

A HOME SCENE

MR. ASTOR'S FIRST EVENING

GROVE & BAKER'S

FAMILY SEWING MACHINE

DIRECTIONS FOR USING

THE RELATIVE MERITS OF STITCHES.

THESE DIRECTIONS ARE GIVEN TO THE USER OF THE MACHINE FOR
THE PURPOSE OF SHOWING THE ADVANTAGES OF THE MACHINE

NEW YORK

1891

AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF

New York, August 18, 1868.

Messrs. GROVER & BAKER:—On page "13" of your little pamphlet entitled "A Home Scene," the question is asked, "Whether ladies could manage a sewing machine?" I thought that a little fact which has just come to my knowledge concerning one of your machines, might interest and confirm any one who desires to obtain so valuable and essential an article; indeed, I might say such a *sine qua non* in every family.

In a letter received some months since from a missionary (colored) residing in Lagos, Africa, he says: "Send me one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines, which I see advertised in your papers."

The machine was sent, but by some mistake the *directions* were forgotten! But with more than Yankee ingenuity and perseverance, he went to work, examined his machine, and in a letter received from him April 17th, he writes:

"We are much pleased with our goods, and especially are we delighted with your selection of the sewing machine. I put it together without the least trouble, and we can now stitch away like fine fellows. But unfortunately for us, there were no *directions* how to use the machine put up with it, and as we never saw one before, we can't do any thing but *stitch*! Please send the directions for use by mail, as soon as possible, and if there is any thing extra belonging to the machine to make it Hem, Fell, and Gather, please buy and send it quickly!"

Surely, if a poor colored man in Africa can work your machine without aid or directions, who should despair with both near at hand? An American lady, one of our Southern missionaries, who has been for some years residing at Abbeokuta, Central Africa, arrived here this present month. She tells me that when she reached Lagos, "she found Mr. Harden busily engaged with his machine, and to her great wonder and admiration, he made for her children the clothing needed for their long voyage, and without which they would have greatly suffered. He had also made dresses for his wife, and was highly delighted with his machine."

I would add to this, that I have used one of your machines for a year past, and can fully endorse the above.

Respectfully,

E. P. SMITH,
113, Seventh street.

St. NICHOLAS HOTEL, New York, May 13, 1868.

GROVER & BAKER S. M. Co.:

Gentlemen:—Having purchased your celebrated sewing machines, to take with me on my return to Constantinople, I am pleased to bear testimony to their superior excellence.

Previous to purchasing them, I examined others, but found yours possessing the advantages of simplicity of construction, strength, and elasticity of seam; and ease in learning to work them, which strongly recommend them for use in foreign countries, as well as the United States.

CAPTAIN HASSAN BEY,
Of Constantinople.

A HOME SCENE.

In a cosily furnished room of a neat house in East — Street, were a family group, consisting of father, mother, and three children, the latter reading from a book in a low tone, but an occasional comment in a loud one, would startle their nervous mother, who, at last rising from her seat, exclaimed with impatience: "I can stand this no longer; I must have the children sent to bed." Ringing the bell, she summoned Jane to take them away, that she "might have a chance to breathe," as she expressed herself.

Mrs. Aston was not what would be called an impatient mother; but at the close of the day, wearied and worn, her work still unfinished, she felt that of the cares of this life she possessed a large share. Her husband sat with his newspaper reading; but the nervous manner of his wife arrested his attention, and he thought of the time when her brow was as serene as the Summer sky, and her step buoyant and light. "It is plain," he soliloquized, "that Mary needs more company, more exercise in the open air, to restore her wonted calmness. I will give up my paper this evening and take her out." He addressed her, saying, "I see there is a concert given at Niblo's to-night, Mary, suppose we attend. It will do you good."

Mary glanced at the work piled on the table, which at that particular moment seemed to rise mountain high, and sighed as she replied,

"I would enjoy the music very much, but am so much in arrears with my sewing, that I cannot afford the time. I must devote every moment to work, for the children must have new clothes. I find it difficult to get a seamstress in the house; besides, it is harder to give directions and make one understand what my wishes are, than to perform those duties myself."

A shade of disappointment passed over Mr. Aston's face, as his eyes followed the direction in which his wife's were fixed. To his dismay he saw the pile of unfinished garments she had spoken of. He hitched about uneasily in his chair, and finally resumed his paper, having arrived at the conclusion that sewing was a troublesome thing. How to get rid of it he could not tell. After attempting to read intently for some minutes, haunted all the while, however, by the work on the table at his elbow, the bright colors and cheerful patterns of which seemed changed into so many mischievous elves, who were trying to destroy his happiness and render him uncomfortable, a change

at last passed over his countenance, as his eye rested on an advertisement, and he exclaimed half aloud, "I have it now." He read:

"The GROVER & BAKER SEWING MACHINE COMPANY, having greatly increased their facilities for manufacturing their Celebrated Family Machines, with all the recent improvements, offer for sale a New Style Machine of beautiful finish."

And in a louder tone, so as to be certain of attracting his wife's attention, he continued to read:

"It is no longer questioned that these Machines are the best in use for family sewing."

"But," interposed Mrs. A., "I don't think they will do my sewing well enough. I am very particular, as you know."

Mr. A., without answering, read further,

"They hem, fell, gather, and stitch in the most superior manner."

And then inquired, "What more can you have, Mary?"

Mrs. A. answered, "I am afraid I have not mechanical skill enough to manage a machine. It would be a failure in my hands."

"Well, listen again," said Mr. A., "to what I will read:"

"And are the only Machines in the market that are so well and simply made, that they may be sent into families with no other instructions than are contained in a circular which accompanies each Machine, and from which a child of ten years may readily learn how to use them, and keep them in order."

Mrs. A. paused awhile, but at length said interrogatively, "I wonder how fast they will sew? I feel that I am getting interested."

In answer Mr. A. read,

"They make upwards of fifteen hundred stitches a minute."

"But it is so much money to give just for sewing," said Mrs. A.

"Not at all, Mary. I am told they last a lifetime," replied the husband, reading again,

"And will do the sewing of a family cheaper than a seamstress can do it, even if she works at the rate of one cent an hour."

After pausing a minute, as if in deep thought, Mr. A. resumed his reading:

"Is there a husband, father, or brother in the United States, who will permit the drudgery of hand-sewing in his family, when a Grover & Baker Machine will do it better, more expeditiously, and cheaper than it can possibly be done by hand."

Throwing aside the paper, he started to his feet and said, "I cannot withstand that appeal! I must go and see these Machines! I must have one! Mary, you shall have your evenings, aye, and your afternoons too, for relaxation and mental culture! I must have been asleep not to have seen through all this before!"

On a fine Spring morning, a few days thereafter, a lady and gentleman were to be seen leaving a house in East — Street, whose purpose might have been discovered if one had accompanied them a short

way. But there was no mystery about it; they were going to select the best sewing machine that could be found, with a view to purchase; and after calling at the different depots for the sale of machines, and making examinations of the sewing and mechanism of all the various kinds on sale, they decided that the GROVER & BAKER Machine was the one which would best suit their purpose. They found it simple, its use easily learned, and required no keeping in order—that it would always be ready for work—that it made a very beautiful and durable seam, *that would not rip, if the thread broke*—that (unlike all other machines) it required no rewinding of thread; but sewed from the two spools, as obtained in the stores—that it was adapted to all kinds of thread and material, by a mere change of spools, and sewed an elastic seam, that would permit it to stretch in washing and ironing, without breaking the thread. Mrs. Aston was especially delighted, that while the machine would sew a seam that was as durable as the fabric in wear, it could easily be removed by untying three stitches of that part of the seam that had last been sewed. She was also gratified to find that she would not be obliged to have recourse to the hand-needle in finishing the garments—that *the machine itself did it*.

It was purchased, and Mrs. Aston sat down to receive instructions for the use thereof. An hour sufficed to accomplish this; and with a gratified smile, she returned home in time to welcome her little assistant, which was to do so much for her relief. The elder children were silent with curiosity; baby was so much amused by the gentle murmuring sound, that he fell into a sweet slumber. The mother glanced triumphantly at the pile of work on the table, which had been cut out and prepared for the next month's sewing; she seated herself and took the first garment, which was a dress for Miss Mary, the eldest daughter, the seams of which were finished in the next twenty minutes. Then a jacket for Master Fred was finished—all but the button-holes. Then baby's turn came next, and the skirt of a little dress was tucked and ornamented in a style that Mrs. Aston would have thought impossible, if she had been obliged to do it by hand. Then a Summer cloak was embroidered for the little fellow, and when the tea-bell rang, and Mr. Aston rose to go to the dining-room, a more smiling, gratified face he had not seen his wife wear for a long time. At table, the only subject of conversation worthy of attention was the new machine.

Mr. A., after tea, jocosely remarked: "I think I will make a good operator, Mary;" and seating himself at the machine, said, "See me; I take hold of the lower part of the wheel with my right hand, and pull it in a downward direction. What now? it does not run in the same manner in which I started it."

"Well," answered Mrs. Aston, "you do not keep up a regular motion on the treadle with your foot. While interested in watching the needle, the motion of your foot is arrested, and the wheel runs the contrary way before you are aware. To avoid this, keep as good time as if you were playing a melodeon: *press first on the heel, then on the forepart of the foot, without raising the toes.*"

"Very true," responded Mr. A., "the motion, as well as the needle, requires some thought at first. I did not think of that. Now I have gained that point, and placed my work under the needle, it does not feed through."

Mrs. A. came to the rescue, saying, "Perhaps you have carelessly placed the work on the feed, in a manner that permits it to be caught between the needle-plate and the feed, which can be avoided if care be taken in putting the work under. The real cause now is, that you have forgotten to lower the little cloth-presser, which keeps the work in place. Raise it by means of this little handle above it, to put the work in, and lower it by the same means, before you commence sewing."

"Mary, you see I am not as apt a scholar as yourself."

Mrs. A. with a quiet smile replied, "You are doing very well; but the thread is broken!"

"What is the cause?" asked Mr. A.

"Perhaps your tension is too tight. You can remedy that by turning to the left the thumb-screw on the post which holds the upper spindle in place—taking care to loosen the thread a very little. If loosened too much, a jagged or fringed seam on the under side will be the result. If the under thread break, the cause will be the same. Loosen it by turning the brass thumb-screw at the under spindle-post, from you."

"Well, Mary, you have told me all this, but the thread breaks in spite of tension," Mr. Aston looked as if about to discontinue his lesson, but his wife playfully insisted that he must be proficient, as she expected to hire him to operate.

"There are several causes of the thread breaking, which I may, as well state now: Too tight a tension—the absence of a cloth washer on the upper spindle—the crowding of the thread against the needle-hole—the thread too large to lie in the groove of the needle—and a rough circular needle, generally occasioned by the vertical needle striking against it, when the latter is not properly set. Especial care should be taken that the circular needle does not get injured. The cause of the broken thread now," continued Mrs. A., "is that you have pushed the needle to one side, and, in its descent, it crowds the thread against the sharp edge of the plate, and cuts it off."

"Ah! I see," answered Mr. A., "I suppose I must spring the needle to make it go in the centre of the hole; which can easily be done with the fingers. Well, if I am to be employed by you, I must know the manner in which you set the vertical needle."

"Take it between the thumb and finger of the left hand, the eye being directly in front of you; the outside of the curve of the needle, to the left. Pass it into the little groove in the lower part of the needle-arm, about a quarter of an inch under the needle-screw; fasten it in by means of the screw-driver, and then test the accuracy of its position by opening the plate through which the needle passes; then see if the loop which the upper thread throws out after it has passed through the fabric, and just as it commences to rise, is situated

so that the point of the circular needle passes into the centre of the loop mentioned. Care should be taken to have the needle just right, as occasionally a long stitch will be the result, if the circular needle does not pass into the centre of the loop."

"Now, I understand all that. I can sew nicely; but if I want to change the thread? I have been sewing with cotton; suppose I want to sew with silk, or any other sized thread, how shall I proceed?"

"Take the spindle out of the post; unscrew the nut which holds the spool in place; take the cotton spool off; place the other spool on, so that the thread runs off from the upper side, and fasten it with the nut tight on the spindle. The spindle must turn, with the spool fastened tightly upon it. The under thread need not be changed, as the under or binding thread is never seen on the upper side, and its whole office is to tie the upper thread after it has passed through; but if silk be preferred, change in the same way as the upper; pass it through the little brass spring, then into the circular needle."

"I understand it all, Mary; but show me how to thread the circular needle? I must be an adept."

"This little instrument conveys the under thread through the loop of the upper thread in a very ingenious manner. It is to be threaded in two places, called the heel and point; a groove lies between these two places, in which the thread must lie, in passing from one to the other. Now see me: First thread the heel, then turn the wheel so as to bring the point in front; pass the thread from the outside to the inside of the eye in the point; pick it up and guide it into the groove, before drawing it tight. A large pin or needle will best accomplish this. Now, let me show you how to thread the upper or vertical needle: Pass the thread through the slit in this little post. In order to get at it, you will have to press the coil spring down with the finger; thread it into the needle from front to back; cause it to lie in the jaw just above the needle; draw it through the eye of the needle till there is an end about three inches long. After you have sewed four or five stitches, pass this end under the left side of the cloth-presser, where it will be carried out of the way. The end of the under thread need only be brought to the upper side of the plate, and there left. You will soon learn."

"Perhaps I will, if you continue to have patience with my dullness. Will you show me how to take the work out of the machine, Mary?"

"Slacken the upper thread; cut it off close to the work; raise the cloth-presser; lift the work carefully, so as to bring the under thread up one or two inches, and cut it off close to the work, so as to leave the circular needle threaded. With care, this needle need not be unthreaded till the spool is used up."

On taking the work out in the manner described, Mrs. Aston exclaimed it carefully, and after the lapse of a minute, laughingly said to her husband, "You have sewed this seam on the wrong side; a mistake which will sometimes occur with the most experienced seamstresses. I will show you how to take it out: Begin from the end where you left off sewing; pick up three stitches on the upper

side; this will leave a thread on the under side; take both of these threads up, and pull them at the same time, in opposite directions. The seam will ravel as easy as one could wish, but if I do not wish to rip it all the way, I can stop just here. Cut the threads off, and the work will be as strong as ever. While this peculiarity does not affect the strength of the seam, every seamstress can at once realize the benefit of this convenience."

"Ah! yes, I see it is a seam that will rip if necessary; but will not rip when not desired. How convenient that is; it must be one of the chief merits of the machine."

"But as you are going to be an operator, you must learn to take care of the machine. Now, as you are going to leave it, we will wipe out all the oil; then to-morrow morning before using it, it will have to be oiled afresh with the best clock or pure metallic oil, wherever two parts of the machine come together, so as to create friction. The "nipper-spring," which grasps the thread, should be oiled twice or three times during the day. The lifter of the cloth-presser and pivots which hold the needle-arm, need only be oiled once a week; also the running gear, wheel, treadle, etc., need to be oiled once a week; one drop of oil applied with a small camels' hair brush to the different parts is sufficient."

"Thank you, Mary. I am glad you prove so patient a teacher. I must confess I was incredulous that you had so good a knowledge of the machine, and to test it, felt desirous of seeing how far you could help me out of any difficulty I could get into. I am more than convinced of its simplicity, and think, with a large majority of people, that the Grover & Baker is the best made, and most easily managed machine for family use, that can be purchased. I feel that I have made a capital investment for saving time and labor, and gained with the Sewing Machine, an assortment of sweet smiles, pleased and contented looks; and many pleasant evenings we will have on account of the freedom which the Sewing Machine will give you, Mary."

And there the Machine stood, an implement wholly domestic in its character; but its influence extended itself into the drawing-room, on the promenade, at the church, or other public places, and in the elegant and stylish wardrobe of the family. Mrs. Aston no longer thought that she could not spare time for accomplishments. Her music was looked over, and some of the delightful songs of old were practiced and sung in her former excellent style; and in the merry pastimes of the winter evenings, Mr. Aston's thoughts reverted back to the time when there was "no time to spare," and he felt that the Sewing Machine had done more than he had expected from it, and Mrs. A.'s assertion, two years after, proved that they were not mistaken, "for," said she, "if I could not purchase another, a fortune could not buy my Sewing Machine."

DIRECTIONS FOR USING THE FAMILY SEWING MACHINE.

PLACE THE UPPER SPOOL

Upon the spindle at the right hand of the machine—screwing the nut down upon it sufficiently hard to prevent its turning, and placing the cone part so as to enter the end of the spool.

THE UNDER SPOOL

Must be placed upon the spindle under the platform, in the same manner as the upper, and the spindle-frame may be raised out of the machine for this purpose.

In placing the spindles in their places, care should be taken to have the cloth on the large ends, and the pointed ends put into the holes made for them.

THE VERTICAL NEEDLE MUST BE SET,

So that, in rising, the point of the circular needle will pass through the loop of the thread of the vertical needle in crossing it. Care must be taken to have the point of the needle go directly down through the centre of the hole in the needle-plate, and, if necessary, the needle can be sprung with the fingers; otherwise the needle will crowd the work to one side, thereby making a crooked seam. The vertical needle should never be used, if measuring less than one-quarter of an inch from eye to point.

TO THREAD THE VERTICAL NEEDLE.

Pass the thread from the upper spool through the slotted post above the spiral spring coiled around it, then down between the projection on the needle-arm and the spring, and through the eye of the needle, from you, pulling it through about two and a half inches. The thread used upon the under spool should NEVER be more than one-half as large as that used upon the upper, as the thread is doubled in forming the stitch. An ornamental stitch may be made, if desired, by using as large thread on the under as on the upper spool. Much care should be taken to adapt the size of the thread to the vertical needle, so that, as it passes through the fabric, the thread will lie in the groove without crowding.

TO THREAD THE CIRCULAR NEEDLE.

Pass the thread up from the under spool through the eye of the spring; from thence through the eyelet in the heel of the circular needle, and then through the eye in the point, letting the thread lie in the groove—leaving about two inches lying upon the platform.

TO COMMENCE SEWING.

Place the fabric under the vertical needle, with the end resting upon the feeder; let the cloth-presser down upon it, then turn the wheel under the table, in the direction indicated by the arrow; to turn a corner, allow the vertical needle to rise about half an inch from its lowest position, then raise the cloth-presser and turn the fabric, the needle acting as a pivot.

TO REGULATE THE LENGTH OF THE STITCH.

Open the plate at the left hand of the machine, and move the lever against which the feed strikes towards you, for a longer, and from you, for a shorter stitch.

THE TENSION UPON THE THREADS

Should nearly all be obtained from the upper spool; that upon the under should be merely sufficient to operate the spring, through which the thread passes.

THE TENSION IS REGULATED

By turning the thumb-nut which presses against the spring which holds the pointed end of the spool-spindle above, and the brass nut by the side of the thread-spring below.

TO DETACH THE CLOTH.

Slacken the upper thread and cut it off close to the cloth, and then after raising and fastening the cloth-presser, slacken the under thread so as to allow it to be drawn upon the platform as at first; after which, cut it near the cloth.

WHEN THE MACHINE IS MUCH USED,

The oil should be cleaned from the working parts every day (cotton waste is the best for this purpose), then reoil with the best clock oil, wherever there is friction.

THE BELT OF THE BALANCE WHEEL

Sometimes stretches, and the wheel will then fail to move the working part of the machinery. It may be tightened by first unscrewing the thumb-screw under the cross-bar, shoving the wheel to the right, and then screwing tight again. Some of the machines have the wheel placed within a frame, fastened to the side of the cross-bar with screws, which may be treated in the same manner.

HOW TO PREPARE FOR WORK,

AND

DIRECTIONS FOR SEWING.

THREADS OR SILK.

The best thread should invariably be used on the sewing machine, as the strain required is greater than that which the hand gives, in drawing up the thread in hand sewing. Patent or glazed thread is not so good, as it does not sink into the cloth readily, leaving more thread on the surface than is deemed necessary, and is very liable to snarl. A poor or indifferent thread will ALWAYS GIVE MORE OR LESS TROUBLE. Silk can be purchased on spools, and this will be found the best way to use the silk, as the winding being done by machinery, will give a more even strain than winding by hand. For shirting muslin the thread need not be coarser than 60 or 70 for the upper spool, and NEVER COARSER than 110 or 120 for the under spool. No fear need be entertained that THESE SIZES WILL BE TOO FINE, when we take into consideration that the thread is crossed several times; that it takes BETTER material to make a FINE thread of first quality, and when this is doubled, as is the case with the Grover & Baker stitch, the seam will be found to be quite strong enough. The best sized silk to be used for ordinary family purposes, will be C silk. The spools are numbered, 0, 00, 000, A, B, C, and so on, 000 being the finest, and F the coarsest. Care should be taken that the thread for the vertical needle be in proportion to the needle. If TOO COARSE TO LIE IN THE GROOVE OF THE NEEDLE, in its descent through the fabric, it will break. Cotton may be used on the under spool, as the under thread is never seen on the upper side.

TENSION.

The tension of the upper thread is regulated by the thumb-screw on the post which holds the spindle in place. Turn the screw right to tighten, and left to slacken the tension. When the tension is once regulated, there is no need of altering it—for a new spool of thread of the same size may be put on by simply springing the post which holds the spindle in place. This is a merit that no other machine in market possesses. Care should be taken not to have the upper thread TOO LOOSE, as a fringed or rough seam will be the result; but if TOO TIGHT, the thread is apt to break. If the under thread break, the tension is generally TOO TIGHT. When working with silk, a much greater tension can be obtained than with cotton. For woollen goods the tension needs to be tight. For materials that are to be washed often, the tension should be rather loose. If in working on Swiss or Nainsook, the work has a drawn appearance, the fault will be with the UNDER thread, which will be found too tight.

NEEDLES.

The needles are numbered 0, 00, and 1, 2; the 00 being finest, and good for Swiss or other fine material; the 0 is good for shirt work or undergarments; No. 1 is good for heavier muslins, quiltings, etc., or cloth; No. 2 is good where the material is very thick. The upper needle should always be proportioned to the thread—LARGE ENOUGH TO ADMIT OF THE THREAD PASSING INTO THE GROOVE OF THE NEEDLE in going through the fabric. When sending for needles, the CLASS of the machine should be specified. The family machines are classed or numbered 15, 20, to 30 inclusive, on the circulars for the family machine.* The attendant will readily know what needles to give on designating the number of the Machine.

TO REGULATE THE LENGTH OF THE STITCH.

Open the plate at the left hand of the machine, where will be found a lever, stretching across the aperture, which strikes the feed. Move that lever toward you to make a long stitch, and FROM you for a short one. In making a short stitch, do not press the lever too far back, or the feeder will not act. A very little way will be enough to alter the stitch. It is best, before commencing to sew, to try the length of the stitch on a small piece of muslin.

TO COMMENCE SEWING.

Place the edges of the material together. If a long seam is to be sewed; plus placed a few inches apart will answer the place of basting; and place the work in the machine so that the bulk of the sewing will pass to the left hand. This will be better than to pass the most of the material under the needle arm. A little care should be exercised in laying the work on the feed, so that it cannot press between the feed and needle-plate, and that the cloth-presser be brought down upon it before turning the wheel.

SELVEDGES OR OVERHAND SEAMS.

Instead of sewing the seam over and over, in the manner taught us by our good grandmothers, before the advent of sewing machines, a better plan is to lap the selvedges, and stitch one or two rows of stitching. In making garments, the seams should be finished as much as possible on the right side, which will be very ornamental.

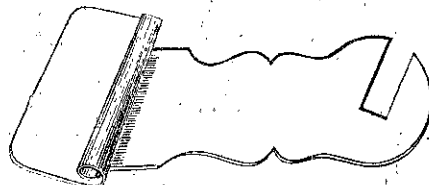
TO HEM WITHOUT THE HEMMER.

Turn the FIRST edge down a little more than is done in preparing a hem for hand sewing, creasing it by the nail AS NEAR ON THE THREAD AS POSSIBLE; then stitch directly ON THE EDGE. Hems turned on the RIGHT side, are much more ornamental than the old

*It is well to observe that these numbers have no reference to the manufacturers' numerical numbers on the silvered plate of the machine; but refer solely to the numbers as found with illustrations on subsequent pages of this little book.

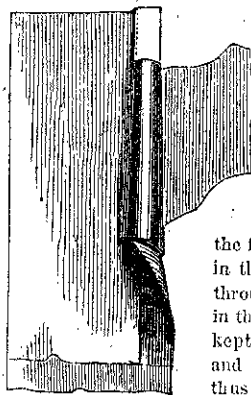
way. To do this, it is necessary to turn the seams for a little way on the right side. To make them turn neatly, clip the edge of the seam, as much as is necessary, to make it turn well in the opposite direction. If the hem is found to be looser than the material, do not plait it, or hold it in basting, as is done by hand; but TAKE UP A LARGER SEAM, sufficient to make it come even. This is necessary, as the machine keeps the edges even, and never takes up any fullness.

TO HEM WITH THE HEMMER.



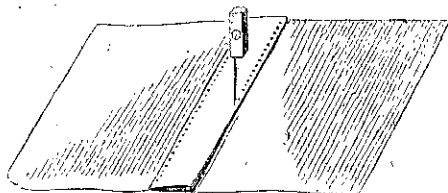
PLACE THE SLOT that is cut in the Hemmer, under the guage, fasten firmly with the thumb-screw, taking care that the outer edge of the tube shall be on a direct line with the needle; take the cloth to be hemmed and fold up about an inch, as if for basting, place the first fold inside the tube, drawing it through until the Feed has caught the goods, after which it is only required to keep the tubes full of the goods.

TO FELL WITH THE HEMMER.



FIRST SEAM. — Adjust the hemmer on the machine as for ordinary hemming, then place the two layers of cloth which are to be felled together, one upon and over the other, so that the edge of the *upper* layer shall be about one eighth of an inch within the edge of the under layer, at the side where the felled seam is to be made, as seen in the annexed cut. Pass both layers through the hemmer in the manner shown in the cut, taking care that the edges are kept one within the other, as first placed, and the first seam on the fell will be thus complete.

SECOND SEAM.—To make the second seam of the fell, open or spread apart the two layers or thicknesses of the cloth, and stitch down the fell at the edge, as will be readily understood by the following cut. This second seam is made without the aid of the



hemmer. Select the width of the hemmer to be used for felling according to the width of fell desired.

TO FELL WITHOUT THE HEMMER.

First, baste the upper edge down over the under; then stitch a seam the ordinary width for a fell; open the seam and stitch again directly on the edge. A little practice will enable one to do this in a most beautiful manner.

TO GATHER.

Place COARSE cotton on the UPPER spool; tighten the tension; make a longer stitch than usual; UNSCREW THE CONE which fastens the UNDER spool a little, so as to give it full play, without allowing it to go out of place, and stitch slowly with the machine, as usual. After having finished the seam, draw the UPPER thread.

TO TUCK.

Measure the tucks as in ordinary hand-sewing; place the gauge as far from the needle as you wish the width of the tucks to be—taking care in stitching, that the needle is right in the centre, and that the work does not ride or push over the gauge, as this will make a great difference in the width of the tucks. If you find you have done so, stop immediately; take the part out and sew it over again. It will pay you for the pains, in the neat and regular appearance of the tucks.

TO QUILT.

Tack the silk on the wadding, and mark the pattern in the usual way for quilting by hand. It is not necessary to interline the work, as the cotton can rest on the feed without injury to it. Use good silk on the upper spool—cotton on the under spool. Quilting done

by hand bears no comparison to that done by the Grover & Baker Machine. Bed-quilts may be quilted in strips, and seamed up afterwards.

TO EMBROIDER.

The UNDER side shows the ornamental stitch. Place COARSE SILK OR COTTON ON THE UNDER spool; use No. 1 or 2 needle; make the stitch LONGER; have the pattern marked on the WRONG side of the material, and stitch it the WRONG side UP, leaving the UNDER seam on the RIGHT side of the garment. Two colors which form a contrast, such as blue and orange, or pink and white, may be used. Flannels can be tucked and ornamented with silk in this way, and chambrés or brilliants, with bear's head cotton, may be ornamented so as to look better than the finest braiding or chain-work.

TO CROSS A SEAM.

When sewing cotton goods with much dressing, it may require some care in crossing seams, when there are a number of thicknesses—where hems and fells come together, for instance—the crossing will be facilitated by pressing the seam flat, and rubbing a little WHITE soap on the THICK part. A small piece of soap kept in the work-basket will be found useful for softening the tough places which often occur in sewing. Many ladies follow this practice in hand-sewing, where the goods are hard to sew.

TO TURN A CORNER.

Stop the wheel without raising the needle more than half way out of the work; raise the little cloth-presser, and turn the work in the manner desired, using the vertical needle as a pivot.

TO TAKE THE WORK OUT.

Slacken the UPPER thread; cut it off close to the work; raise the cloth-presser; lift the work carefully, so as to bring the UNDER thread up one or two inches, and cut it off close to the work. The needles will then remain threaded, and the machine be ready for the next garment. Many ladies have a small strip of muslin conveniently by them, which they run under the cloth-presser, WITHOUT RAISING, at the end of straight seams. It serves the purpose of fastening the threads, and when a new seam is to be commenced the strip may be displaced by feeding the garment under the cloth-presser in the same manner.

RELATIVE MERITS OF THE SEWING MACHINE STITCHES.

THE GROVER & BAKER SEWING MACHINE, although of more recent invention than either of its legitimate rivals, has achieved an unprecedented popularity, and merrily hums its success to the satisfaction of upwards of 30,000 families in almost every part of the civilized world. Where the merits of its peculiar stitch are fully understood, precedence has always been given to the Grover & Baker Machine for Family Sewing. This stitch has the merit of greater beauty, strength, and elasticity than any other stitch made by machine—resembling the well known “back-stitch” by hand, in every essential particular, except that it is more beautiful and regular. It

Fig. 1.



is made of two threads, sewed direct from two spools, just as purchased in the stores, and without any rewinding. The upper thread is passed through the fabric, where a loop is thrown out, as the needle rises, and a loop of the under thread is passed through the loop of the upper thread. This loop of the under thread, in its turn, has a loop of the upper thread passed through it, and there is thus a series of interloopings of the two threads (Fig. 1), each stitch being firmly tied by the operation of the machine, requiring no fastening of ends of seams, with a hand-needle, in finishing garments. The Grover & Baker stitch differs very materially from the other two stitches made by sewing machines, viz., the “single-thread,” “loop,” “chain,” “tambour,” “crochet,” or “knitting-stitch,” and the “shuttle-stitch,” sometimes for effect called the “lock-stitch.”

The “single-thread,” or “tambour” stitch has never been found

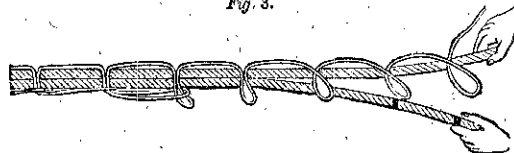
Fig. 2.



of much practical utility for family sewing, because of its want of strength. Figure 2 illustrates that it is a mere series of loopings on the single thread, after it has passed through the fabric. It is formed by thrusting the thread through the fabric, where a loop is held open

until the thread is a second time thrust through the fabric and first loop. This process is repeated until the seam is formed, making the series of loopings on the single thread referred to. This stitch has been much used for ornamental sewing, and there are numerous families in almost every part of the United States who relate sad experiences of their efforts to apply it to the wants of the household. Figure 3 shows that it has the same defect of the stitch made by our

Fig. 3.



dear old grandmothers with knitting needles. Whenever a stitch is “dropped” or “skipped,” the seam may be raveled like an old stocking from that stitch. The same raveling will take place, if the thread break, and there be any strain upon the seam laterally.

The perfect “shuttle” or “lock-stitch,” is formed of two threads, one upon the upper, and the other upon the under side of the fabric, crossing each other in the centre. The upper thread is thrust through

Fig. 4.



the fabric, where a loop is thrown out and held open, and a straight thread thrust through that loop, with either a reciprocating shuttle, or a bobbin and a rotating hook. On thick fabrics, that are not to be washed and ironed the looping points of the threads may be drawn into the centre of the fabric, as shown in Figure 4, and the seam will then have a very considerable degree of elasticity. Great care must be taken to have the machine run with an equal degree of speed, to

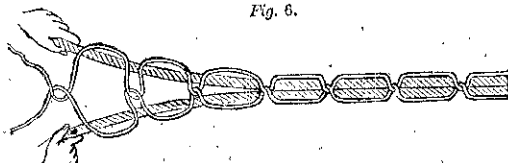
Fig. 5.



form a perfect seam, as a faster or slower motion of the foot is invariably certain of altering the tension; when the seam, instead of showing “the stitch alike on both sides,” will present the appearance shown by Figure 5, with a straight thread on the under

surface of the fabric, which may easily be drawn out, leaving the upper thread raveled. Thin fabrics show this imperfection in a greater degree than heavier goods, because they have not body enough to prevent the crossing point of the threads to be drawn into the centre, and the lower thread must, of necessity, be straight, for the two threads are of themselves as thick as many fabrics, and when an attempt is made to have "the seam alike on both sides," the under thread is seen between the stitches on the right side, and the upper thread is seen in the same manner on the under side, so that to be able to make a fair stitch on the right side, it is absolutely necessary to let the under thread lie straight, which can be drawn out at will. Great care must be had in washing and ironing garments that have this straight thread, that all unnecessary stretching and straining be avoided, lest the straight thread break and the seam rip.

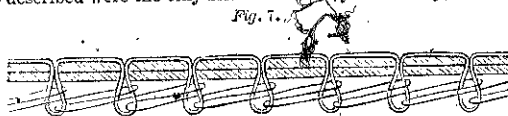
Fig. 6.



There is also a constant danger of this in wearing a garment, especially wherever there is what ladies call a "bias seam," where elasticity of stitch is absolutely essential. Even when the "shuttle" or "lock-stitch" seam is perfectly sewed, with the threads crossing in the centre, there is continual friction at the point of crossing, and this friction must wear the threads enough to make one of them break with a moderate strain, when the seam will rip several inches, or as far as the ends of the thread will permit them, as shown in Figure 6. Every "shuttle" or "lock-stitch" seam requires to have the ends of the seam either tied with the ends of the threads of which it is formed, or fastened with a hand-needle, to prevent it from ripping in the manner above illustrated.

Prior to the invention of the Grover & Baker stitch, the two stitches just described were the only stitches made by machinery, but neither

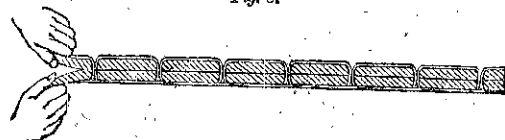
Fig. 7.



of them met all the requirements of family sewing. The "single thread" stitch was somewhat elastic, but lacked strength, and the "shuttle" or "lock-stitch," while it had more strength, had little or no elasticity. The Grover & Baker stitch has both these qualities in a very great degree, as a careful examination of Figure 7 must show.

The under thread is wound through and around the loop of the upper thread, tying each stitch twice, so that every one is securely fastened, and wholly independent of all the other stitches for strength, and if the seam be cut or broken at every quarter inch, the sewing must hold good while the fabric will wear. It gains its strength and elasticity from the under thread which divides the strain between the several threads, and permits the upper thread to compress the material between the stitches, while each loop gives or yields to the force which the other stitches feel, instead of concentrating the strain upon a single point of the thread, as is the case with both the "single thread" and the "shuttle" or "lock-stitch." When the Grover & Baker stitch is finished, with the loop drawn up, as exhibited in Figure 8,

Fig. 8.



the under thread lies flat and close to the fabric, and after being washed and ironed, has the appearance of being inwrought in the substance of the material, and when the proper thread and tension have been used, making no rougher surface than the under side of the "lock-stitch."

The Grover & Baker stitch is formed by carrying the upper thread through the fabric by means of a vertical eye-pointed needle, where a loop is thrown out as the needle rises, which loop is entered by a circular needle, carrying the under thread, and this under thread, in its turn, throws out a loop, which is caught by the vertical needle, as it comes down again. This series of interloopings continues until the seam is formed, which gives great strength and elasticity. The machinery which makes this stitch is a marvel of simplicity and ingenuity, requiring no mechanical skill to manage. Nor does it require other adjustment than a mere change of threads and needles, to adapt it to the character of the work to be sewed—coarse or fine, as the case may be. One of the lightest family machines will sew gauze laces, and all the varieties and kinds of fabrics, between and including beaver-cloth, without changing either needle, thread, or tensions; will sew each equally well, and return to either variety of work with perfect satisfaction. No other machine ever offered to the public will do as much.

A perfect Sewing Machine—one answering all the requirements of the family—sewing coarse or fine work equally well—was the great desideratum of the home circle, previous to the invention of this stitch, which, as we have already shown, is beautiful, elastic, strong; will not rip in wear, or in accidentally breaking a thread, and has a peculiar merit that commends it to the especial favor of ladies.

The peculiarity referred to is this: that whenever it is required to remove a seam, either because it has not been sewed in the right place, or because it is desirable to refit a garment to a change in style or fashion, it may be done without much loss of time, after receiving instruction in the proper and only method of doing it. The operator must carefully pick up three stitches on the upper or right side of the seam, and then take both upper and under threads, and pull them in opposite directions, when it will ravel (not rip), as far as desired. Whenever the threads are cut off, the seam becomes tight and fast from that point, and three more stitches will have to be taken up and untied as before. If the two pieces of cloth be pulled apart, the SEAM WILL NOT RIP. No straining or stretching will make it rip, under any circumstances, except in the manner named, viz., untieing three stitches of that part of the seam that last passed through the machine, and then the threads—not the fabric—must be pulled. It will be found to be tight and strong whenever the fabric is pulled. *This is the true test of wear.*

The Grover & Baker stitch is found to be more economical than the "shuttle" or "lock-stitch." It is here admitted that, in a given length of seam, the Grover & Baker stitch uses *one-third* more thread on the under spool, than the "lock-stitch," but there is no waste, and there is no time lost in winding thread from the spools into the bobbins. Figures 9 and 10 show two spools—the larger one for

Fig. 9.

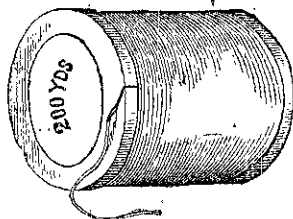
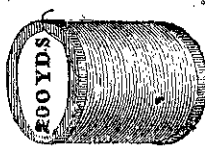


Fig. 10.

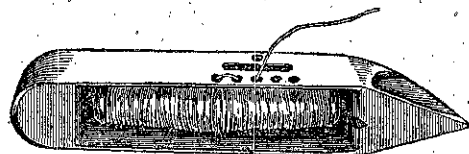


the upper and the smaller one for the under spindle—which may be put on the machine and used up without unthreading either needle. As each stitch is firmly tied by the machine, it is not necessary to leave any ends of thread at the ends of seams, to fasten them. Consequently, there is no waste. In sewing straight seams, one seam may be sewed immediately at the end of the other—the threads being the only connecting link between them. This may be done with an indefinite number of seams, and they can be cut apart afterwards, without interfering with their strength. It is found that 500 yards of thread—200 on the upper and 300 on the under spool—will stitch 107 yards of material, allowing a waste of about one yard by accidental breaking of thread. When a thread breaks, it requires about

two inches of the end to be drawn on the bed plate to commence sewing again. An actual trial with 200 yards of thread—80 yards on the upper, and 120 on the under spindle—gave a result of 57 yards of sewing, *with no waste.*

Figure 11 shows the reciprocating shuttle, containing a bobbin filled to its utmost capacity with thread. The machines which have this style of shuttle are preferred by tailors and others, on account of the mechanical construction of the bobbin, permitting a comparatively perfect regulation of the tension on the under thread. The

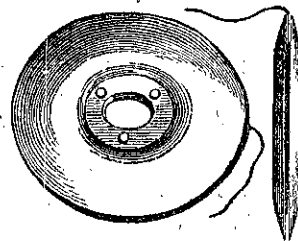
Fig. 11.



distance from the circumference to the diameter of the bobbin is so small, that the strain upon the thread is somewhat regular, and needs only to be passed through a greater or lesser number of holes, on the upper side of the shuttle, to make a tighter or a looser stitch.

Figure 12 exhibits two views of the bobbin which accompanies the rotating hook. One exhibits a side view, and the other a view of the edge—each being exact transcripts as to size and appearance. By actual measurement, it is ascertained that this bobbin will contain 29 yards of No. 70 cotton, and that it will require to be filled seven times to take 200 yards from a spool. The distance from the circumference to the centre of this bobbin equals half an inch, and when filled with thread, works with some degree of regularity; but, as the under thread becomes shorter, and it approaches the centre

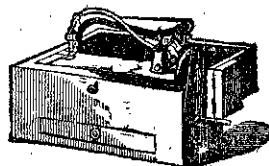
Fig. 12.



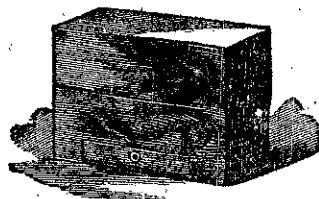
of the bobbin, there is less freedom of movement, and the bobbin rotates irregularly—the thread drawing tighter and tighter around the axis. The loop of the upper thread must necessarily be large, to permit this bobbin with the hook to pass through, and, in consequence, the first stitch is never finished until the third one is commenced, and whenever a seam is commenced with the "lock-stitch" machine, it is found necessary to have six inches of end from

the upper spool, and the same number from the bobbin—making twelve inches waste at the beginning; while at the end of each seam, there must be left four inches of each thread—equal to eight inches. Thus we have 12 inches at the beginning, and 8 at the end of every seam for finishing off—or 20 inches of waste. In family sewing, where most seams are less than a yard in length, it can readily be seen that the waste from ends, for fastening the seams, will be great. Manufacturers who use this style of machine estimate that 500 yards of thread will sew 166 yards of straight seam; but where there are seams of less than a yard in length, the waste almost equals the number of yards actually used in the seam. If we estimate the time lost in winding from the spool, and fastening the ends of seams, together with the waste of thread in the beginning and ending of seams, and the ends that remain in the bobbin—that are not long enough to give a proper tension—there will be found a waste of thread and time that will more than equal the value of the extra *one-fifth* of thread used by the Grover & Baker stitch. An actual day's sewing on a lock-stitch machine, with 200 yards of thread, where there were short seams, gave a result of 35 yards of seam and 34 yards of ends wasted.

No. 15.



OPEN.



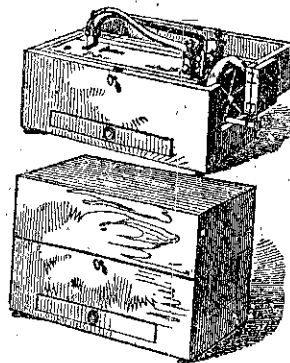
CLOSED.

A silver-plated machine—can be used by hand or foot, and is very convenient for traveling. When closed, presents the same appearance as a lady's work-box, and when open is a work-box indeed.

Price, \$60.

Persons using this machine, should state that it is No. 15, when ordering Needles. If they will do so, there can be no mistake in getting the right kind.

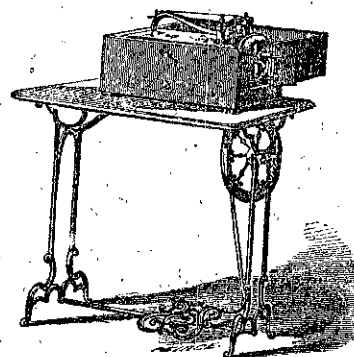
No. 20.



Larger than No. 15.

Price, \$70.

No. 21.

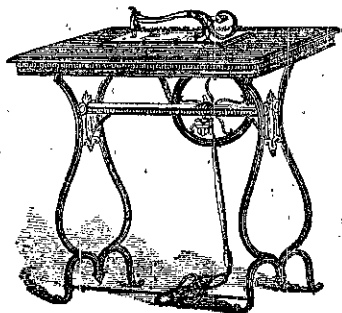


Same size as No. 20—is silver-plated and double-speeded.

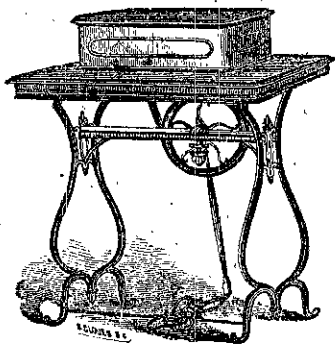
Price, \$80.

Persons using either No. 20 or 21, should state which No. when they order Needles.

No. 22.



OPEN.



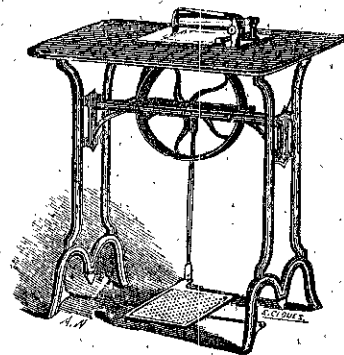
CLOSED.

This machine is silver-plated, and the table has a cover.
Runs very fast and still.

Price, \$60.

Persons using this machine, should state that it is No. 22, when they order Needles.

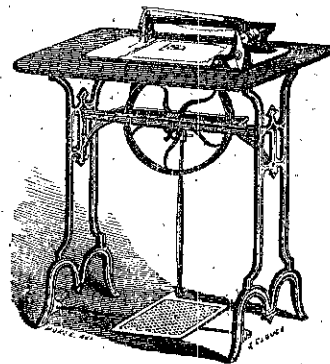
No. 23.



Plain finished machine—runs fast. Table has no cover.

Price, \$40.

No. 24.

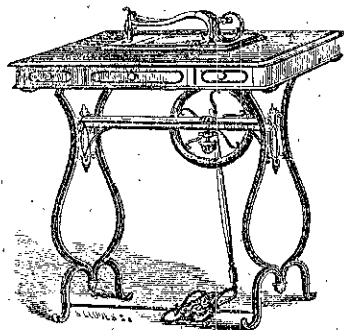


Larger than No. 23—same finish.

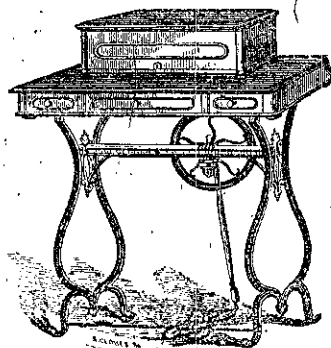
Price, \$50.

Persons using either No. 23 or 24, should state which No., when they order Needles.

No. 25.



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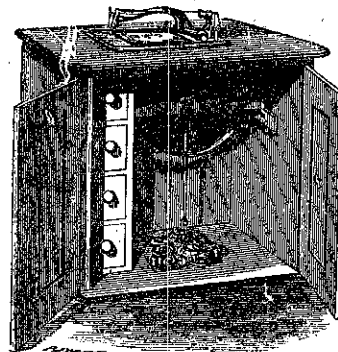
CLOSED.

Larger than No. 22—same finish.

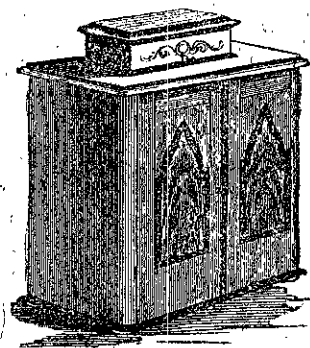
Price, \$70.

Persons using this machine, should state that it is No. 25, when they order Needles.

No. 26.



OPEN.



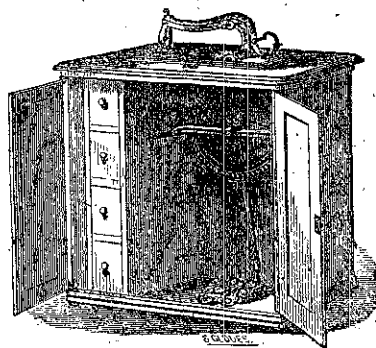
CLOSED.

A silver-plated and pearled machine, in mahogany or black walnut case, which can be completely closed and locked.

Price, \$80.

Persons using this machine, should state that it is No. 26, when they order Needles.

No. 27.



Larger than No. 26—extra silver-plated and pearled—of superior finish. Can be closed like No. 26.

Price, \$90.

No. 28.

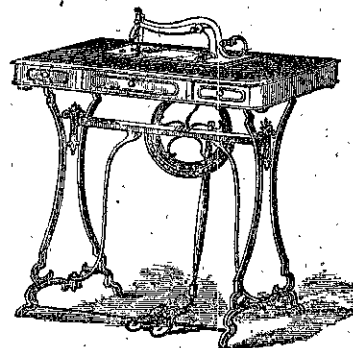


Large size machine, plain finished, for plantation and family use. Sewes the finest or coarsest work with equal facility. Table has no cover.

Price, with Curved Needle—\$60.
Price, with Straight Needle—\$65.

Persons using either No. 27 or 28, should state which number, and if No. 28, whether straight or curved, when they order Needles.

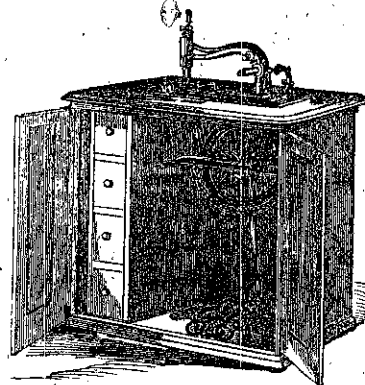
No. 29.



Same size as No. 28, silver-plated, and of better finish. Table has a cover.

Price, with Curved Needle—\$80.
Price, with Straight Needle—\$85.

No. 30.



An elegant machine, finished in the finest manner, extra silver-plated and pearled—is capable of the widest range of sewing, and can be closed and locked like No. 26.

Price, with Curved Needle—\$100.
Price, with Straight Needle—\$105.

Persons using either No. 29 or 30, should state which number, and whether straight or curved, when ordering Needles.

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Wm. H. Williams,	Miss Traver,
A. L. Winne,	Miss Louisa Johnson,
S. W. Gibbs,	Chas. A. Goodyear,
H. D. Hawkins,	Miss Elizabeth Wright,
E. Y. Hawley,	Mrs. Lewis,
Jared Horton,	Miss Mary Gailon,
R. H. Pease,	Walter Dickson,
Mrs. Geo. Worth,	L. S. Parsons,
V. P. Dow,	Mrs. Gough,
E. A. Harris,	Charles G. Worth,
Cantino Tremper,	Joseph L. Snow,
Le Grand Bancroft,	Peter Montecath,
Samuel Schuyler,	D. L. Wing,
E. Corning, Jr.,	Miss Elizabeth Clark,
Mrs. Miller,	Rev. George Wier,
W. I. Dickson,	Mrs. John N. Wilder,
John G. White,	Mrs. Kirkland,
Wm. J. Hadley,	Wm. B. Sprague, Jr.,
James Burton,	Mrs. C. May,
Thomas P. Crook,	Mrs. Sink,
John Van Gaasbeeck,	J. W. Scott,
Ben Beare,	Wm. Barnes,
Theodore Van Hensen,	Mrs. Joseph Cook,
Ogden N. Chapin,	Mrs. Philip Van Allen,
A. Crawford,	F. P. Burns,
J. G. Root,	E. Grant,
Peter Rowe,	Theodore Townsend,
Messrs. Robbins & Walker,	James Edwards,
Mrs. C. D. Parker,	Dr. George Douglas,
Miss Ellen O. Callaghan,	John Hastings,
D. T. Charles,	Daniel Harris, Jr.,
J. I. Werner,	Mrs. Matthew McCracken,
Lawson Amesley,	Mrs. Geo. Jones,
George Wail,	Thomas McCreary,
S. W. Clark,	John C. Van Schoonhoven
	John C. Bull,

NAMES OF PURCHASERS.

ALBANY AND VICINITY, CONTINUED.

Mrs. Belyea, Edwin Wilbur, I. C. Hogeboom, H. S. Thorp, Gen. John F. Townsend, Matthew Wing,	Wm. B. Conant, Grand Lord, Geo. W. Luther, C. A. Crouse, John D. Serviss, Augustus Hans,	Wm. Gray, Wm. Rector, T. B. Allanson, Joseph Lord, George C. Treadwell & Co. Joseph Carey.
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WEST TROY.

Arch. A. Dunlap, James P. Jermain,	Miss Susan Dunlap, James Roy,	Col. Hamilton, James A. Dumont.
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TROY.

Rev. Mr. Judkins, T. E. Lockley,	P. M. Corbin, H. F. Hansen, Troy Hosiery Co.	A. S. Ash, F. W. Faulham.
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COHOSUS.

Smith, Gregory & Co., J. G. Root & Co., Chas. P. Barber & Co.,	Chas. H. Adams & Co., Alden, Frink & Bingham, Bailey Manufacturing Co. M. Brockaway.	Mohawk River Mills, L. W. Mansfield,
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ROCHESTER AND VICINITY.

F. Van Doorn, Jno. C. Moore, Mrs. W. Barron Williams, Joel Hinds, Gen. Jacob Goubl, Benj. Butler, Jno. Chapman, O. D. Grosvenor, H. C. Fenn, Dr. W. W. Ely, P. A. Garland, Miss Julia Kappelye, Rev. B. Watson, " A. G. Hall, " J. Ashworth, J. O. Locke, Mrs. E. Vanderhoof, " Jno. N. Wilder, Miss Mason, S. A. Millman, Wm. M. Ellis, Miss P. A. Wright, J. G. Ramsdell, Mrs. H. I. McQuiver, C. H. Boorman,	A. E. Carr, C. W. Hebard, L. D. Mitchell, B. Nowin, A. M. Wiborn, M. A. Smith, J. O. Howland, H. Hill, Daniel Washburn, E. Peshino Smith, Judge Farrar, Jas. A. Acker, Abd. Mudget, Rev. George Cheney, H. J. Egglestone, Miss H. N. Alden, A. G. Bristol, J. W. McKinley, Mrs. M. C. Smith, Mrs. M. Brown, Wilton Rider, M. Godfrey, O. Sackett, E. C. Bills,	C. McAlpine, Dr. N. Allen, Jno. Greenwood, Geo. P. Wolcott, Rev. Jas. H. Hill, E. H. Barnard, P. W. Garfield, A. S. Mudge, Dr. D. W. Shipman, Mrs. Cauley, C. A. Burr, J. B. Ward, Mrs. J. Taylor, Miss H. Dumond, Jas. C. Van Est, Geo. W. Tate, J. D. Husbands, Rev. A. M. Stowe, Dr. Kelsey, Chas. Powis, S. V. Alling, Joseph Harris, Mrs. Robert Hunter, Miss M. Robinson.
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ROME.

S. Wardwell, James Elwell, A. Ethridge,	H. S. Shelley, Col. R. G. Savary, C. Comstock,	H. C. Case, W. Atkinson, Miss Deuch.
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INDIVIDUAL TESTIMONIALS.

"Having had one of Grover & Baker's Machines in my family for nearly a year and a half, I take pleasure in commending it as every way reliable for the purpose for which it is designed.—*Family Sewing.*"—*Mrs. Joshua Leavitt, wife of Rev. Dr. Leavitt, Editor of N. Y. Independent.*

"I confess myself delighted with your Sewing Machine, which has been in my family for many months. It has always been ready for duty, requiring no adjustment, and is easily adapted to every variety of family sewing, by simply changing the spools of thread."—*Mrs. Elizabeth Strickland, wife of Rev. Dr. Strickland, Editor of N. Y. Christian Advocate.*

"I have used a GROVER & BAKER Sewing Machine for two years, and have found it adapted to all kinds of family sewing, from Cambric to Broadcloth. Garments have been worn out without the giving way of a stitch. The Machine is easily kept in order, and easily used."—*Mrs. A. B. Whipple, wife of Rev. George Whipple New York.*

"Your Sewing Machine has been in use in my family the past two years, and the ladies request me to give you their testimonials to its perfect adaptedness, as well as their labor-saving qualities in the performance of family and household sewing."—*Robert Boorman, New York.*

"For several months we have used Grover & Baker's Sewing Machine, and have come to the conclusion that every lady who desires her sewing *beautifully and quickly* done, would be most fortunate in possessing one of these reliable and indefatigable 'iron needle-women,' whose combined qualities of *beauty, strength, and simplicity*, are invaluable."—*J. W. Morris, daughter of Gen. George P. Morris, Editor of the Home Journal.*

"After trying several different good machines, I preferred yours, on account of its simplicity, and the perfect ease with which it is managed, as well as the strength and durability of the seam. After long experience, I feel competent to speak in this manner, and to confidently recommend it for every variety of family sewing."—*Mrs. E. B. Spooner, wife of the Editor of Brooklyn Star.*

"My Grover & Baker machine works admirably, and I am satisfied that no family that has ever tried it, would do without one. The machine works so beautifully that I discover that I have been doing all the sewing for a couple of families, when I had leisure in the evenings, and at the same time amusing myself by watching its operation."—*E. R. Brady, Editor of Jeffersonian, Brookville, Pa.*

"On the recommendation of a friend, I procured, some months since, one of your family sewing machines. My family has been most successful in its use, from the start, without any trouble or difficulty whatever in its management. My wife says it is a 'family blessing' and could not be induced to dispense with its use—in all of which I most heartily concur.—*James Pollock, Ex-Governor of Pennsylvania.*

INDIVIDUAL TESTIMONIALS.

"Three years ago I purchased one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines, and have had it in constant use since that time, and it has given perfect satisfaction. The stitch is strong and ornamental, and it performs the work in an admirable manner."—*John L. Randall, Albany, N. Y.*

"We have had in our family one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines for many months. It has operated in every respect to the entire satisfaction of my wife. She is more or less familiar with the different kinds in use, and her preference for Grover & Baker's machine is decided and expressive, without hesitation."—*Theo. V. Van Heusen, Albany, N. Y.*

"After a careful examination of the various Sewing Machines on sale in this city, I prefer decidedly that of Grover & Baker, as the best. That in use in my family has given entire satisfaction."—*Rev. J. N. Campbell, Albany, N. Y.*

"Having purchased one of Grover & Baker's Family Sewing Machines about four years ago, I most cheerfully state that without it my wife would hardly know what to do. I have no difficulty in keeping it in order, and would not change it for any other—being perfectly satisfied with it."—*Isaac L. Welsh, Albany, N. Y.*

"Some two years since, I purchased one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines; my wife has used it for all the ordinary sewing of the family, and it has never been out of order. Its facility for doing the various kinds of work, and the strength and beauty of stitch, make it just the machine required."—*S. G. Bancroft, Albany, N. Y.*

"I have had in use for the past three years, one of the Grover & Baker Sewing Machines, and consider it admirably adapted to all kinds of family sewing."—*James L. Mitchell, Albany, N. Y.*

"I have had in constant use in my family the sewing machine of Grover & Baker, and find it a most useful and labor-saving machine, the work being well done; and I have no hesitation in recommending it to others, being perfectly satisfied with its merits in all respects."—*H. H. Martin, Albany, N. Y.*

"The Grover & Baker Sewing Machine which I purchased a year and a-half ago, has been used in my family ever since, with the most satisfactory results. Before purchasing, I had examined machines of different manufacturers, and had satisfied myself that the Grover & Baker was the best, and have had no reason to change that opinion."—*Wm. L. Learned, Albany, N. Y.*

"About eighteen months ago, I purchased a Grover & Baker Sewing Machine for family use. It has been in constant operation during that time, without costing a single cent for repairs. I have no hesitation in saying I consider it one of the best manufactured—being almost noiseless, easily managed, and no trouble, with no winding of thread. We think it a perfect gem."—*E. James, Albany, New York.*

INDIVIDUAL TESTIMONIALS.

"The Grover & Baker Sewing Machine purchased of you has been in successful operation in my family for several months, doing its work well and rapidly, and giving entire satisfaction."—*Thomas P. Crook, Albany, N. Y.*

"I purchased some years since one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines. Since then it has been used constantly, and gives satisfaction in every respect as to the permanence of the work done by it, and of operation, and other qualifications which go to make a good sewing machine."—*John H. Van Antwerp, Albany, N. Y.*

"For the past five years, I have been employed in the hosiery establishment of Cohoes, where Grover & Baker's machines are used. There are in use now two hundred, running by water power, and are the only reliable machines for this class of work. They will do a greater variety of work, and recommend themselves to the great wants of families, more than any other machine in market, because they are simple, easily managed, and produce not only beautiful, but durable and elastic work."—*John H. Teeling, Cohoes, N. Y.*

"The machine which I bought for my family, has been used for nearly three years, and so familiar and useful a companion has it become, that \$1000 would not tempt me to part with it, providing we could not get another. It is always in order, and the work that it turns out, is not only beautiful, but has never been known to fail."—*Wm. Rector, Albany, N. Y.*

"I purchased a Grover & Baker Sewing Machine over three years ago, and it has been in almost constant use, doing every kind of work, without requiring any repairing, and is now in perfect order. I have examined many other machines, and there is none that I would prefer to the Grover & Baker for family use."—*John S. Putnam, Albany, N. Y.*

"The Grover & Baker Sewing Machine purchased for the use of our house, over two years ago, has been kept in constant use on the most trying and difficult work, viz., in hemming and making sheets, towels, and napkins, &c., on all kinds that is required in a large hotel. The strength and beauty of the stitch, the simplicity, durability, and ease of working, recommend the Grover & Baker machine to all households, as a family friend."—*Mrs. Maria Roessig, Delavan House, Albany, N. Y.*

"Some eighteen months since, I purchased one of the Grover & Baker Sewing Machines, and we have had it in constant use in our family during the whole of that period. I made the selection from the many different kinds in market, and regard it the best in the simplicity of construction, ease of operation, and variety, quality, and beauty of work which it performs."—*Adam Van Allen, Albany, New York.*

INDIVIDUAL TESTIMONIALS.

"I have used the Grover & Baker Sewing Machine which I purchased six months since. It does all kinds of family sewing, and I cheerfully certify it meets my expectations, and recommend it for its simplicity, durability, and easy adaptation to all kinds of cloth sewing."—*Miss Mary E. Clyne, cor. E. Water and Brown streets, New Haven.*

"I am delighted with the Grover & Baker Sewing Machine which I purchased of you about one year since. Having used the Boudoir and Wheeler and Wilson in our family, and having examined others, I would state yours gives us every satisfaction, and I would recommend it to others in preference."—*Mrs. Daniel Bacon, 51 College street, New Haven.*

"I have used one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines in my family for the last year, and find it to answer the purpose fully as represented, and prefer it to any other machine I have ever seen."—*Mrs. R. Chapman, 38 High street, New Haven.*

"The Grover & Baker Sewing Machine I purchased four months since, meets our expectations. It has been put to general use, and works to a charm, and we consider it one of the indispensable things of the family."—*Rev. E. H. Frisbie, 30 Cherry street, New Haven.*

"My wife has not yet found anything in the way of family sewing which she has not been able to accomplish with her Grover & Baker Machine, and in the most perfect manner. After testing it, I am satisfied that the requisite qualities of simplicity, durability, ease of management, and noiseless operation, commend it to public favor."—*E. Ivcs, 25 George street, New Haven.*

"Having used one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines for the last six months, and during that time sewed on all kinds of materials, heavy and fine, I can state the machine has always worked to my entire satisfaction."—*John H. Colby, 277 Chapel street, New Haven.*

"I purchased four years since one of Grover & Baker's Sewing Machines, which has been in constant use in my establishment, doing every variety of sewing, and in the most perfect manner. It is with pleasure that I certify its merits over all other machines, considering its simplicity, elasticity of seam, economy of thread, its almost noiseless movements; and lastly, the great variety of work which it will accomplish, and with what ease it is understood and kept in order, prompts me to give it my undivided approbation."—*Mrs. N. H. Boulton, dressmaker, 95 Chapel street, New Haven.*

"My Grover & Baker Sewing Machine has far surpassed my expectations. I do not believe your machine, for the general sewing of a family, is equalled."—*Rev. E. M. Jerome, 66 Grove street, New Haven.*

HAVANA, February 1st, 1869.

TO THE GROVER & BAKER S. M. CO.—*Gents.*—Perhaps you may like to know how the Grover & Baker machines are doing in Cuba. We have twenty-five of your machines in the making government clothing for the army, and plantation sewing, which we have had in use now about eighteen months, and their performance has far exceeded our most sanguine expectations. We run the machines constantly by steam, at a high rate of speed, and we find them to require but little repair—indeed, they seem not to be worn at all. We have tried both the Singer and Wheeler & Wilson machines, but they have been long since laid aside in the race. One thing we are sure of, that the Grover & Baker machine is the only machine for our work.

JOHN J. SLOCUM,

Supt of the Industria Cubana, Havana.

COLUMBUS, Ohio, September 10, 1868.

MESSES. GROVER & BAKER:

Gents.—I enclose find fifty cents, for which please send me needles. I have just completed a mammoth balloon on one of your machines, sewing up every thing about the balloon, even to putting on the caps, bands, etc. I am satisfied it makes the strongest stitch of any machine extant. This is the second balloon I have made with your machine, and I find there is "no rip" to the seam.

Yours, truly,

JNO. M. KINNEY.

Extract of a letter from THOS. R. LEAVITT, Esq., an American gentleman, now resident in Sydney, New South Wales, dated January 12, 1868:

"I had a tent made in Melbourne in 1863, in which there were over three thousand yards of sewing done with one of Grover & Baker's Machines, and a single seam of that has outstood all the double seams sewed by sailors with a needle and twine."

"If Homer could be called up from his murky haes, he would sing the advent of Grover & Baker as a more benignant miracle of art than was ever Vulcan's smithy. He would denounce midnight shirt-making as 'the direful spring of woes unnumbered.'"
—*Professor North.*

A GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.—Perhaps the most ingenious and useful piece of mechanism of modern times is Grover & Baker's sewing machine, which has obtained such great and deserved celebrity. It is far more dexterous and accurate than human fingers in its operation, and the variety of sewing it performs is wonderful. At a trifling cost, any family may procure this invaluable servant, whose arm "never tires, nor stops to rest," when there are garments and the like, to be made or mended.—*Hudson (N. Y.) Republican.*