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PATENTED MAR. 29, 1904.

J. W. O'NEILL.
SURGICAL INSTRUMENT FOR HEMORRHOIDS.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 21, 1903.

NO MODEL.

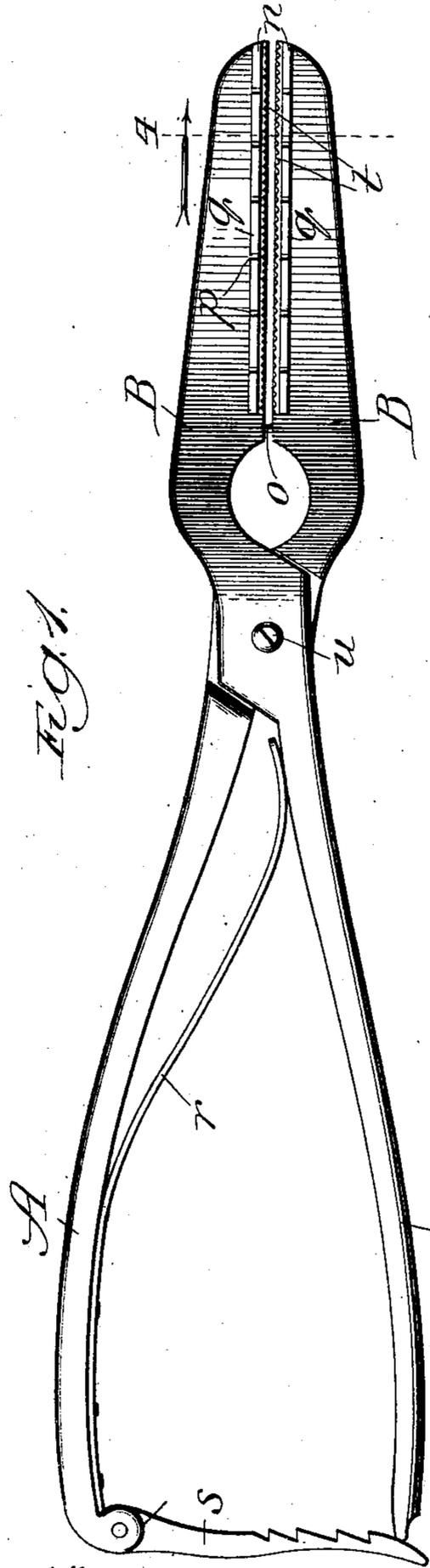


FIG. 1.

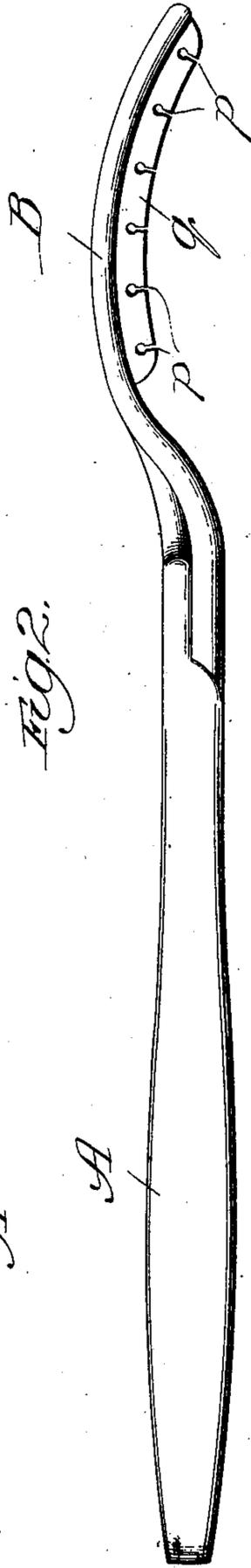


FIG. 2.

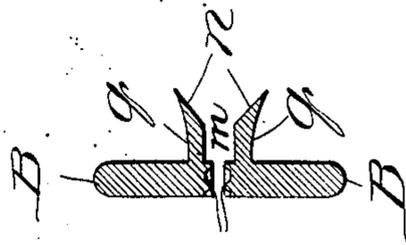


FIG. 4.

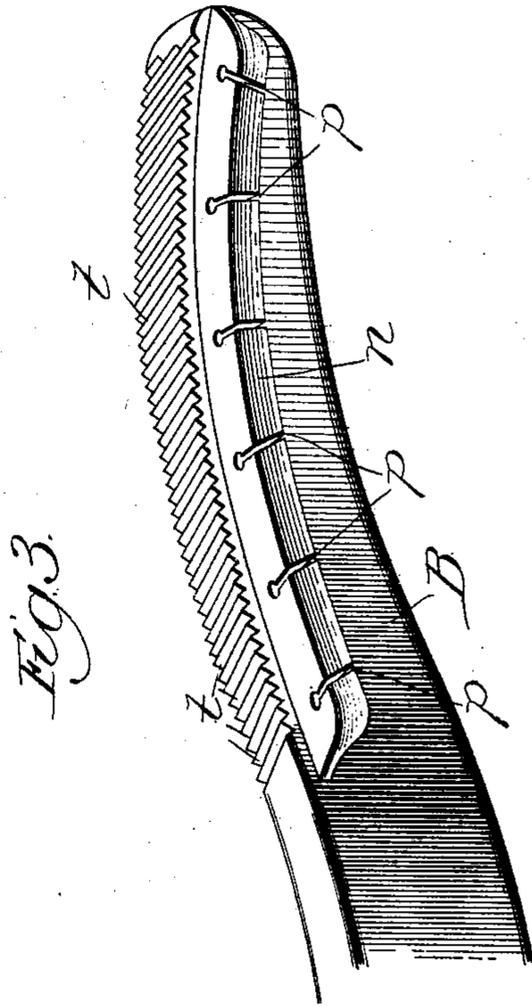


FIG. 3.

Witnesses:
Ed. Taylor
Geo. C. Devereux

Inventor:
 John W. O'Neill
 By *Dyrenforth, Dyrenforth & See*
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. O'NEILL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SURGICAL INSTRUMENT FOR HEMORRHOIDS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 755,921, dated March 29, 1904.

Application filed July 21, 1903. Serial No. 166,443. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. O'NEILL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Surgical Instruments for Hemorrhoids, of which the following is a specification.

In the removal of hemorrhoids it is customary to employ an instrument of the general construction of ordinary forceps, with the distal parts, which constitute the clamping-jaws, serrated and preferably curved and with some form of locking device on the handles to hold them in their compressed position and a spring to separate them when released. In use the membrane is clamped below the affected part, the latter cut away along the upper face of the clamping-jaws, the edges of the wound cauterized, and the instrument removed. With the instruments for this purpose as heretofore constructed it has been contemplated that the compression of the membrane between the serrated jaws would cause an adequate cohesion of the parts during the healing process without the aid of sutures. Experience has demonstrated, however, that the union by compression alone cannot be relied on, the parts often separating and causing ulceration of the wound. Another defect of the instruments heretofore employed has manifested itself in the cauterizing operation. Considerable pressure upon the cauterizing-point is required in this operation, and it frequently happens that the point slips laterally from the jaws against the healthy membrane, producing a burn.

The object of my invention is to overcome the above defects.

The following is a detailed description of my improved instrument, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of the device; Fig. 2, an elevation of the same; Fig. 3, an enlarged perspective view of one of the jaws, and Fig. 4 a cross-section of the jaws on the line 4 of Fig. 1.

The instrument comprises the usual parts pivoted together, as shown at *u*, the proximal portions forming the handles A and the distal portions forming the jaws B, which latter are

preferably curved, as shown in Fig. 2, and serrated on their clamping-surfaces, as shown at *t*. The handles are provided with a locking device *s*, which is so familiar as to require no particular description, and also with a spring *r*, tending to separate them, and thus hold the jaws normally open. All the foregoing parts are old, and those which are about to be described constitute my improvements. These consist in the form which I prefer to employ in the longitudinal flanges *q*, projecting from the jaws B along their upper faces adjacent to the clamping edges, thereby forming a median longitudinal groove *m* above those edges when the parts are in clamping engagement and having the transverse slots *p* formed at intervals to permit the introduction of sutures. It is desirable to employ a spur *o* on one of the jaws B at its rear end, entering a recess in the other jaw, the purpose of which is to prevent slipping of the membrane under the initial pressure of the jaws. This feature is also old.

It is preferable to have the tops of the flanges *q* beveled, as shown at *n*, and to flare the top of the longitudinal channel *m*, especially if the flanges *q* are very close to the clamping-edges. It is also preferable to have the slots *p* formed in the manner shown in the drawings—that is to say, with a cylindrical base-opening for the needle to pass through and a notch leading from it, through which the thread passes when the instrument is removed.

It will be observed that the jaws B of my instrument, as illustrated, are of considerable breadth, and this is the construction that I prefer for the distending effect. In the matter of my broader claims which follow, however, I do not wish to limit myself to any particular form in the matter of details, preferred or otherwise, since I believe the provision of transverse slots in the instrument for the introduction of sutures to be new, as well as the provision of an offset or shoulder above the clamping-surface of each jaw, forming a median longitudinal channel when the jaws are in clamping engagement to prevent lateral displacement of the cauterizing-point. Hence the specific form of the instrument may be varied without departing from my

invention, provided it embodies either or both of these features.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

5 1. The combination in a surgical instrument of pivoted members comprising compression-
handles and serrated clamping-jaws, said jaws
being provided at intervals with slots in their
upper faces at right angles to the planes of
10 the clamping-surfaces for the introduction of
sutures, substantially as described.

2. The combination in a surgical instrument
of pivoted members comprising compression-
handles and clamping-jaws, each of said jaws
15 being provided at intervals with slots in its
upper face at right angles to the plane of the
clamping-surface for the introduction of su-
tures, and each having an offset above the
clamping-surface, whereby when the jaws are
20 in clamping engagement a median longitudi-
nal channel is formed to prevent lateral dis-
placement of the cauterizing-point, substan-
tially as described.

3. The combination in a surgical instrument
25 of pivoted members, each comprising a handle
A and jaw B, a spring operating to hold the
handles and jaws normally apart and a catch
for locking the members in clamping position,
said jaws B being provided at intervals with
30 slots in their upper faces at right angles to the
planes of the clamping-surfaces for the intro-
duction of sutures, substantially as described.

4. The combination in a surgical instrument
of pivoted members, each comprising a handle
35 A and jaw B, a spring operating to hold the
handles and jaws normally apart, and a catch
for locking the members in clamping position,

said jaws being provided at intervals with slots
in their upper faces at right angles to the
planes of the clamping-surfaces for the intro- 40
duction of sutures, and, when in clamping
engagement with a median longitudinal chan-
nel along the same face, substantially as de-
scribed.

5. The combination in a surgical instrument 45
of pivoted members comprising compression-
handles and clamping-jaws, each of said jaws
having a flange *q* along its upper face adja-
cent to its clamping-face provided at intervals
with transverse slots, whereby provision is 50
made for the introduction of sutures, and
whereby a median longitudinal channel is
formed, when the parts are in clamping en-
gagement, to prevent lateral displacement
of the cauterizing-point, substantially as de- 55
scribed.

6. The combination in a surgical instrument
of pivoted members comprising compression-
handles and clamping-jaws, each of said jaws
having a flange *q* along its upper face adjacent 60
to the serrations, provided at intervals with
transverse slots and having its top beveled in-
ward as shown at *n*, whereby provision is
made for the introduction of sutures, and
whereby a flaring median longitudinal chan- 65
nel is formed when the parts are in clamping
engagement, to prevent lateral displacement
of the cauterizing-point, substantially as de-
scribed.

JOHN W. O'NEILL.

In presence of—
L. HEISLAR,
M. S. MACKENZIE.