No. 760,130. PATENTED MAY 17, 1904.

W. H. LAWSON.

TUFTING TOOL.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 20, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

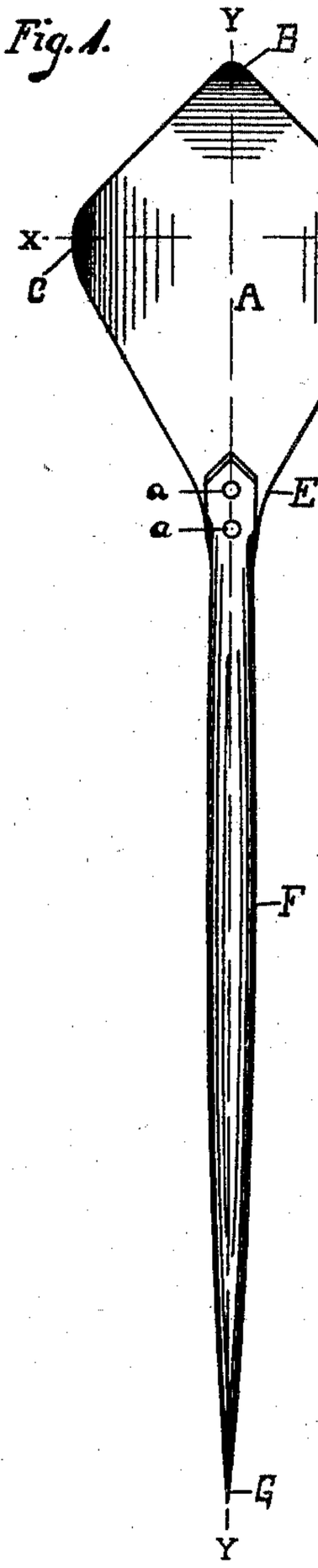


Fig. 2.

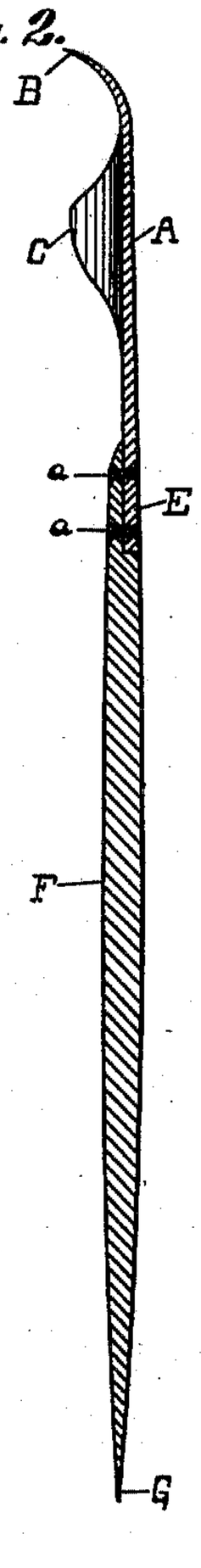


Fig. 3.

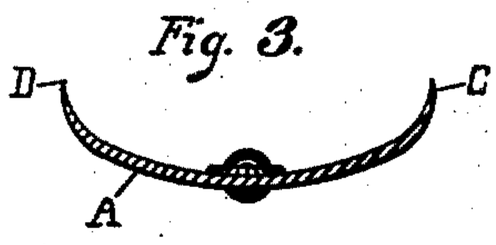
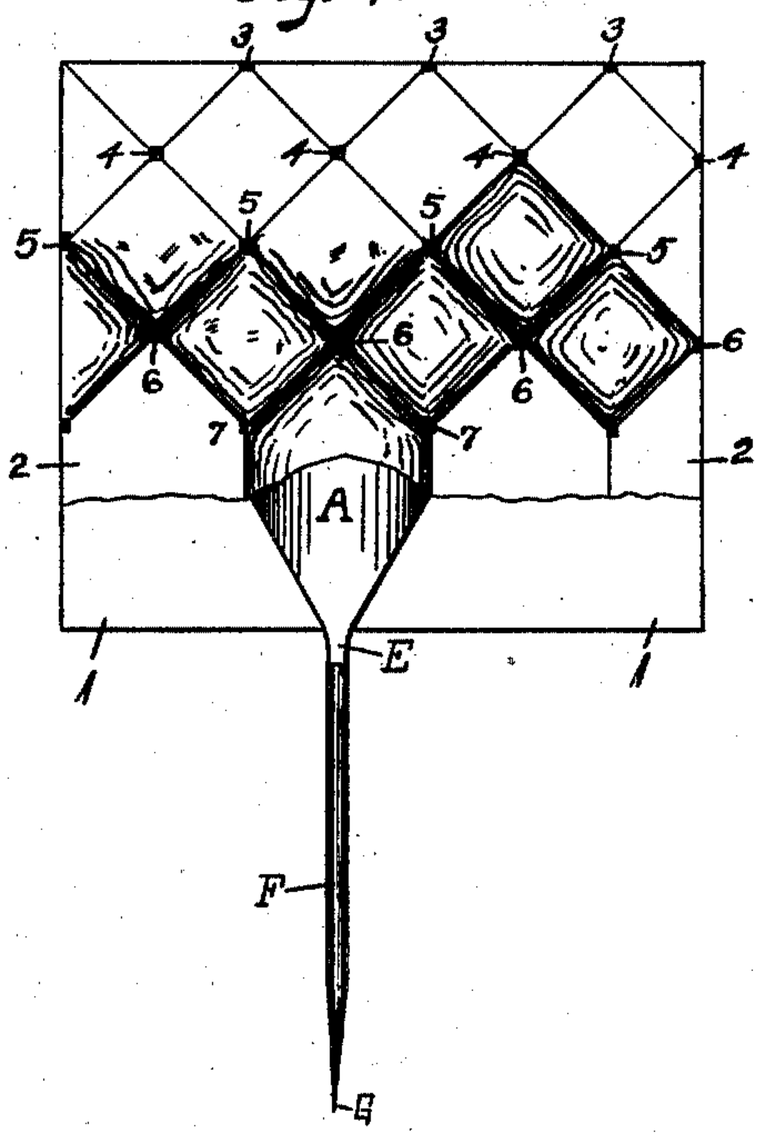


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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No. 760,130. Patented May 17, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER H. LAWSON, OF RICHMOND, INDIANA.

TUFTING-TOOL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 760,130, dated May 17, 1904.

Application filed August 20, 1903. Serial No. 170,140. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER H. LAWSON, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Richmond, in the county of Wayne and State of Indiana, have made new and useful Improvements in Tufting-Tools, of which the following is a full, complete, and exact specification, which when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof, is sufficiently clear and concise as to enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention contemplates the construction of a mechanical tool or device for tufting, upholstering, or the like which will be simple in character, artistic in appearance, strong and durable in construction, and highly efficient in operation, while at the same time being easy of manipulation.

The object of my invention, broadly speaking, is to provide a tufting-tool for use in tufting or upholstering whereby a more uniform and higher grade of the finished product may be attained, together with a material saving in time and labor.

A more specific object is the provision of a tool for raising and forming the sections of fabric to be tufted whereby after being tufted the sections will present a uniform and artistic appearance.

Other objects and advantages of my invention will appear from the specification, from the drawings forming a part thereof, and from the claims hereunto appended.

My invention consists in a tufting or upholstering tool embodying new and useful features, details of construction, means of operation, and the relative disposition, shape, and arrangement of the several coöperating and interdependent parts, substantially as particularly described otherwhere in this specification and in the legitimate combinations herein set forth.

One manner of carrying out my invention, and that which in practice has been found to be the most desirable, is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 gives an entire front view of my device. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central section thereof, taken on the line Y Y of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a cross-section of my device, taken on the line X X of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 shows a portion of a partially-completed section of tufted material, showing my device in operative position in connection therewith and illustrating the manner in which it is to be used.

Similar indices refer to and denote like parts throughout the several views of the drawings.

With the above-designated views in mind I will now take up the description of my invention in detail, which I will refer to as briefly and compactly as I may.

My invention consists, primarily, of the substantially quadrilateral polygon-shaped body A, simulating a pear in cross-section, composed of a single piece of relatively thin non-flexible metal having sharpened edges, an upper acutely-rounded point B, the two side elongated points C and D, and the base E for a handle attachment. Beginning near the center of the body A the sides thereof are curved inward to substantially the shape as shown in Fig. 3, bringing the points C and D to stand almost at right angles to the center of the body A, and the upper extremity is curved inward to substantially the shape as shown in Fig. 2, bringing the point B to stand almost at right angles to the body A, as shown, by which it is apparent that said points or corners will be arranged deltoid, with the apex thereof opposite the fourth corner. The base E is left parallel with the body A and is formed with a square end parallel with a line drawn between the points C and D.

To the base E is secured a handle F, preferably by a pair of rivets *a a*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The upper portion of the handle F is flattened and somewhat pointed and beveled, with a shoulder formed in one of its faces of a depth the same as the thickness of the base E, which lies therein and secured by the aforesaid rivets. The body of the handle F, I prefer to form round and slender and to have it terminate in a highly-acuminate needle-point G, as shown.

In Fig. 4 the numeral 1 represents a base fabric, and 2 the fabric to be tufted, which is accomplished by stitching the fabrics 1 and 2 together—for instance, at the points 3 and 4—leaving the fabric 2 full between each

point of stitching. My device above described is then inserted between two of the points 4, with the points of the tool B, C, and D in contact with the fabric 1. The tool is then withdrawn, at the same time lowering the handle, causing the point B to tightly press the fabric 2 while the fabric 2 passes over its rounded part in the act of removing the tool. On account of the shape of the tool and the movements above stated the fabric between two of the points 4 and one of the points 3 is formed pocket-like, with even plaits and of uniform size. After the tool is withdrawn the space thus formed may be filled with cotton or other filling, and the points 5 are then stitched to unite the fabrics 1 and 2, and between each two of the points 5 and one of the points 4 the tool is operated, as above described. The points 6 are then stitched, and the above-named operations are repeated, and the points 7 are then stitched, as above stated, and the tool inserted, as shown in the drawings and as above set forth. The point G of the handle may be used for arranging and straightening the plaits which are formed and also for piercing the fabric in order that a needle may be more easily inserted.

It is apparent that the body A may be made integral with the handle F, if desired, forming the body A and the handle F of a single piece of material.

In practice the configuration of the body A may be somewhat changed, and the device may be made in various sizes to meet the requirements of different sizes and shapes of the work to be performed or operated on.

The advantages of employing my invention in connection with the work above referred to will be apparent to any one familiar with the art to which it appertains, and while I have illustrated and described the best means now known to me for carrying out my invention I desire it to be understood that I do not restrict myself to the exact details of construction shown and described, but hold that any slight changes or variations in such details as would suggest themselves to the ordinary mechanic would clearly fall within the limit and scope of my invention.

Having now fully shown and described my invention and its intended operation, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A tufting-tool formed of a quadrilateral polygon plate with three corners curved at right angles to the body, and a handle secured to the fourth corner, substantially as shown and described.

2. A tufting-tool formed of a quadrilateral polygon-shaped plate of non-flexible material with sharpened edges, three of the corners of the plate being turned upward at right angles to the body and formed with rounded edges, and a handle extending out from the fourth corner, all substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

3. A tufting-tool formed of a quadrilateral plate having three upturned corners and a handle extending out from the fourth corner, substantially as shown and described.

4. A tufting-tool consisting of a plate having four corners three of which have rounded points, said three corners being curved upward at substantially right angles to the center of the plate, and means for securing a handle to the fourth corner, all substantially as shown and described.

5. In a tufting-tool, the combination, of a plate with sharpened edges and having four corners, three of the corners being curved upward at an angle to the body of the plate, and a handle extending out from the fourth corner, substantially as shown and described.

6. In a tufting-tool, the combination, of a plate with sharpened edges having four corners, three of said corners being slightly rounded and curved upward at right angles to the center of the body, and a round tapering handle extending out from the fourth corner.

7. In a tufting-tool consisting of a four-cornered plate, a handle extending out from one of the corners, the sides of the plate being curved upward from near the center, the portion opposite the handle being curved upward to correspond with said sides, all substantially as shown and described and for the purposes set forth.

8. A tufting-tool consisting of a substantially square plate with three upturned corners arranged deltoid, and the fourth corner having a round acuminate handle extending therefrom, at right angles to the base-line of the deltoid formed by the said upturned corners, all substantially as shown and described.

9. A tufting-tool consisting of a quadrilateral metal plate having three of its corners rounded and curved upward at right angles to the center portion, and a handle extending from the fourth corner on a line with the center of the plate, substantially as shown and described.

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

WALTER H. LAWSON.

Witnesses:
R. W. RANDLE,
HARRY J. DOON.