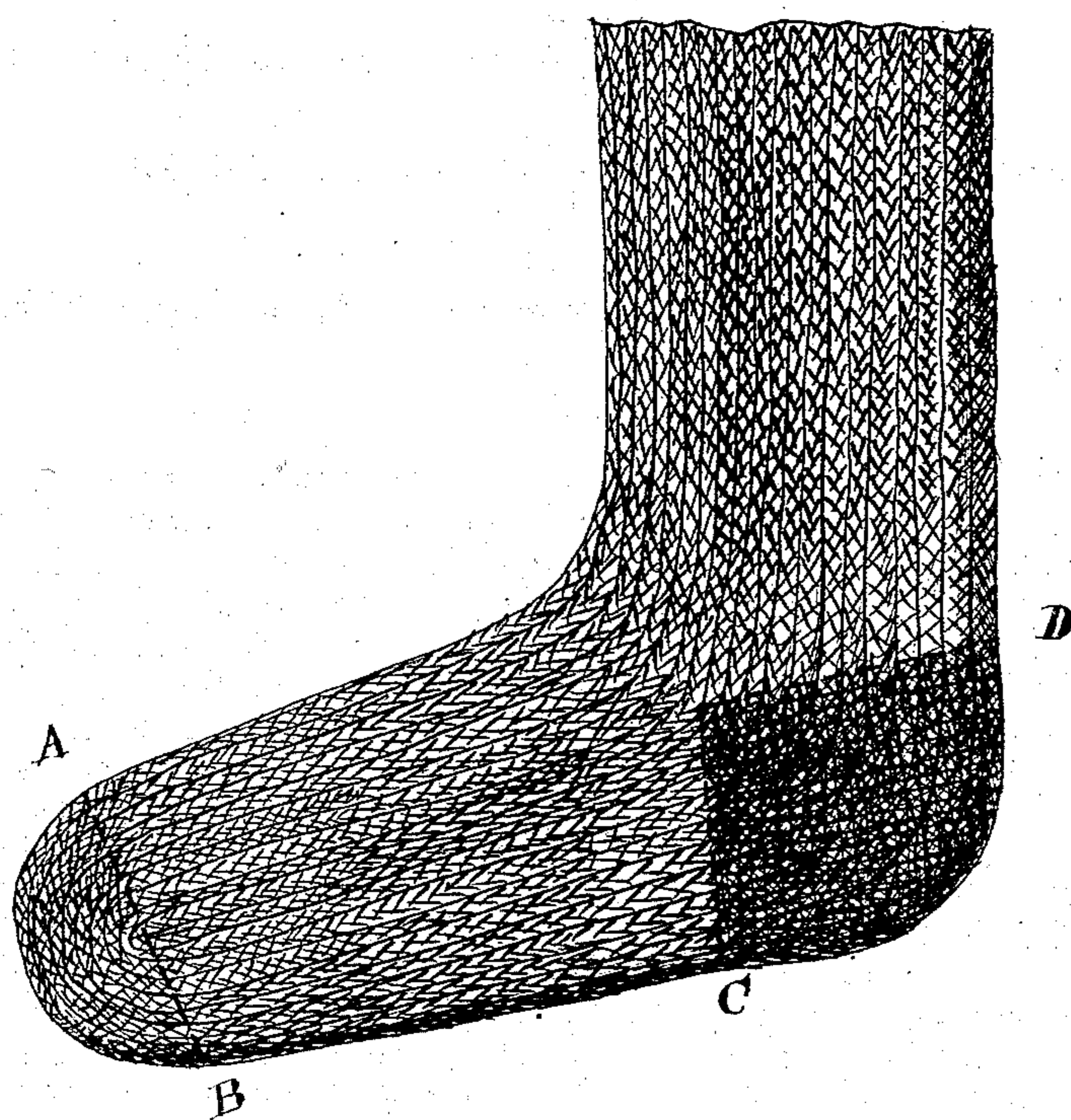


W. W. BURSON & J. NELSON.

Knitting Stockings.

No. 156,838.

Patented Nov. 17, 1874.



Attest.

Wm S. Bates
Jeremiah F. Twobig.

Inventor

William W. Burson
John Nelson
by Fisher & Duncan
Attys. in fact

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. BURSON AND JOHN NELSON, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN KNITTING STOCKINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,838**, dated November 17, 1874; application filed April 3, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, WILLIAM W. BURSON and JOHN NELSON, of Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, have invented an Improvement in the Art of Knitting Stockings, of which the following is a specification:

Our invention relates to an improvement in the art of knitting machine-made stockings; and consists in knitting a stocking with no hand-seam whatsoever, except to attach the ribbed top, in which the knitting commences at a point in the rear and on the side of the toe portion, works around the bulge forming the toe, then up the foot, knitting the heel entire, and so on to the top of the stocking.

That our improvement may be more easily understood, we will describe, in a general way, the formation of the stocking in the machine.

The stocking is knit either upon a circular machine or a machine having two rows of needles capable of knitting a tube, and of narrowing and widening without dropping the stitches from the needles.

The operation of knitting commences at a point about midway of the line A B, a thread being carried entirely around the stocking. One half of the needles then cease knitting, while the other half knit the toe-bulge, form-

ing a pouch or pocket, until the knitting comes opposite the line at which it begun, when the remaining needles are brought into operation, and an entire tube is knit regularly to the point at which the bulge for the heel begins. Here half the needles again rest while the bulge is knit, after which the knitting again proceeds regularly to the top of the stocking. At the point C, where the heel-bulge begins, by a suitable mechanism, an additional thread is taken up, which is dropped when the heel is finished at D.

It will be observed that the bulges for the heel and toe are knit upon the same side of the tube, thus making the connection of the toe-bulge with the foot on the upper side, and at a point where there is least wear.

We claim as a new article of manufacture—

The improvement in the art of knitting seamless machine-made stockings, consisting in commencing the knitting at a point in the rear and at the upper side of the toe, working around the bulge forming the toe, up the foot, around the heel, and so on to the top of the leg portion, as described.

WILLIAM W. BURSON.
JOHN NELSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN M. BUELL,
ANSEL HARTWELL.