

E. S. TOMLINSON.
Shirt.

No. 226,464.

Patented April 13, 1880.

Fig. 1.

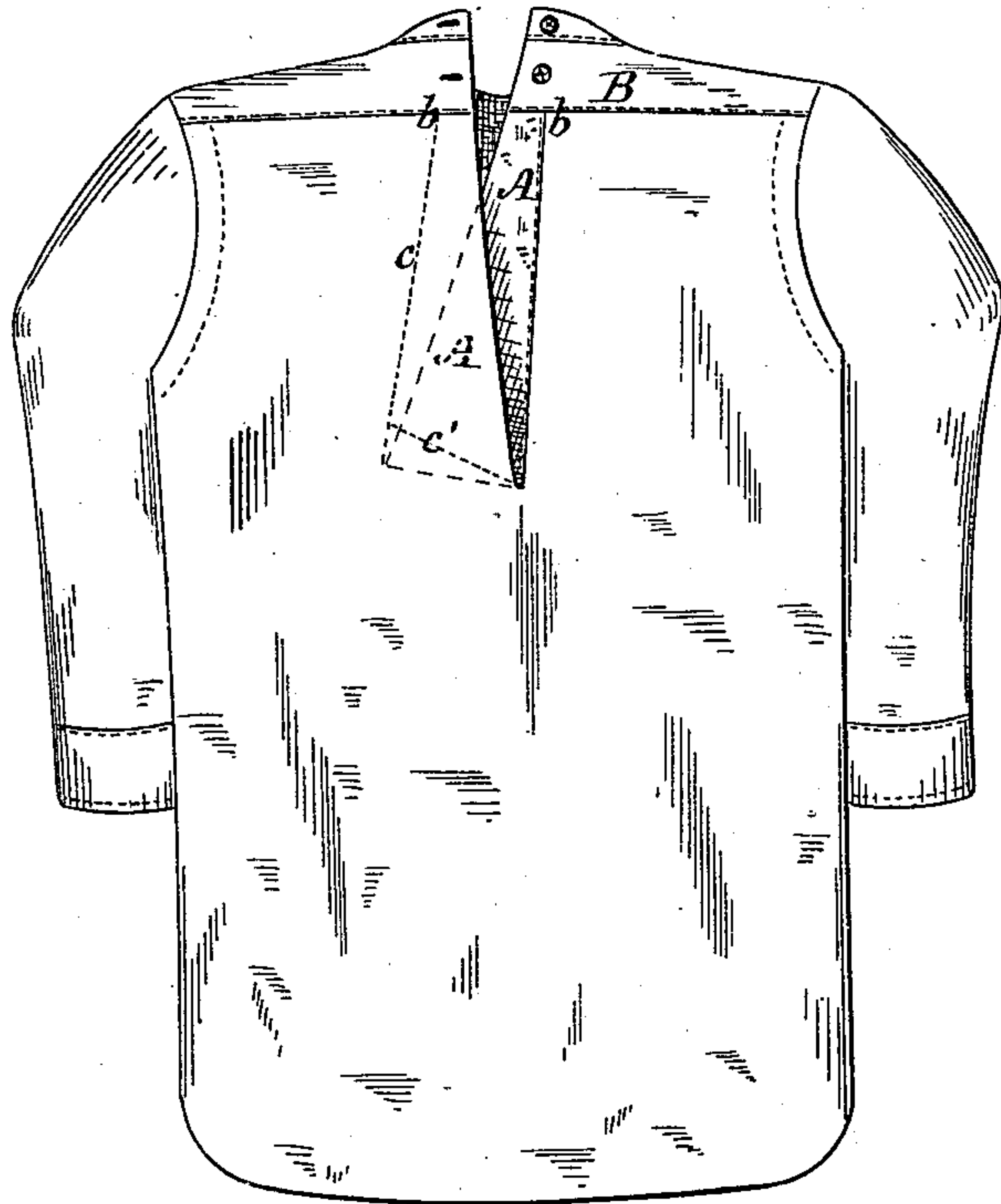


Fig. 2.

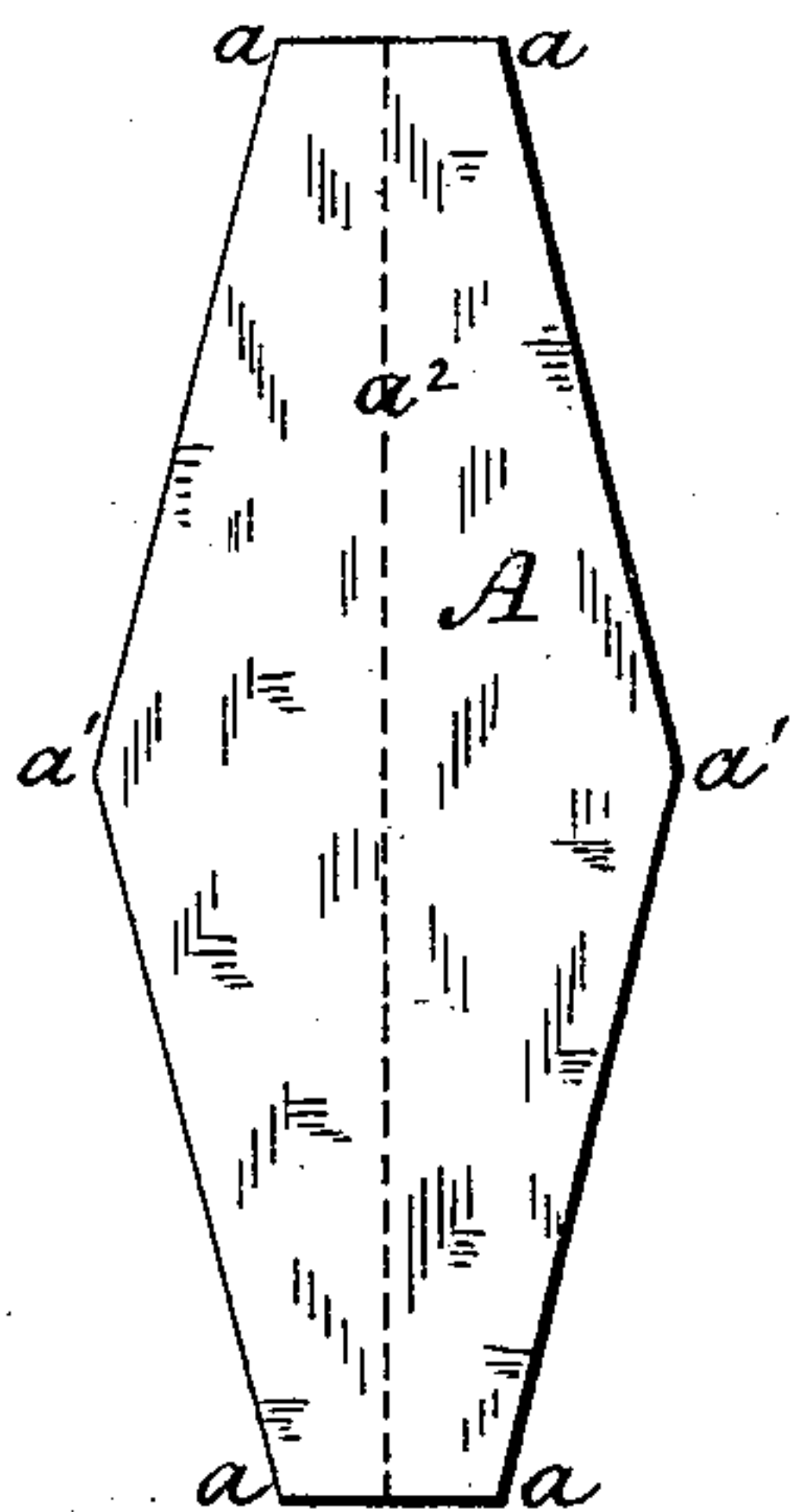
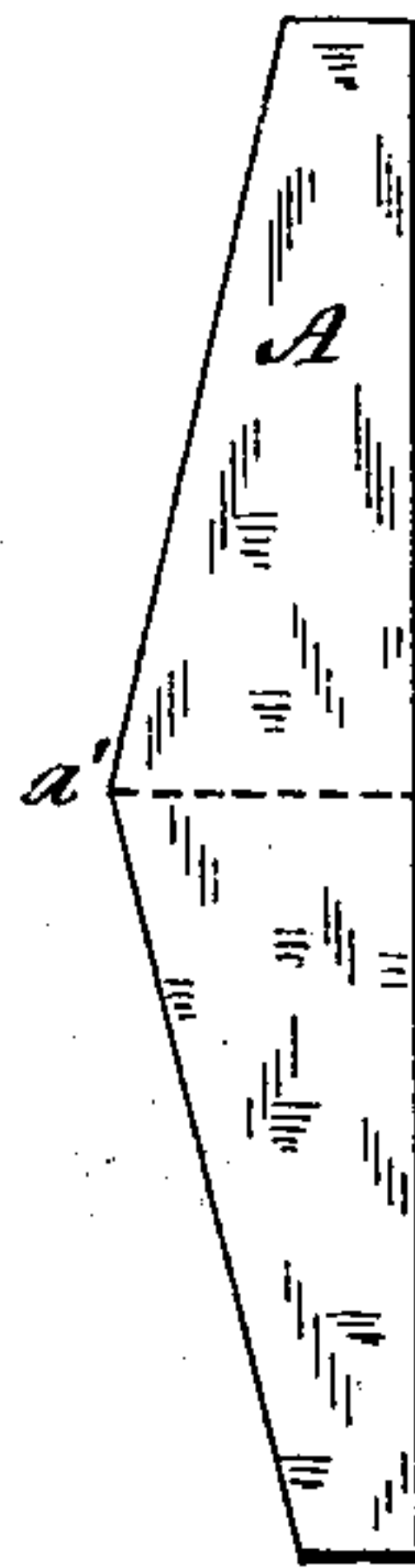


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EVERETT S. TOMLINSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

SHIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 226,464, dated April 13, 1880.

Application filed January 2, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EVERETT S. TOMLINSON, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful
5 Improvement in Shirts, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to an improvement in shirts that are made with open backs, having
10 for its object to strengthen them at the point where there is the greatest strain and liability to tear, to provide a fold that will prevent the open part from separating and exposing whatever is beneath, and that will at the same time
15 form a covering and support for the spine and protect it from cold and drafts of air.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the back of a completed shirt, showing my improved device. Fig. 2 is a view of
20 my improved folding back piece or band detached. Fig. 3 is a view of the same partially folded.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

25 Hitherto the opening on the back of a shirt has been faced down its whole length with two separate straight narrow pieces or bands of equal width down their whole length, which are stitched together at the fork or crotch,
30 and when so made the shirt, when worn or being put on or off, is subjected to a severe strain at the fork, causing the stitches to give way, and then the back of the shirt is liable to tear apart. These bands or pieces being narrow
35 and but partially overlapping each other, the shirt, when on the back, is liable to spread open, thus exposing the under-garments or the person of the wearer. This exposure is doubly objectionable: First, the view of the under-
40 garment is very unsightly and undesirable, and the exposure of the back of the wearer, when no under-garment is worn, is improper, uncomfortable, and indecent. It is true that ordinarily vests and outer clothing conceal the
45 shirt; but many persons, when at work and on various occasions, especially in warm weather, frequently dispense with vest and coat, and in such cases the objections stated to the open-back shirt as ordinarily made are
50 obvious. Secondly, the spreading apart of an open-back shirt exposes the spine to cold

and to drafts of air, while this part of the person more than any other requires warmth, support, and protection.

My improved device overcomes all these im- 55
perfections and objections.

My device consists of a piece of fabric forming a continuous folded band-facing, cut all in one piece. It is represented in detail in Figs. 2 and 3, A. 60

A piece of fabric is cut of a lozenge shape, the top and bottom being cut off in straight lines parallel to each other, as shown at *a a*. The fabric is shaped by being cut on lines commencing at *a a a a* and diverging to points *a' a'*. 65
I thus have a piece of fabric of a lozenge shape, with the upper and lower points cut off square, as shown in Fig. 1, A. This piece is then folded upon itself down its full length centrally, following the dotted line *a²*, thus forming 70
the shape shown in Fig. 3. The ends are then brought together, being folded at the line *x x*, Fig. 3, and it is ready for attachment. The back of the shirt being split open the required length, one edge, preferably the right side of the open- 75
ing, is placed between the two outer edges of the piece or band A, commencing at the point *b*, Fig. 1, of the shirt-back, close up to where the neck-yoke B is afterward to be placed, and the three edges of the fabric are unitedly 80
stitched together all the way down to the fork of the opening. A two-ply gore-shaped band-facing thus extends down one side edge of the opening of a given graduating width, commencing at the top under the yoke B and increasing in width until reaching the fork. The band 85
is then folded against the opposite edge of the shirt-opening, and its raw edge is stitched flat against the two edges of the band A, forming one continuous line of stitching from *b* to *b'*. 90
A portion of the rear of the shirt is thus lined with a two-ply gore-shaped facing, composing unitedly three layers, and a loose loop is formed at the fork or crotch, and when the whole is closed the central portion of the shirt where 95
the parts overlap is composed of five layers of fabric directly covering the spine. Two oblique rows of stitching, Fig. 1, *c c'*, confine the second half of the band flat against the shirt-back, the lower oblique line, *c'*, being located 100
somewhat above the turn of the fork and diverging upward, thus leaving a quantity of

the two-ply gore unattached and free to meet any strain when the shirt is being put on or off.

I do not desire to limit myself to the exact inclination of the edges of the piece A, as shown
5 in Figs. 1, 2, as it is manifest that the divergence from a straight line can be decreased or increased to any degree without departing from my invention.

What I claim is—

10 1. The lozenge-shaped gore-band A, folded as described, as a facing for the sides and edges of the back-opening of a shirt, substantially as described.

2. In an open-back shirt, the band A, consisting of a continuous gore-shaped facing extending the entire length of both sides of the
15 back-opening and secured to the edges of said opening by stitching, substantially as described.

EVERETT S. TOMLINSON.

Witnesses:

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