

(No Model.)

S. BORTON.

MANUFACTURE OF SEWED GARMENTS.

No. 456,468.

Patented July 21, 1891.

FIG. I.

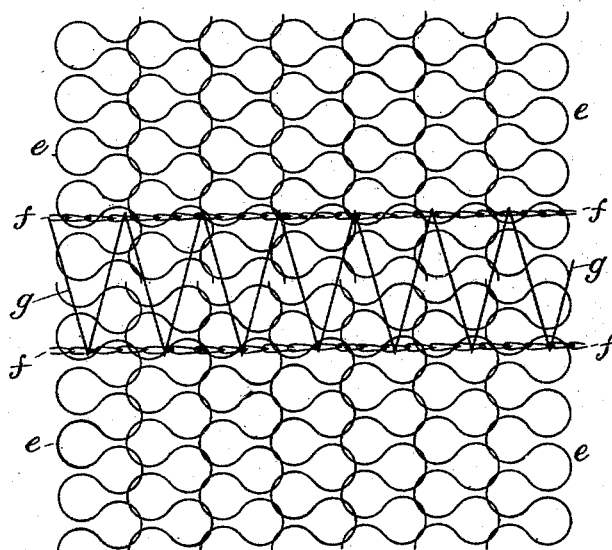
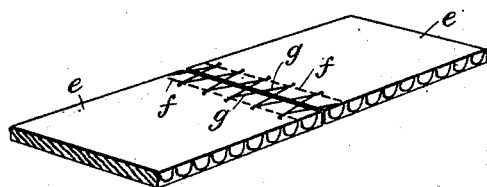


FIG. II.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MANUFACTURE OF SEWED GARMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,468, dated July 21, 1891.

Application filed May 24, 1890. Serial No. 353,042. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STOCKTON BORTON, of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Manufacture of Garments and other Articles, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification.

This invention has particular reference to the manufacture of garments and other articles from looped or knitted fabric; but it may also be applied to the manufacture of similar articles from woven or other fabric.

The object of the invention is the formation of a strong and durable seam, uniting the cut edges of the fabric in such manner as to produce no objectionable ridge or welt, the characteristics of the seam being such that it may be applied to all parts of articles—such as undershirts and the like—which, for the comfort of the wearer, must be made with flat seams.

The difficulty of uniting the raw cut edges of knitted fabric by seams that are both flat and at the same time strong and secure against raveling is well known to manufacturers and need not here be set forth in detail. Reference may, however, be made to the application of Christina P. Borton, filed April 22, 1890, Serial No. 348,977, for manufacture of articles from looped or knitted fabric, in which the procedure commonly followed to secure these ends is pointed out.

According to the present invention, the desired result is effected by first forming close to and within the cut edge a line of stitches on any suitable sewing-machine, preferably one provided with a trimming attachment. Both the edges to be joined are treated in this way, the stitches acting to secure the loops of the knit fabric and prevent raveling, and also serving as a stay or anchorage (which is their main function) for the stitches by which the two pieces of fabric are subsequently united. The pieces so prepared are then placed edge to edge, forming a butt-joint, and are in this position guided through a machine, making a zigzag or other suitable stitch in such manner that the stitches extend over and beyond the lines of the stay or anchorage stitches.

The accompanying drawings, which form

part of this specification, may be referred to for a clearer understanding of the invention.

Figure I is a top plan view, on an enlarged scale, showing the manner of uniting the pieces of cut knit fabric; and Fig. II is a view in perspective showing two pieces of ordinary or woven fabric united in accordance with the invention.

In both figures, *e* represents the pieces of fabric to be sewed together, and *f* the lines of stitches by which the holding-stitches are stayed or anchored. These stitches *f* are formed a short distance within the edge by means of any suitable sewing-machine; but preference is given to a machine forming a chain-stitch. The pieces are then placed edge to edge without overlapping and are fed through a machine making a zigzag or other suitable stitch, as represented by the line *g*. The threads forming the stitches *g* cross back and forth on both sides of the fabric over the line of separation, the distance apart transversely of these stitches being so gaged that the extremities of each extend beyond the anchoring-stitches *f* on the two pieces *e*, respectively, as clearly shown in the drawings. Consequently any force tending to pull out the stitches *g* by which the pieces of fabric are held together is resisted by the lines of stitches *f*.

In uniting the two pieces of fabric provided with their anchoring-stitches I preferably use a single or double thread zigzag-machine, but do not limit myself to such use, inasmuch as it is feasible to employ other machines—as, for example, a two-needle machine adapted to interlace the threads across the line of separation on both sides of the fabric.

Having now fully described my said invention, I wish it to be understood that I do not claim, broadly, the manufacture of garments and other articles by forming along or near the edge of garments to be united a line of sewing-machine stitches and uniting such edges by another line of stitches interlocking with the stitches first produced, such being the subject-matter of the application above referred to. My improvement consists in that specific form of seam of the same general character, in which staying or anchoring stitches are placed a short distance within the

edge in contradistinction to an artificial selvage formed on the edge, the two edges being connected by a line of zigzag or other suitable stitches.

5 It will further be understood that while I specially claim an article of cut knitted fabric, to which the invention is particularly applicable, it may be usefully applied to articles made of other fabric, and such would be
10 included within the invention.

I therefore claim as my invention—

1. In the manufacture of articles such as garments, the improvement consisting in forming within and near the flat cut edge of
15 each of the pieces of fabric to be united a continuous line of stitches, placing the pieces edge to edge, and uniting them by an independent line of zigzag or other suitable stitches crossing back and forth over the meet-
20 ing edges and passing through the fabrics at

points beyond the stitches first produced, thereby forming a flat seam without fold, ridge, or welt, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with two pieces of cut knit goods having their edges abutted, of a 25 continuous line of anchorage-stitches a short distance within each cut edge, and an independent line of stitches crossing back and forth over the meeting edges and passing through the fabric at points beyond the line 30 of anchorage-stitches, thereby uniting the meeting edges of the fabric in a flat seam, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscrib- 35 ing witnesses.

STOCKTON BORTON.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. HAVENS,
JOSEPH B. CURTIS.