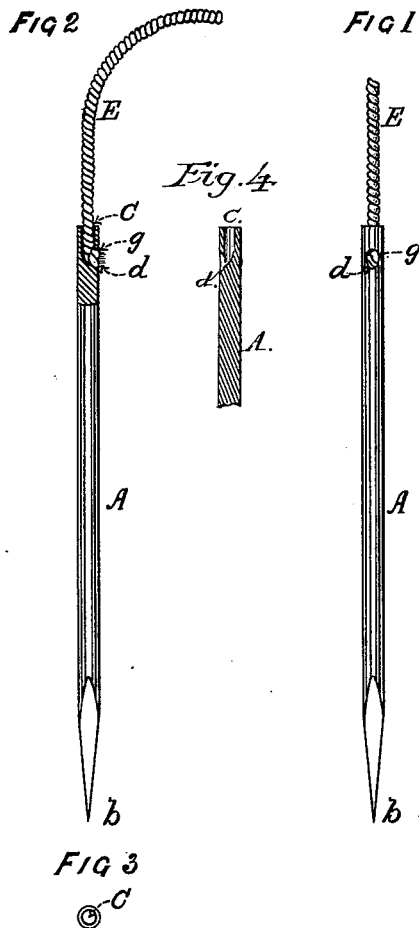


J. WATSON.
Surgeon's Needle.

No. 221,638.

Patented Nov. 11, 1879.



Witnesses:

William Kirkup
Owen McLaughlin

Inventor:

John Watson
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN WATSON, OF UTICA, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SURGEONS' NEEDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **221,638**, dated November 11, 1879; application filed July 21, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WATSON, of the city of Utica, county of Oneida, State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Surgeons' Needles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of my invention, which will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to provide for a surgeon's needle by aid of which a single thread may be drawn through the lips or flesh of a wound required to be sewed together, thus facilitating the operation and creating less pain.

My invention consists in beveling the sides of the side hole, so that they will catch and hold the knot in the thread.

The needle is made of round steel wire, with one end sharpened and the other cut square off.

A hole is bored at the latter end longitudinally into the wire by a suitable drill or tool placed in the center of the straight cut and continued any required distance—say, one-eighth of an inch, more or less. Through the side of the needle, at a distance from the straight cut corresponding to the length of the said hole, is transversely bored a second hole by a suitable tool or drill, thus penetrating the wall of the hole in the needle, and causing the two holes to be in communication. The tool or drill for the first hole may be so formed that this hole in the center of the needle will be a true cylindrical bore, or they may be made to produce a conical bore, as may be desired. The second hole, also, may be of any desirable bore, and the angle formed between the axes of the bores of the two holes may be right or obtuse. The side hole is made with beveled walls, or a countersink, so as to catch and hold the knot in the thread while the

knot is yet below the surface of the needle, thus facilitating the stitching at the same time that the thread is held securely in the needle.

When a thread of any required material, such as silk, cotton, or linen, is to be used, a knot is made at one end of the thread, and the other end, being pointed, is introduced through the hole in the side of the needle, and pushed through the hole in the center of the needle, is caught at the pointed end by the fingers, and drawn out until the knot is snugly embedded in the hole in the side.

The needle can be operated with like an ordinary needle.

Referring to the drawings, in order to explain my invention more fully, Figure 1 is a side view of my improved needle with thread attached. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view, and Fig. 3 is a top view, of the same. Fig. 4 is a section, showing the countersink in the horizontal hole.

A is the needle, with the pointed end *b*. C is the hole in the top and through the center of the needle. *d* is the hole in the side of the needle. E represents the thread with the knotted end *g*.

The shape of the needle may be either straight or curved, according to requirements.

When, instead of a fibrous thread, a wire is used, the latter may be knotted by fusing a bead on its end in a flame.

I am aware that needles have been made somewhat similar to mine, one having side grooves in which the thread is buried, and another with vertical bore and screw-thread, into which a stiff thread or wire can be screwed, and I lay no claim to such; but

What I do claim is—

The needle having the vertical bore C and the horizontal countersunk bore *d*, as described, and for the purpose set forth.

JOHN WATSON.

Witnesses:

DWIGHT D. PORTER,
E. P. HODGES.