(No Model.)

H. REESE.

TREADLE.

No. 262,246. Patented Aug. 8, 1882.

Fig. 1.

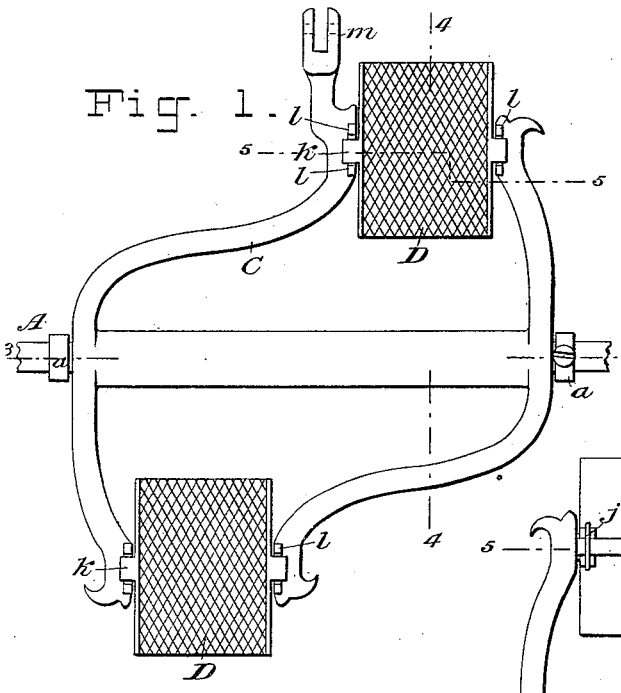


Fig. 5.

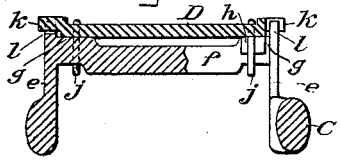


Fig. 6.

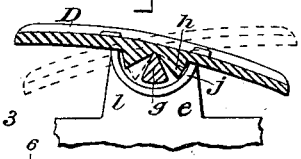


Fig. 2.

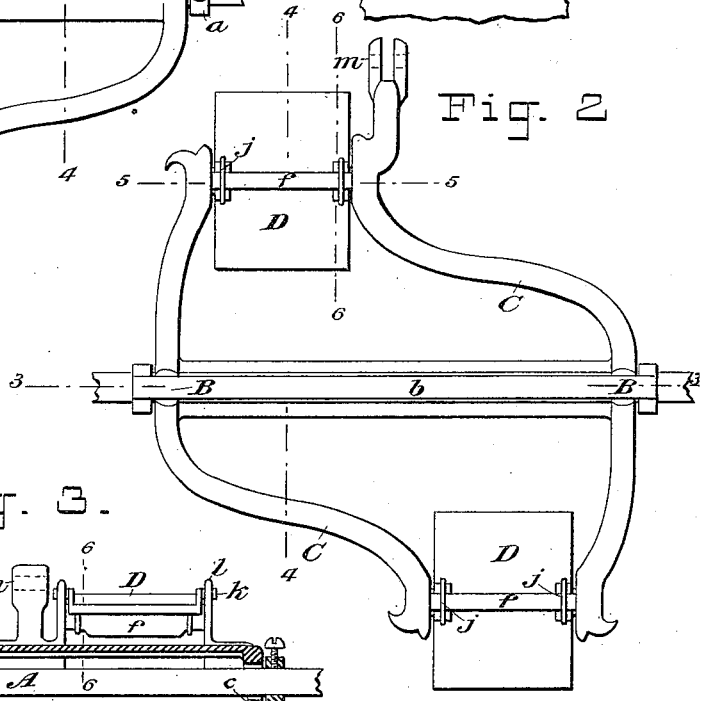


Fig. 3.

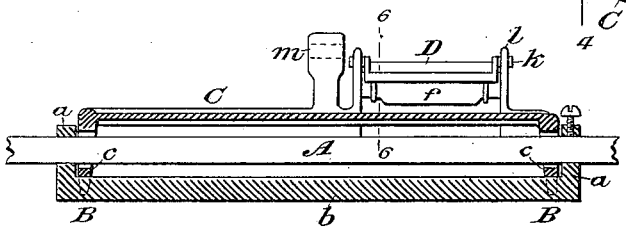
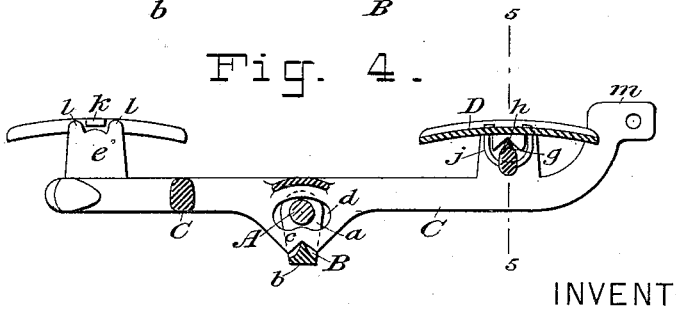


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY REESE, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

TREADLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 262,246, dated August 8, 1882.

Application filed May 18, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY REESE, of the city of Baltimore, and State of Maryland, have invented certain Improvements in Treadles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the construction of treadles—such as are used for driving sewing-machines and other similar purposes—its object being to produce an articulated treadle, which shall work with the least possible friction and be cheaply made.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a plan of my improved treadle. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical section cut in the plane of the lines 3 3 in Figs. 1 and 2. Fig. 4 is a section cut in the plane of the lines 4 4 in said figures. Fig. 5 is a vertical longitudinal section of the foot-rest on a larger scale, cut in the plane of the lines 5 5; and Fig. 6 is a transverse section thereof, cut in the plane of the lines 6 6.

Let A designate the usual cross-bar near the floor, on which the treadle of a sewing-machine is commonly fulcrumed. Beneath this bar I fix two knife-edge supports, B B, (shown best in Figs. 2 and 4,) which are suspended from the bar by means of eyes or perforated lugs *a a*, formed best in one piece with the knife-edges, which lugs are passed over the bar and fixed to it by set-screws or otherwise. I have shown the two knife-edge supports B B as joined together by a bar, *b;* but this is not essential, although I consider it the preferable construction.

C is the main frame of my treadle, which is fulcrumed on the knife-edges B B, having angular notches *c c*, into which the knife-edges project. The frame C rocks on these knife-edges without appreciable friction. Its vertical displacement is prevented by slots *d d* immediately above the notches *c c*, through which slots the rod A passes without touching them, except when the frame C is lifted. The lateral displacement of the frame is prevented by the lugs *a a*, between which it is confined.

The frame C extends to front and rear of its fulcrum, and bears two foot-rests or instep-treadles, D D, one for the right and the other for the left foot of the operator. These foot-rests are so mounted as to have a rocking motion, in similar manner to those shown in my patents of February 1, 1876, No. 173,059, and July 18, 1876, No. 180,066, and for the purpose therein explained of imparting an easy motion to the feet and legs. On the frame C, at each foot-rest, are formed two vertical lugs or walls, *e e*, between which extends a bar, *f*, on the upper edge of which, adjacent to the walls *e e*, are formed knife-edges *g g*. Each foot-rest D is formed preferably with a curved and roughened upper surface, and with two ears projecting downward therefrom on opposite sides, and fitting between the walls *e e*. These ears have angular notches *h h* formed in them, and these notches engage the knife-edges *g g*, on which the foot-rest can freely rock.

An eye, *j*, of wire, extends under the bar *f*, beneath each knife-edge *g*, (or one eye in the middle might serve the purpose,) and its ends are fixed to the foot-rest, preferably by passing up through holes therein, and their protruding portions clinched or riveted down thereon. These eyes serve to prevent the foot-rest being lifted off the knife-edges or otherwise displaced. From one or each side of each foot-rest an ear, *k*, projects and enters between two stops, *l l*, on the top of the wall *e*. These stops intercept the movement of the ears as the foot-rest is rocked, and so limit the play of the latter, thereby preventing its being rocked to too great an extent.

At the back of the frame C is formed a projecting knuckle, *m*, to which to joint the pitman through which the treadle drives the crank.

My improved treadle has an easy, noiseless, and almost absolutely frictionless motion. Its use avoids the fatigue of the ankles so often felt in running a sewing-machine with the ordinary treadle, and it can be manufactured at an extremely low price.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination of knife-edge supports B B, provided with lugs *a a*, and treadle-frame C, having angular notches *c c* engaging said knife-edges, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of knife-edge supports B B, provided with perforated lugs *a a*, and treadle-frame C, having notches *c c*, and formed with slots *d d*, arranged opposite and to coincide with the perforations in the lugs *a a*, to engage the transverse treadle-rod of a sewing or other machine, substantially as described.

3. The combination of knife-edge supports B B, having lugs *a a*, and united by bar *b* with treadle-frame C, adapted to fit between said lugs *a a*, and having notches *c c*, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination of treadle-frame C with foot-rests D D, mounted thereon on knife edge supports, substantially as described and shown.

5. The combination of treadle-frame C, having walls *e e* and knife-edges *g g*, with foot-rest D, having notches *h h*, substantially as set forth.

6. The combination of treadle-frame C, having cross-bar *f* and knife-edges *g g*, with foot-rest D, having notches *h h*, and wire eye or eyes *j*, substantially as set forth.

7. The combination of treadle-frame C, having walls *e e*, knife-edges *g g*, and stops *l l*, of foot-rest D, having notches *h h*, and ear or ears *k*, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY REESE.

Witnesses:
WM. BONE,
WM. R. TUMBLINSON.