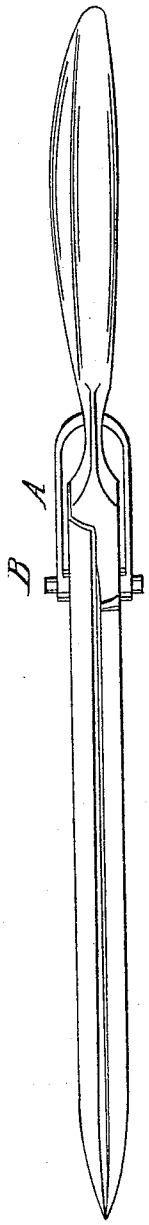
W. HOWARD.

SCISSORS.

No. 50,589. Patented Oct. 24, 1865.



Witnesses

G P K. Peck

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WILLIAM HOWARD, OF MIDDLETOWN, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN SCISSORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,589, dated October 24, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HOWARD, of Middletown, Butler county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Shears; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The drawing represents an edge view of the shears as constructed with my improvement.

The nature of my invention consists in the use of a U-shaped spring applied to a loose extended rivet, which serves as the axis of motion and fulcrum of the shear-blades, so as to hold the edges of the blades evenly and uniformly together, as will be hereinafter more fully described.

A is the spring, and B is the rivet. The blades may be of any known construction. At each end of the U-shaped spring there is a suitable perforation, of circular form, and size to fit loosely around the projecting ends of the extended rivet B. The rivet also fits loosely in the blades of the shears, and may be easily moved with the thumb or finger back and forth through the perforations in the blades and the spring. When the spring is inserted in its place between the handles, with the projecting ends of the rivet through the holes in its ends, it does not come in contact with the shears at any point except at the rivet, which its ends surround; and at each end of this spring, on the inner side surrounding the rivet, there are formed annular bosses which rest upon the opposite sides of the shear-blades, as represented in the drawing.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that the blades are held together by the spring alone; and it will appear obvious that, whatever wear there may be of the blades from long use, the spring will compensate for the wear and uniformly hold the edges in contact while in use.

By the use of my invention there can be no tendency of the blades, from the wear of the rivet, to open laterally; for however loosely it may fit the spring must hold the edges in contact, the rivet only serving as a fulcrum and axis of motion.

Another advantage of this improvement is in the fact that shears so made will not require the lateral strain upon the handles to keep the edges in contact when cutting which is necessary in using shears of ordinary construction, especially after they have become partly worn; and as these shears do not require any lateral or twitching action upon their handles in order to work freely, they may be used with either the right or left hand and the result is the same.

My improved shears have been found to work pleasantly to the user from the fact that the principle of their construction is such as to give uniformity of action in cutting from heel to point.

It is evident that shears and scissors of all kinds and sizes may be advantageously constructed upon the principle of my present invention.

Having thus fully described my improvement in shears, what I claim therein as my invention is—

The application and use of the spring A, and loose rivet B, with the shear-blades, arranged and operating in the manner substantially as described.

WILLIAM HOWARD.

Witnesses:

JOHN MUMMA,

H. P. K. PECK.