The Cloth Guide

The cloth guide is a help in straight stitching. The guide is fastened to the machine by means of the thumb screw as shown in Fig. 28. It can be adjusted to various distances from the needle as desired.

The first practice with the machine after understanding the threading, tensions, etc., is straight stitching. At first, use strips of paper without thread and then sew on muslin, stitching several rows close together. Always use a double piece of material when practicing stitching.

Regulating the Length of Stitch

The length of stitch should be regulated to suit the thread and material that is to be used. In other words, after giving all other conditions careful attention, do not spoil your sewing by using a stitch that is too long and coarse.

When stitching fine material, use a fine needle, fine thread and a short stitch. Heavy material requires a coarse needle and thread and a longer stitch.

Between 12 and 15 stitches to the inch makes a desirable stitch for ordinary sewing. To count the stitches, with machines on which the stitch length is not shown, sew on a double thickness of muslin, measure off one inch with a ruler and count the stitches.