T. P. THORPE.

WORKING RATTAN.

No. 192,138. Patented June 19, 1877.

Fig. I

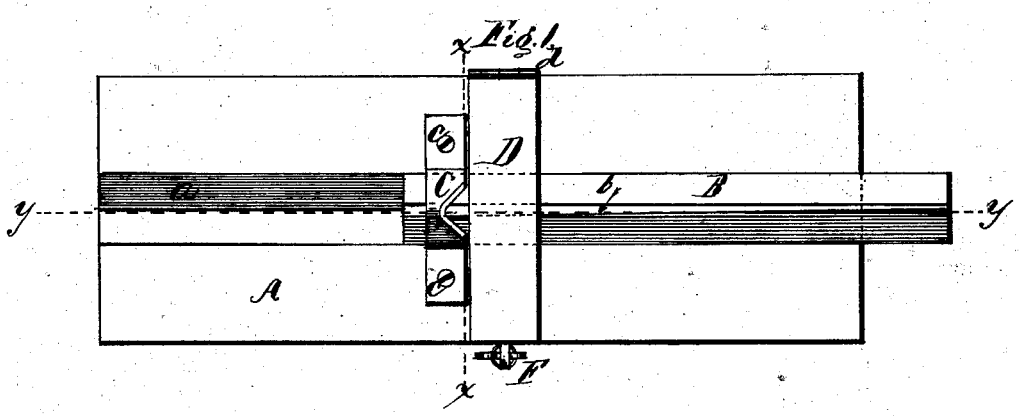


Fig. II

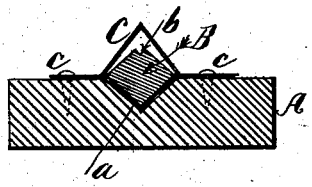
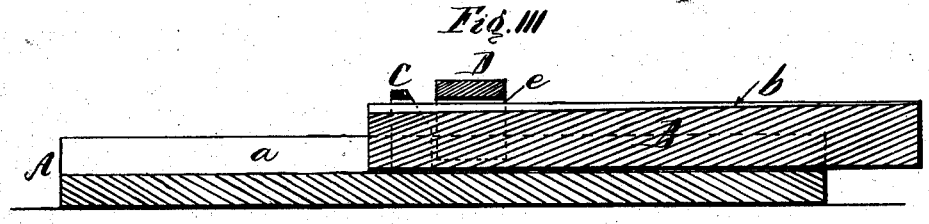


Fig. III



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS P. THORPE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO C. E. ATWOOD, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN WORKING RATTAN.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,138**, dated June 19, 1877; application filed May 28, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS PHILIP THORPE, of New York city, county and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Machine for Tapering Rattan or Reed for Whips; and I hereby declare that the following is an exact and true 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 figures and letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to provide a machine which with ease and accuracy will taper rattan or reed used in the manufacturing of whips.

My invention consists in constructing a board or platform into which a V-shaped longitudinal groove is cut. In this longitudinal groove is placed a diamond-shaped carrier or table, the lower part of which fits the V-shaped groove, and is provided at the top with a tapering groove.

The rattan or reed of which whips are manufactured are split longitudinally into four parts, one of which is placed in this tapering groove.

On the top and in the center of the platform, over the V-shaped groove, is fastened a V-shaped knife, and in front of this knife is hinged a holder and guide-piece, into the lower part of which is cut a V-shaped groove corresponding with the form of the upper half of the carrier or table, and this holder and guide-piece is held down to the table over the carrier by a suitable locking device.

In order to more fully describe my invention I refer to the drawings, of which—

Figure I is a plan view of my improved rattan or reed tapering machine. Fig. II is a sectional view taken on line *x x* of Fig. I. Fig. III is a sectional view on line *y y* of Fig. I.

A is the board or platform with the longitudinal V-shaped groove *a*. B is the diamond-shaped carrier or table with the tapering groove *b*. C is the V-shaped knife, fastened at *c c* to the platform A. D is the holder and guide-piece hinged at *d* to the platform A, and provided with the V-shaped groove *e*. F is the locking device for fastening the guide-piece D to the platform A.

The operation of my invention is as follows: The rattan or reed, after being split, is placed in the tapering groove *b* in the carrier B, the end of which, with the largest end of the tapering groove, is placed under the knife C, and the holder and guide-piece D is then brought down and locked onto the platform.

The carrier with the reed is then pushed against the edges of the knife C, by which operation the rattan or reed is gradually reduced to the desired tapering form.

Having thus described my invention, I desire to claim—

The combination of the carrier B having groove *b* with knife C, holder D, and platform A having groove *a*, all substantially arranged as and for the purpose set forth.

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