

(No Model.)

J. R. GOURD.

NEEDLE THREADING ATTACHMENT FOR LOOPING HOOKS.

No. 418,613.

Patented Dec. 31, 1889.

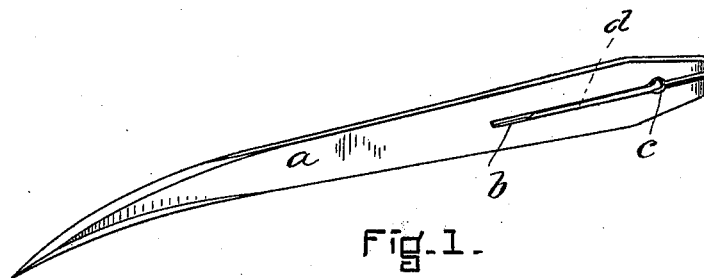


Fig. 1.

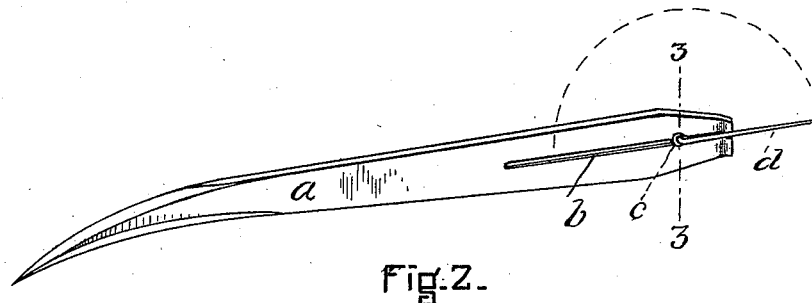


Fig. 2.

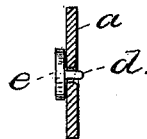


Fig. 3.

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JOHN R. GOURD, OF WEST QUINCY, MASSACHUSETTS.

NEEDLE-THREADING ATTACHMENT FOR LOOPING-HOOKS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 418,613, dated December 31, 1889.

Application filed April 8, 1889. Serial No. 306,287. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN R. GOURD, of West Quincy, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Looping-Hook and Needle-Threader, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to devices employed in the manipulation of knit fabrics on looping-machines, which devices are technically known as "looping-hooks," and are used to assist the operator in running the loops at the edge of a knit fabric upon the pins or points of a looping-machine. While this work is being performed the machine is usually in operation, effecting the looping together of the edges of the fabric impaled upon the pins, and it not infrequently happens that the yarn employed by the looping-needle breaks and runs out of the eye of the latter. Where woolen yarns are employed in the looping process, it is difficult, once the yarn breaks and runs out of the needle, to again "thread" the same.

It is the object of my invention to provide said looping-hooks with means which, while not affecting their present utility, will enable the operator to quickly and without difficulty rethread an unthreaded needle, thus saving much time and avoiding one of the great perplexities incident to uniting knit fabrics.

To this end my improvements consist in such a looper or looping-hook provided with a hook for threading the looping-needles, and also in certain details of construction, as hereinafter described.

Of the drawings hereunto annexed, and forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved looping-hook with the needle-threading hook folded into the handle. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the needle-threading hook "opened." Fig. 3 is a sectional view enlarged, taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts or features, as the case may be, in all the views.

In carrying out my invention I may provide the handle of the looping-hook *a* with a groove *b*, extending longitudinally of the same, and form a hole *c* in or through said handle in the line of said groove, in which hole I pivot the

butt or base of a needle-threading hook *d*, so constructed that it may be passed through the eye of the looping-needle, engage the looping-yarn, and draw it in passing back through said eye.

Various means may be provided, as will appear obvious, for pivoting the hook *d* upon or adjustably connecting it with the handle of the looping-hook *a*, that here shown consisting of bending the butt or base of said hook *d* at right angles to the stem or body, inserting such bent portion through the hole *c*, and slightly upsetting the end or riveting it down upon a washer *e*. With this construction the hook *d* can be readily "closed," as shown in Fig. 1, in which position the hook *d* will spring into the groove *b* and be held entirely out of the way of interference with the common uses of the looping-hook. If the yarn in the looping-needle should break, the hook *d* can be readily and quickly opened or adjusted to the position shown in Fig. 2, and used in rethreading the needle, as hereinbefore described, and thus avoid the delay and annoyance heretofore experienced consequent upon "soaping" the end of the looping-yarn and threading the needle by the mere use of the fingers.

It is obvious that the needle-threading hook might be employed in connection with the handle of the looping-hook without the necessity of grooving the latter, and that the hook *d* might be connected with the edge instead of the face of the handle; but these and other formal variations in the manner of connecting the threading-hook with the handle of the looping-hook, so that the former may be adjusted in opened or closed position with respect to the latter, would not be a departure from the nature or spirit of my invention.

I am aware that loopers or looping-hooks have been used before for simply assisting the operator in running the loops at the edge of the knit fabric over the knitting-machine pins. I am also aware that hooks have been used for drawing threads through threaded loops. These, therefore, I do not claim; but

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

1. A looping-hook used in the process of uniting the edges of knitted fabrics, provided with a needle-threading hook adapted to be

passed through the eye of the looping-needle to rethread it promptly in case the yarn of the looping-needle should break and thus become unthreaded.

- 5 2. A looping-hook used in the process of uniting the edges of knitted fabrics, provided with a needle-threading hook which is pivoted to the handle of said looping-hook, and which is adapted to be passed through the
10 eye of the looping-needle to rethread it promptly in case the yarn of the looping-

needle should break and thus become unthreaded.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of 15 two subscribing witnesses, this 6th day of April, A. D. 1889.

JOHN R. GOURD.

Witnesses:

ARTHUR W. CROSSLEY,
C. F. BROWN.