

(No Model.)

M. DUENCKEL.  
Nursing Dress.

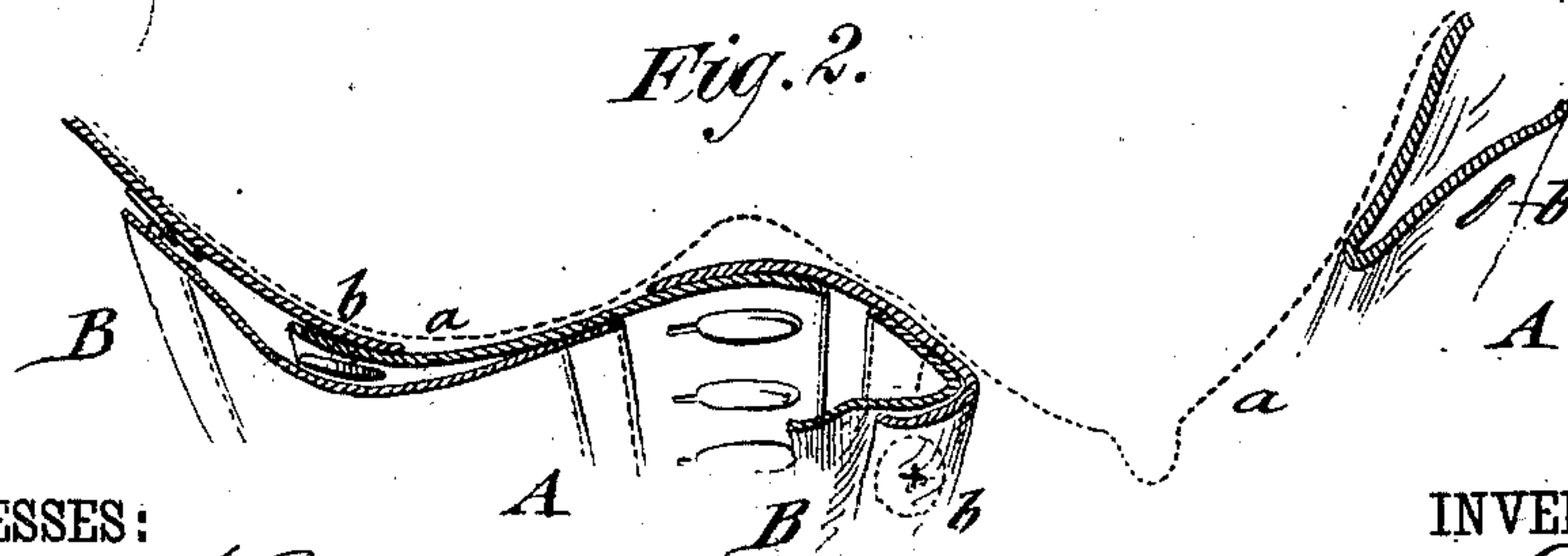
No. 232,246.

Patented Sept. 14, 1880.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

*Carl Kary*  
*Otto Pisch*

INVENTOR

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BY *Paul Gropel*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARIA DUENCKEL, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

## NURSING-DRESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 232,246, dated September 14, 1880.

Application filed March 25, 1880. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARIA DUENCKEL, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nursing-Dresses, of which the following is a specification.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved nursing-dress shown in position on the body; and Fig. 2 is a detail horizontal section of the same shown opened for nursing.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of this invention is to furnish an improved nursing-dress, by which the laying on of the child on the breast is facilitated and rendered more convenient; and the invention consists of a dress having front openings with closing devices, the openings being covered by broad overlapping face bands or trimmings.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a dress, which is provided with symmetrically-arranged front slits or openings, *a*, in the waist, one at each side of the center. These openings are preferably slightly inclined toward the center line of the waist, and closed by one or more buttons and button-holes, hooks and eyes, or other suitable fastenings, *b*.

Overlapping bands or trimmings B B of any suitable fabric extend from the shoulders over the openings, the bands being attached at one side to the waist, so that by raising the other side the closing devices of the openings may be unfastened and the child thereby be quickly and conveniently laid on the breast. By using a nursing-corset this operation may be still more facilitated. After the child is nursed the opening is closed and the band re-

placed over the opening *a*, so as to place it entirely out of sight. The nursing-dress admits the easy laying on of the child without unnecessary exposure, the improvement being applicable to indoor and outdoor dresses. By means of paper patterns, constructed in the same manner, a nursing-dress of this construction can be readily made by any woman desiring it.

I am aware that nursing-corsets which open over the central line of the breast are well known, and I do not claim the same. As these are, however, covered by the dress, the closing straps or devices are arranged above the lapping-pieces, while the essential feature of my invention is a continuous covering-band, which covers the opening in the dress as well as the fastening devices of the lapping pieces.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A nursing-dress provided with open slits over the central line of the breasts and with closing devices, in combination with covering-bands, which are attached at one side to the dress and arranged to extend over the slits and closing devices from the shoulder to the waist, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in the presence of two witnesses, this 22d day of March, 1880.

MARIA DUENCKEL.

Witnesses:

PAUL GOEPEL,  
CARL KARP.