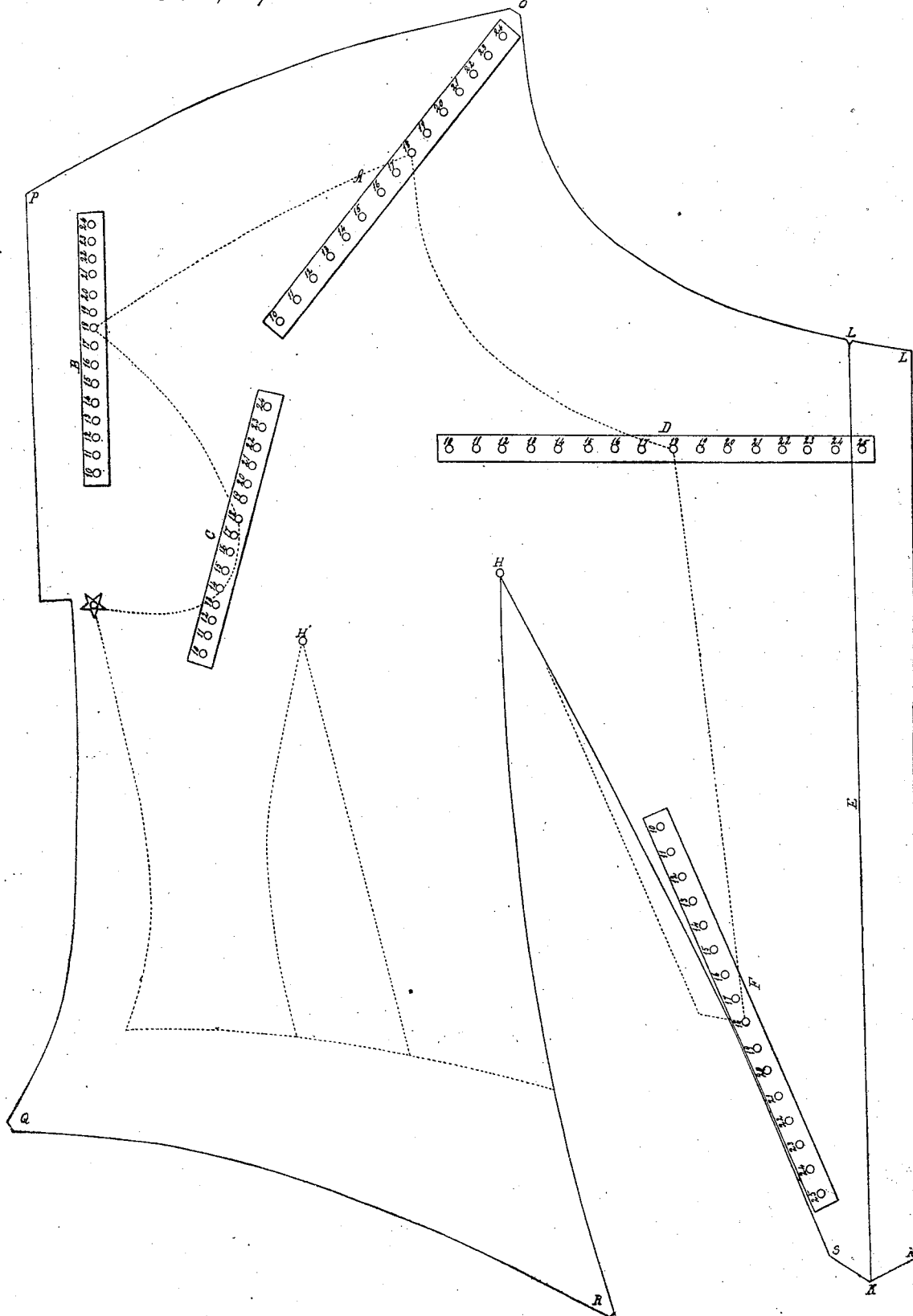


H. Seger

Tailoring

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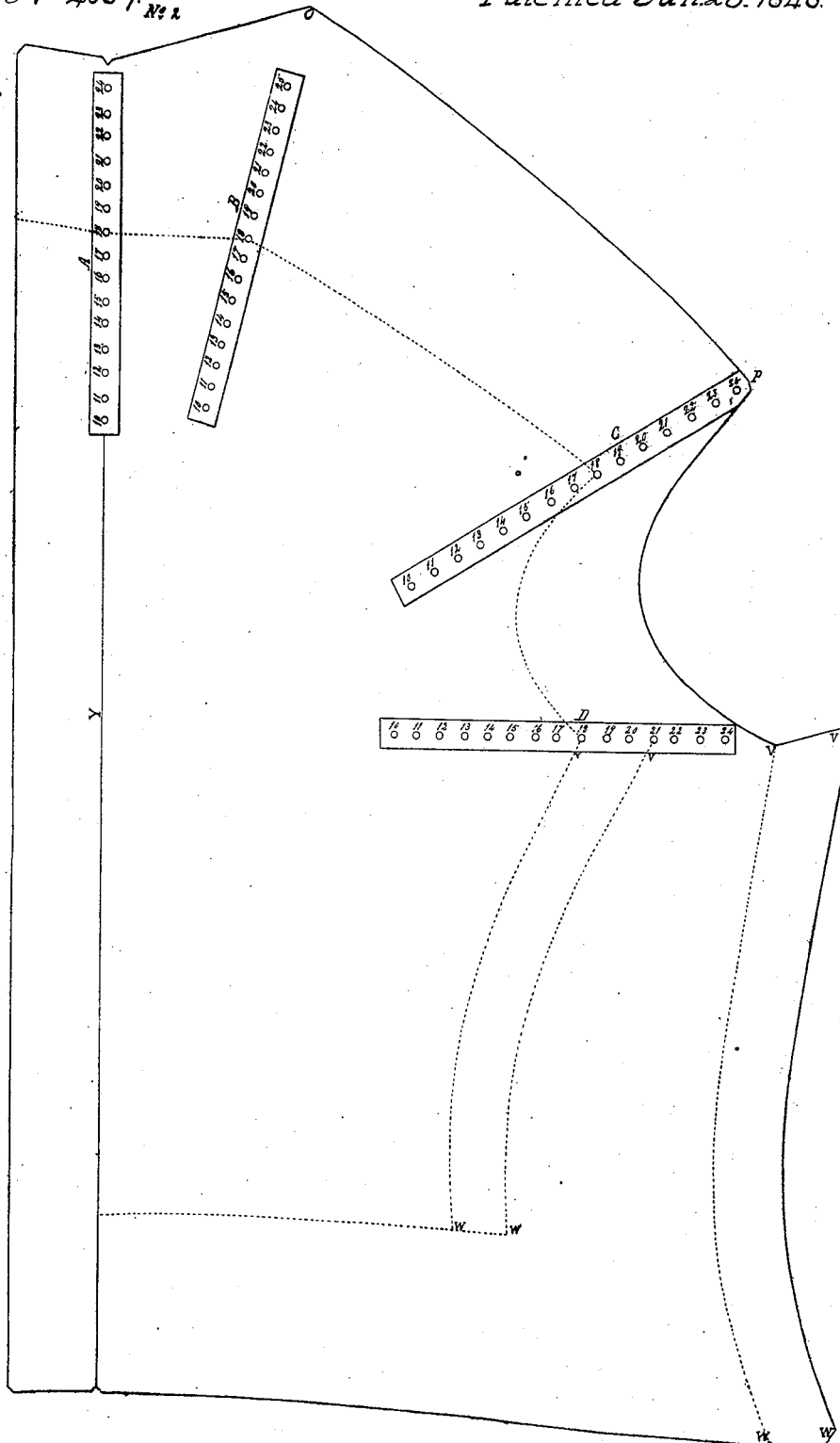
Patented Jan. 18. 1846



H. Seger  
Tailoring

Patented Jan. 28. 1846.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIRAM SEGER, OF MACON, GEORGIA.

## CUTTING LADIES' DRESSES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 4,367, dated January 28, 1846.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HIRAM SEGER, of Macon, in the county of Bibb and State of Georgia, have invented a new and improved method of cutting out the bodies of ladies' dresses by the aid of diagrams or adjustable patterns of my own designing; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying diagrams and drawings, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in forming a couple of patterns; No. 1, being the shape for one half the front of the bodice of a lady's dress, from the center of the front to the seam descending from the lower part of the arm hole; and No. 2 being a pattern for one half the back of a bodice, from the seam under the arm to the center of the back. These patterns are laid off with scales, with holes in them through the same—the scales being placed in such positions, and the openings in the same, for dotting through on to the cloth, being placed at such distances, that the patterns can be reduced to suit persons of every size, and yet preserve the shape and proportion of the patterns, and adapt them to every shape and size of form of person.

*Description of pattern No. 1.*—The star is placed at the bottom of that portion of the arm hole shown on this diagram: P, is placed at the top of the same, there is a slight swell or outward curve from P, to O. O, is placed at the shoulder point. The union of the space between P and O, with the space between corresponding letters on Figure 2, forms the seam on the top of the shoulder extending from the neck to the shoulder point. L, is placed at the top of the seam descending from the center of the front of the bodice, to the point K at its lower extremity. E, is placed on the line extending from L, to K, represents the front seam, the space to the right of the line is turned under. The space between O, and L, is hollowed out to suit the taste of different persons, making the dress high or low in the neck and bosom. From K, to S, is a diagonal line extending one half the width of the front point of the dress. S, H, R, is a gore cut out of the pattern to adapt it to the size of the waist. Q, is placed at the bottom of the side seam under the arm: from Q, to R, the pattern is slightly curved in-

ward. Scale B, on pattern No. 1, is placed in a vertical line immediately over the star, with its lower end about two and a half inches above the same; this scale is four and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length, and is divided into fifteen equal parts: at each division a puncture is made through the pattern for marking through on to the cloth on which it is placed. The divisions in this scale are numbered from the bottom, upward: commencing with the number ten at the bottom puncture, and continuing in regular succession upward—twenty-four being the last number. Scale C, commences two and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches to the right of the star, and one inch below the same, extending upward from this point at an angle to the right, of about seventy five degrees with the scale B: this scale is five inches in length, and divided into the same number of equal divisions, punctured and numbered from the bottom toward the top, in the same manner as scale B. Scale A, commences, a half an inch from shoulder point O, and extends downward nearly in an exact line toward the star: this scale is seven and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and divided into the same number of equal parts, punctured and numbered from the bottom to the top in the same manner as scales B and C. Scale D, commences two inches below the top of line E, and about a half inch to the right of the same, and extends to the left in a direction at right angles with scale B; this scale is  $8\frac{1}{4}$  inches long and is divided into sixteen equal parts, and is punctured and numbered from the left to the right,—commencing at the number ten—in the same manner as the scales previously described. The scale F, extends along the side S, H, of the gore, parallel with the same, and terminates an inch above the point at letter S. This scale is eight inches in length, and is divided into sixteen equal parts; is punctured and numbered from the top downward, commencing at the same number as the other scales.

*Description of pattern or diagram No. 2.*—The red line y, is the guide for the back seam, that portion of the pattern to the left, is taken in. The scale A is placed lengthwise centrally on this line, its upper end about half an inch below the top of the same; this scale is five and a half inches in length, and is divided into fifteen equal parts, is punctured and numbered from the bottom to the top, commencing at the number ten, in the same manner as scale B, on

pattern No. 1, above described. From the notch at the top of line *y*, to the shoulder point O, forms the top of the back of the bodice, and is a straight line—from the shoulder point O, to the point P, is the exact length and shape of that part of the edge of pattern No. 1, between the same letters, and is united with it forming the seam on the top of the shoulder. P is placed at the top of one half the arm hole, and letter V, at the bottom of the same, the space is hollowed out forming one half the arm hole. The line from V, to W, is of the same shape of the line from Q to the star on pattern No. 1, to which it is united to form the side seam extending from the bottom of the arm hole to the lower part of the bodice. The line from W, at the bottom of the side seam, to the notch at the lower end of the line Y, is a portion of the bottom part of the bodice.

The scale B, commences an inch and quarter below the point O, and descends downward bearing toward the left at an angle of seventy five degrees from said point, with the scale A; scale B, is  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and is divided into sixteen equal parts, is punctured and numbered from the bottom to the top in the same manner of the scales before described. Scale C, commences at point P at the upper part of the arm hole, and extends down toward the center of the pattern at an angle of about forty five degrees, with the back seam line *y*; this scale is divided into fifteen equal parts and is punctured and numbered from its inner end to the outer, in the same manner as the other scales before described. Scale D, commences about an inch in a horizontal direction to the left of the letter V, at the bottom of the arm hole, and extends to the left in a horizontal direction; this scale is five and three fourth inches in length, and is divided into fifteen equal parts; is punctured and numbered from its inner end toward the outer, in the same manner as the other scales before described.

*Directions for taking the measure of a lady, preliminary to cutting a dress upon my improved plan.*—1st. Place the end of a tape measure at the back of the neck on the socket or neck joint, and carry it down vertically to the bottom of the waist, for the length of the same. 2nd. Place the end of the measure close under the arm, and bring it down plumb on to the hip joint. 3rd. Place the end of the measure at the back of the neck, on neck joint or socket, bring it over the shoulder and down in front as low as you desire the front central point of the body of the dress to come. 4th. Measure around the waist and mark down one half the size. 5th. Measure around the waist and set down one half the size:—this last is the governing, measure which is always

used as such on the patterns or diagrams. The reason why but one half of the two last measures are set down, is this—the cloth should always be double, when marked and cut out.

*Directions for using patterns or diagrams.*—Place sheet No. 1, upon the cloth to the best advantage for economical cutting; then take the 5th or governing measure—say for instance the person is 36 inches around the breast—18 inches will be the governing measure: proceed then to make dots or marks upon the cloth, through each puncture or opening having that number opposite it, in every scale on the sheet—likewise make a dot through the opening in the star in all cases. When this is done, raise the sheet, and draw the outlines from dot to dot, by the outer edges of the diagram opposite the scales through which the dots were made. I apply the third measure as follows: In the first place, deduct from the amount the width of the back, as shown by the distance between the numbers, 18, on scales A and B, on diagram No. 2, then apply one end of the measure to the dot made through scale A, (Sheet No. 1,) and carry down the same on the line drawn from the dot made through scale D, to the dot made through scale F; making a mark where the 3rd measure, as corrected, terminates, which will be the length of the front of the body of the dress: then place the point at the bottom of line E, on the last mark made, and form the front point of the body of the dress by the sheet. I form the gore as follows: Place your tape measure about one inch vertically below the dot made through the star, and bring it horizontally across to the front line; then double your measure and make a mark half way between the points connected by the measure. At this mark place the top H, of the gore, and form the sides by sheet. The right hand side of the gore should just touch the left hand corner (S) of the front point of the body. The 4th or waist measure is applied as follows: Take one half the waist measure as marked on your memorandum, or one fourth the entire measure around the waist, and place it at the front point of the body, carry it to the left, deducting the gore, until you form a junction with the 2nd, measure taken, descending from the dot made through the star, at this point of junction make a mark: to this mark apply the lower corner Q, of the diagram, the back side of the same, touching the dot made through the star, then draw a line by the back of the sheet from one mark to the other—likewise form the bottom of the body by the bottom of the diagram. The arm hole is formed by drawing a curved line from the dot made through the star, passing through the dot made through C, up to the dot made through scale

B. Where a person is large around the breast and very small in the waist, it will be necessary to cut out two gores, the second gore, being represented by dotted lines on this diagram (No. 1).

The fore part of the dress body is now ready for cutting out, if the above directions have been complied with. The fore part of the bottom of waist of the body should be drafted from one and half to two inches larger than one fourth the waist measure. It is deemed unnecessary to give a draft of the sleeve, as every one must be aware that the fashion changes once or twice a year. I would therefore recommend to every one learning this system to apply to some mantuamaker for the latest fashion. The patterns or diagrams should be constructed of strong pasteboard.

*Directions for drafting the back of a lady's dress.*—First draw a straight line on the cloth, then place pattern No. 2, upon the same in such a position that the seam line *y* will be exactly over the line on the cloth; while the diagram is in this position, dot on the cloth through all the scales on the sheet, through the apertures opposite the same numbers, dotted through in pattern No. 1, for the forepart of the dress, viz. the governing measure; then raise the pattern and place the top of seam line *y*, on the dot made through scale A, and draw a line by the top of the sheet to the dot made through scale B; next place the shoulder point O, of the pattern at the dot made through scale B, and draw a line by the edge of the pattern between O and P, to the dot made through scale C. Place the curved edge of the pattern between scales C and D, so as to touch the dots made through these two scales, and draw the curved line between the two by the edge of the pattern. Apply the first measure taken by measuring the distance from the dot made through scale A, on the seam line *y*, and make a mark for the depth of the waist. The side seam under

the arm I obtain as follows: Take the front part of the dress body, already cut out, and place the lower part of the arm hole on the same, at the lower part of the arm hole on the back part of the dress body I am marking out; then place the measuring tape on the mark made on seam line *y* for the bottom of the waist, and apply the fourth or waist measure to the two parts of the dress as follows: I vary the position of the lower part of the front part of the body in or out—(keeping the shoulder points together) until the half of the 4th measure will extend exactly from the mark on the seam line *y*, to the point Q, on the front part of the body. I then make a mark on the cloth at the place where the lower back corner Q, of the forepart rests; to this mark I apply the corner W, of the pattern No. 2, and draw a curved line by the edge of the sheet upward to the dot made through scale D at the bottom of the arm hole. I next draw a line by the bottom of the pattern No. 2 from the mark made at corner W, to mark on the seam line *y*, and the back part of the body is then ready for cutting out.

Having thus fully described my system of forming and cutting the bodies of ladies' dresses, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The form of the patterns Nos. 1 and 2, and the arrangement of the graduating open scales upon the same, for adapting the patterns to persons of different sizes, constructed and operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. I also claim the manner of applying the several measures taken in obtaining the size of a lady's form, by means of the patterns and scales, so as to shape the different parts of the body of a dress substantially as herein set forth.

HIRAM SEGER.

Witnesses:

Z. C. ROBBINS,  
S. C. DORM.