(No Model.)

J. T. WOODS.

SURGEON'S SUTURE CARRIER.

No. 385,586. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

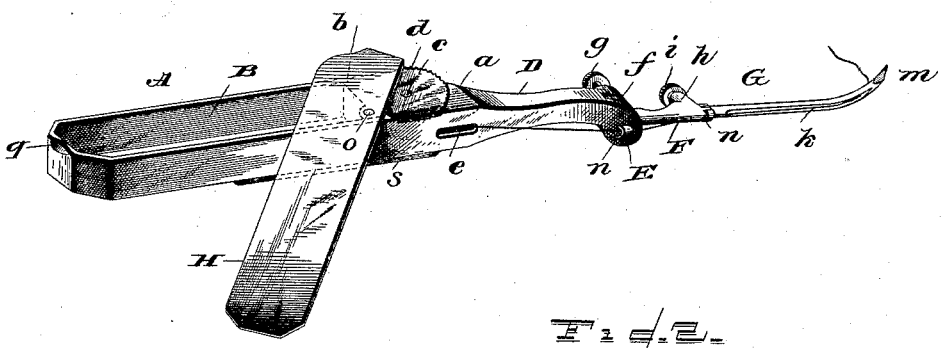

Fig. 2.

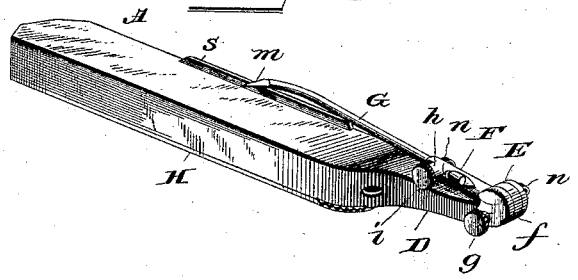

Fig. 3.

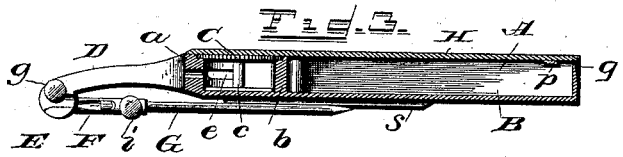

Fig. 4.

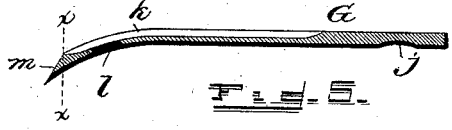

Fig. 5.

Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH T. WOODS, OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

SURGEON'S SUTURE-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,586, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed March 23, 1887. Serial No. 232,187. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH T. WOODS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Surgeon's Suture-Carrier, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has reference to suture appliances; and it consists in the improvements hereinafter described and explained, whereby the general efficiency of the needle is increased and a convenient arrangement provided whereby the needle may be properly handled and manipulated.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved suture appliance, showing the same ready for use. Fig. 2 is a like view from the opposite side, showing the position the parts occupy when the appliance is not in use. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the appliance. Figs. 4 and 5 represent detail views of the needle.

Referring to Figs. 1, 2, and 3, A designates the body of the handle, which, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, is hollow, to form a chamber, B, for the reception of extra needles, wax, &c. In the front part of the handle A it is provided with a block, *a*, which is curved on its front face, so as to form, in connection with the curved end *b* of the handle, a separate circular bobbin-chamber, centrally within which is located a short spindle, *c*. It will be noticed that the upper faces of the block *a* and end *b* are cut away to a slight extent in order to form a partial guide in which the milled end *d* of the bobbin C may bear. The said bobbin C is centrally perforated for the passage of the spindle *c*, upon which said bobbin is adapted to rotate. The side walls of the bobbin-chamber are cut away at their upper sides to form slots through which portions of the milled bobbin end *d* project to adapt said bobbin to be rotated in its chamber. One of the walls is further provided with a horizontal slot, *e*, for the passage of the thread from the bobbin.

A curved neck, D, extends integrally from the front end of the handle and is provided at its extremity with an enlargement forming a circular head, E, which is slotted for the reception of the circular tongue *f* of the needle-stock F. The said tongue is permanently and pivotally attached in the slot of the head by means of a concealed pivot. A threaded opening is located in one side of the head, eccentric with respect to the said pivot, and this opening is adapted for a threaded thumb-nut, *g*, which can be turned to bear against and bind the tongue *f* and clamp it and its stock in any position it may be turned upon its pivot.

The outer end of the stock F is recessed for the shank of the needle G, a lug, *h*, being located on the side of the stock and having a threaded transverse perforation intersecting the needle-opening in the stock. A threaded thumb-screw, *i*, engages said perforation and serves to bind the needle in the stock. The needle is more effectually secured by having one side planed off, as shown at *j*, in Fig. 4, which presents a proper bearing for the end of the needle.

The needle G, Fig. 1, is provided at its back with a longitudinal groove, *k*, which intersects the elongated eye *l* near its point. The groove *k* may be closed a short distance before it intersects the eye *l*. A short longitudinal groove is on the top of the needle immediately back of and intersecting the eye. It will be seen in the cross-sectional view, Fig. 5, that the front portion, *m*, of the needle is triangular in cross-section, whereby it is furnished with a slight cutting-edge and then presents a blunt rear.

The side of the head E and the end of the needle-stock F are each provided with an eye, *n*, through which the thread is guided on its way to the needle.

The main and bobbin chambers are closed by a movable panel, H, which is eccentrically pivoted upon a pin, *o*, the pivotal arrangement being such that said pin will be out of the way. The panel is secured closed by means of a novel catch arrangement consisting of a transverse bar, *p*, upon the under side of the panel H. When the panel is moved so as to close the chambers, the prominence of the bar *p* requires that the panel yield with a slight spring movement until the bar comes into position between the sides of the chamber B and thus retains the panel in position. The end of the handle A is cut away at *q* to permit the end of the panel to be opened by the finger-nail when it is necessary to disengage it.

In practice the thread is drawn into the

longitudinal channel, the needle is passed through the lips of the wound, and the thread is then seized to draw it through. The cutting-edge insures the passage of the needle with comparatively no pain, while the blunt portion prevents all irritation when the needle is withdrawn.

A longitudinal rib, *s*, is permanently located on the handle A, as shown in Fig. 2, and when the appliance is not in use the needle-stock with its needle can be turned back to the position illustrated in said Fig. 1, so that the needle will lie adjacent to said rib and be protected thereby.

From the foregoing it will be apparent that the device herein described is not only efficient and durable for the purposes intended, but is also of simple and convenient construction.

I claim—

1. The combination, in a suture appliance, of a handle provided with a covered chamber, a bobbin therein, a needle-stock hinged to said handle and adapted to receive a needle, and thread-guides on said handle and stock to lead the thread to the needle, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination, in a suture appliance, of a handle having openings on its sides, a bobbin within said handle having a milled end extending through the openings, and a needle-stock adapted to receive a needle, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, in a suture appliance, of a handle having a longitudinal protecting-rib and a stock pivotally attached to the handle, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, in a suture appliance, of a handle having a pivoted panel and securing means therefor, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination, in a suture appliance, of a handle having a pivoted panel and a bar on the under side of the same, substantially as set forth.

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