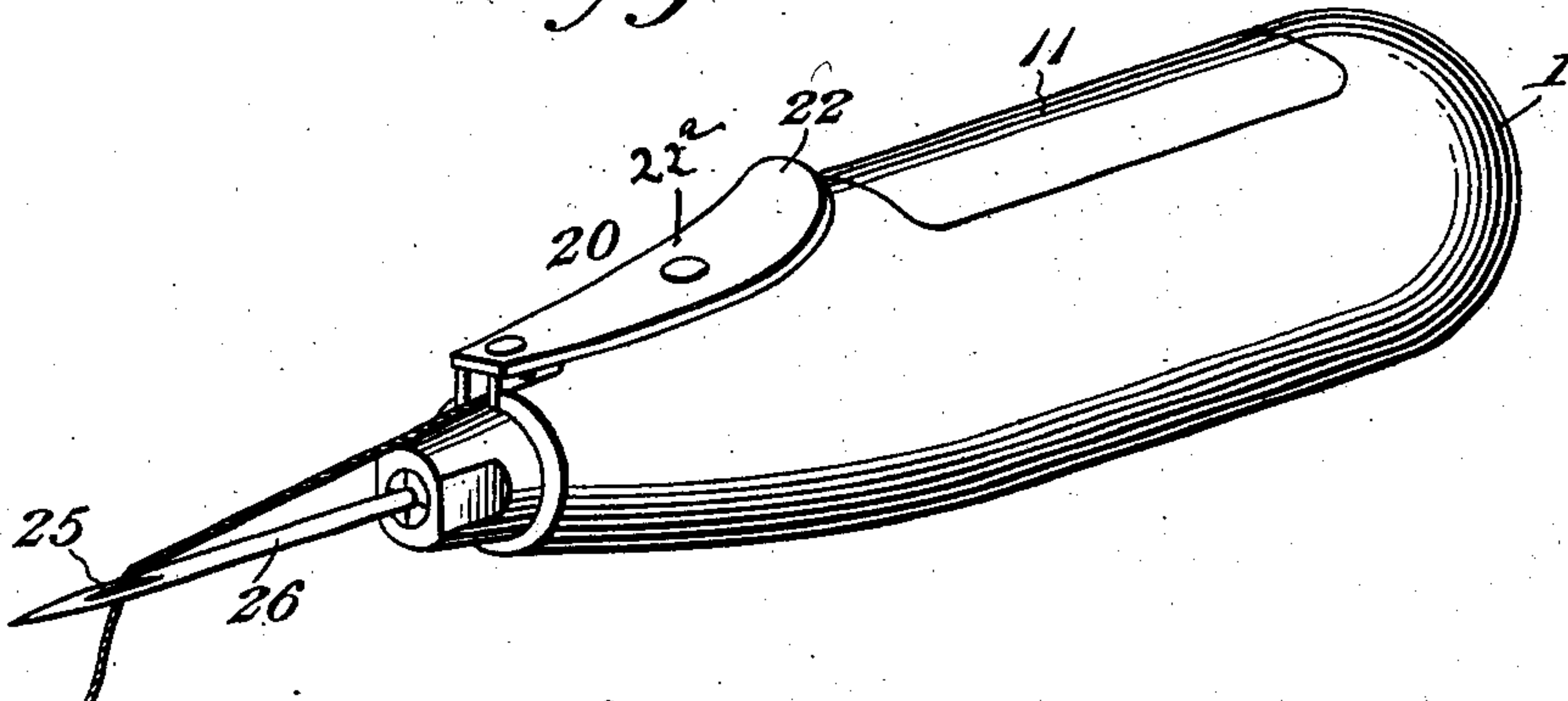
W. M. MANSELL.

SEWING AWL.

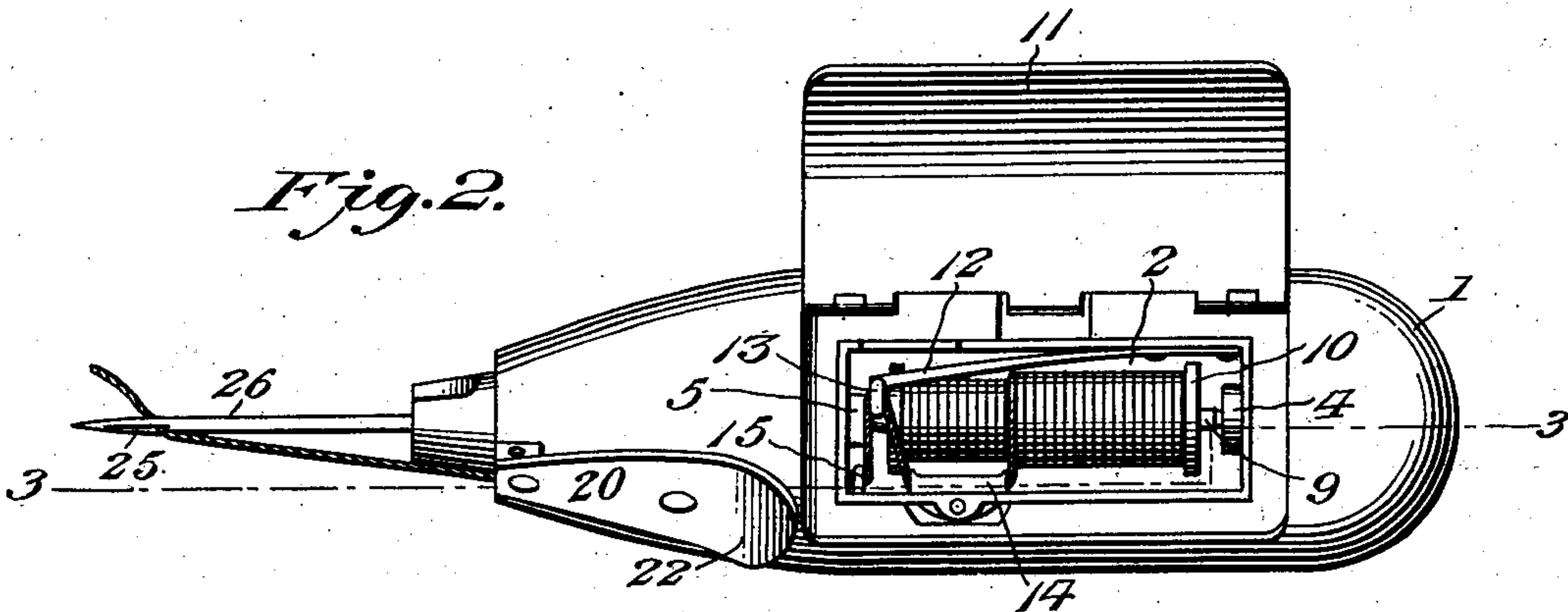
APPLICATION FILED APR. 18, 1903.

NO MODEL.

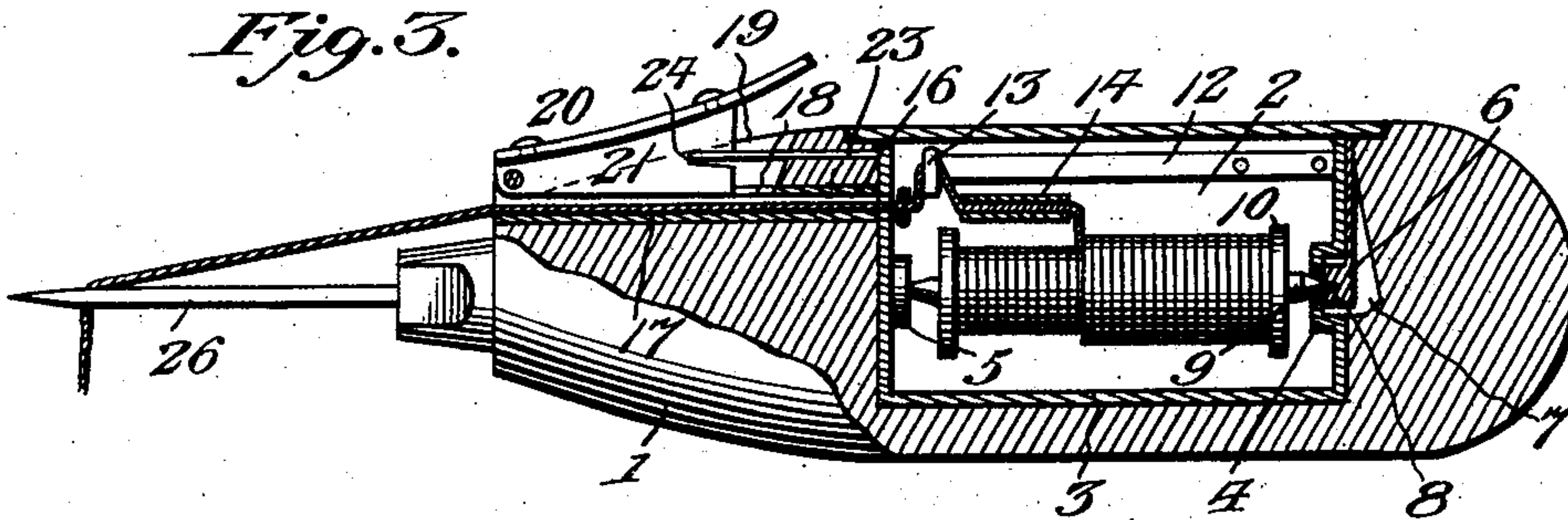
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Inventor

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SEWING-AWL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 744,581, dated November 17, 1903.

Application filed April 18, 1903. Serial No. 153,320. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM MARTIN MANSELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Booneville, in the county of Logan and State of Arkansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Sewing-Awls, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to sewing-awls; and the object of the same is to provide a simple and effective device of this character with a hollow handle to receive a thread-wound spool or bobbin from which the thread passes to the eye of the awl-point and is drawn off as required, a particular form of take-up and thread-clamp being employed to render the operation of the awl practicable and to prevent the thread from loosely running off the spool or bobbin.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an awl embodying the features of the invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the same, showing the bobbin or spool recess in the handle exposed and the bobbin or spool in position therein. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3 3, Fig. 2.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates the handle of the awl, which is of usual form and has a chamber 2 formed therein and extending longitudinally thereof, said chamber having a metallic lining provided with end bearings 4 and 5, the bearing 4 being projected forwardly into the chamber and having a spring-catch 6 cooperating therewith and movable in the recess 7, located in rear of a portion of the said chamber. The spring-catch 6 comprises a reduced shank, secured at its upper end to the handle, and a head with a center recess 8 therein to receive a portion of one terminal of the bobbin or spool spindle 9. The opening through the bearing 4 is enlarged for convenience in applying the spindle 9 to the bearings and also facilitates withdrawal of the spindle when the bobbin or spool thereon is empty or has the thread fully withdrawn therefrom. The catch 6 prevents the spindle

9 from becoming accidentally displaced. On the spindle 9 a suitable spool or bobbin 10 is mounted and will be preferably fixed to said spindle, or the latter will form a part thereof. The chamber 2 is rendered accessible through the medium of a hinged cover 11, which is curved to conform to the exterior contour of the handle of the awl and snugly fits into said handle when closed to avoid the formation of projections that might injure the hand of the operator. In the upper part of the one side of the chamber is a take-up, which consists of an elongated spring-arm 12, secured at its rear end and having an eye 13 at its front free end, and inside of the chamber, opposite that to which the take-up is secured, a guide 14 is pivotally mounted and consists of a bent plate with the opposite ends flared. This pivoted guide has a rocking movement and prevents binding on the thread fed from the bobbin or spool on the spindle, and when said thread arrives at a point close to the guide in the uncoiling operation thereof the guide automatically assumes a position to prevent the thread from binding and to facilitate the movement thereof through the guide. On the side of the chamber to which the guide 14 is secured is a guide-eye 15, which aligns with a feed-bore 16, extending through the forward upper portion of the handle 1 and has a metallic or other wear lining 17 secured therein and formed with a slot 18 in its upper portion, which coincides with a slot 19 in the handle. The bore 16, with its lining 17, constitutes an outlet-aperture for the thread and extends fully to and out through the front end of the handle.

In the upper front portion of the handle 1 a thread-clamp 20 is mounted and comprises a clamping member 21, extending into the slot 19 and movable through the slot 18 and the lining 17, the said member being pivoted at its forward extremity and having rigidly secured to the upper edge thereof a pressure-plate 22, which curves upwardly and rearwardly for convenience of application thereto of the thumb of the hand of the operator. The pressure-plate 22 is attached to the clamping member 21 by studs or analogous devices 22<sup>a</sup>, which are headed over flush with the upper surface of the said plate. The member 21 is normally held out of engage-



ment with the thread by a spring 23, secured in the handle and projecting forwardly to the upper portion of the slot into a recess 24 in the rear end of the member 21.

- 5 In preparing the awl for use a full bobbin or spool is inserted in the chamber 2 and disposed in such manner that the opposite terminals of the spindle thereof will be caused to engage the bearings 4 and 5. The loose end  
10 of the thread is then passed through the pivoted guide 14 and carried across and threaded through the eye 13 and then brought back and passed through the eye 15 and out through the bore 16 and lining 17 to the eye 25 of the  
15 needle 26. The awl is then ready for the sewing operation, and in pursuing the latter the needle is pushed through the material desired to be stitched without exerting an inward pressure on the thread-clamp.  
20 When the needle is withdrawn from the material, pressure is applied to the clamp, and the member 21 is caused to engage the thread to prevent the latter from running off the bobbin or spool to hold the thread against  
25 movement with sufficient resistance to permit the stitch to be drawn tight. The stitching operation can be readily carried on with the improved awl, and to suit different classes of work changes in the proportions, dimensions, and minor details may be resorted to  
30 without in the least departing from the spirit of the invention.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A sewing-awl, comprising a handle having a chamber therein, and a thread-outlet 35 through the forward extremity thereof, a loosely-rocking guide on one side of the chamber, a spring take-up at the opposite side of the chamber, a thread-holding means 40 held in the chamber and having the thread therefrom passing through the guide, the take-up, and the outlet means to the needle of the awl, and a spring-actuated clamp having a rigid member longitudinally projectible 45 into and adapted to engage the thread in the outlet means.

2. A sewing-awl, comprising a handle having a chamber therein with a cover, and a thread-outlet means, a rocking guide in one 50 side of the chamber, a take-up on the opposite side of the chamber having a terminal eye at its free end, and a thread-holding device removably mounted in the chamber and from which the thread is drawn and passed 55 through the guide and take-up and the thread-outlet means and needle of the awl.

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

WILLIAM MARTIN MANSELL.

Witnesses:

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