

(No Model.)

S. BORTON.

MANUFACTURE OF ARTICLES FROM CUT KNIT FABRIC.

No. 456,470.

Patented July 21, 1891.

FIG. I.

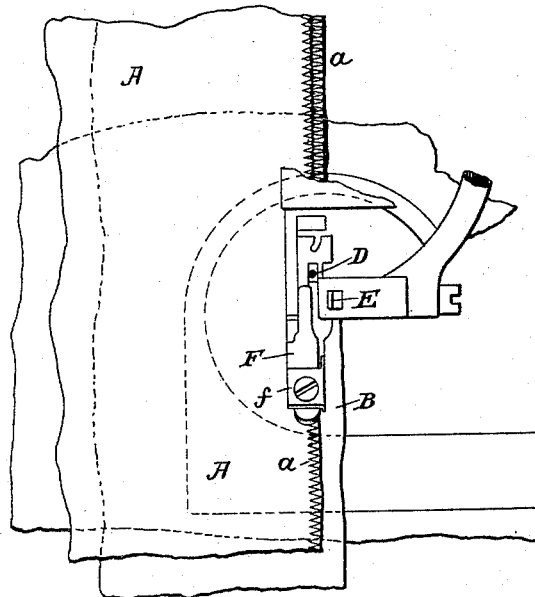


FIG. III.

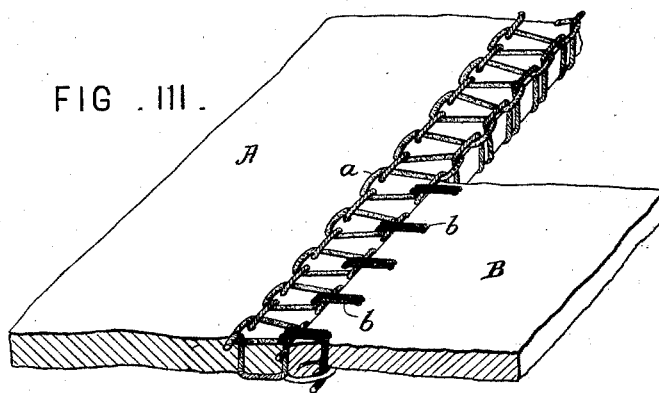
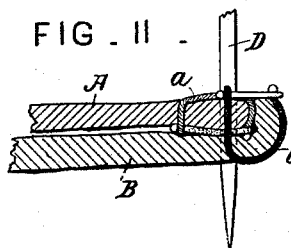


FIG. II.



Attest:
Geo. T. Smallwood,
Jonathan Cullen

Inventor
Stockton Borton
by Pollock Munn
his attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STOCKTON BORTON, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR TO THE
WILLCOX & GIBBS SEWING MACHINE COMPANY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

MANUFACTURE OF ARTICLES FROM CUT KNIT FABRICS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,470, dated July 21, 1891.

Application filed March 30, 1891. Serial No. 387,010. (No specimens.)

To all whom it may concern:

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

This invention has reference to the manufacture of underwear, hosiery, and similar articles from cut knit fabrics, and may be regarded as an improvement upon the invention described and claimed in application of Christina P. Borton, filed April 22, 1890, Serial No. 348,977, and in my prior application filed May 24, 1890, Serial No. 353,042, according to which each cut edge to be joined was provided with a row of selvage, anchorage, or protective stitches, and the two pieces united by another line of stitches engaging and holding by the selvage, anchorage, or protective stitches.

The present invention has for its object the production of a practical and useful seam on cut knit goods by two operations. The result is not only a saving of one operation when two cut edges are joined, but a seam is produced which for light-weight goods or for joining the ribbed band or cuff to the lighter body portion of a shirt is more desirable than that produced by said earlier methods. The new seam has more nearly the appearance of looping than the earlier seams.

According to this invention an artificial selvage or protective line of stitches is first formed on one only of the two edges to be joined. The pieces are then laid one upon the other, so that the raw edge projects beyond the protected edge. The former is then trimmed off on a line parallel with the latter, but at a little distance therefrom and the two edges united by overedge stitches, which pass through both layers within the protective stitches and around the projecting raw edge. As the stitches are tightened the thread draws or curls up the projecting edge, and when the united pieces are flattened out the seam presents on the face of the goods a very neat and distinctive appearance. When the two pieces that are joined together are of different thickness, as when joining on the ribbed cuff, shirtband, or ankle portions of

drawers, the protective stitches will be placed on the ribbed piece rather than on the body of the article. These stitches may be formed on any suitable overedge, zigzag, straight-ahead, or two-needle machines, preferably provided with a trimming attachment.

In the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, Figure I is a plan view on an enlarged scale, showing a seam in course of formation. Fig. II is a cross-section of the same in the plane of the needle, and Fig. III a cross-section and perspective view showing the seam after completion and showing the positions of the respective edges when the united pieces are flattened out.

A represents a piece of fabric, upon the cut edge of which has been produced a row *a* of protective stitches. (Shown in this case as overedge stitches.) The piece B, which has a raw edge, is placed in such position that its said edge projects beyond the protected edge of piece A and beyond the path of oscillation of the needle D. The two pieces are fed to the needle in this position, the raw edge being trimmed off parallel to the protected edge by the trimmer-blade E, but leaving a margin projecting beyond it, as shown. The stitch-forming mechanism then unites the two edges, the thread *b* passing through both pieces of fabric, so as to engage and hold by the protective stitches *a*, and then over both edges in the well-known manner of making an overedge stitch. When the thread *b* is drawn tight, it draws or folds the projecting edge over toward the edge of the piece A, and when the seam is completed and the two pieces straightened out, as shown in Fig. III, the edges assume the positions represented in that figure.

It will be understood that the method above described may be carried out with the aid of different types of machines, and the invention is not to be regarded as limited to the use of machinery of any particular description.

I have shown for the purposes of illustration part of an overedge-machine, such as described in the application of Charles H. Willcox and Stockton Borton, filed May 24, 1890, Serial No. 353,091. The presser-foot F is shown as provided with a shoe *f*, whose downwardly-

projecting edge serves as a guide to the protected edge of the upper piece of goods A.

Any suitable mechanism may be employed in carrying the invention into effect.

5 What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with two pieces of cut fabric, of a row of protective stitches on or near one edge of one of said pieces, the adjacent edge of the other piece being bent out
10 of the plane of the body of the goods and

another row of stitches passing through both pieces and around the edges thereof and holding by the protective stitches, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

STOCKTON BORTON.

Witnesses:

J. PARMLY,
S. HERMAN.

15