

(Model.)

D. W. THOMPSON.

COMBINED BUTTON-LAP AND STAY FOR GARMENTS.

No. 250,604.

Patented Dec. 6, 1881.

Fig. 1.

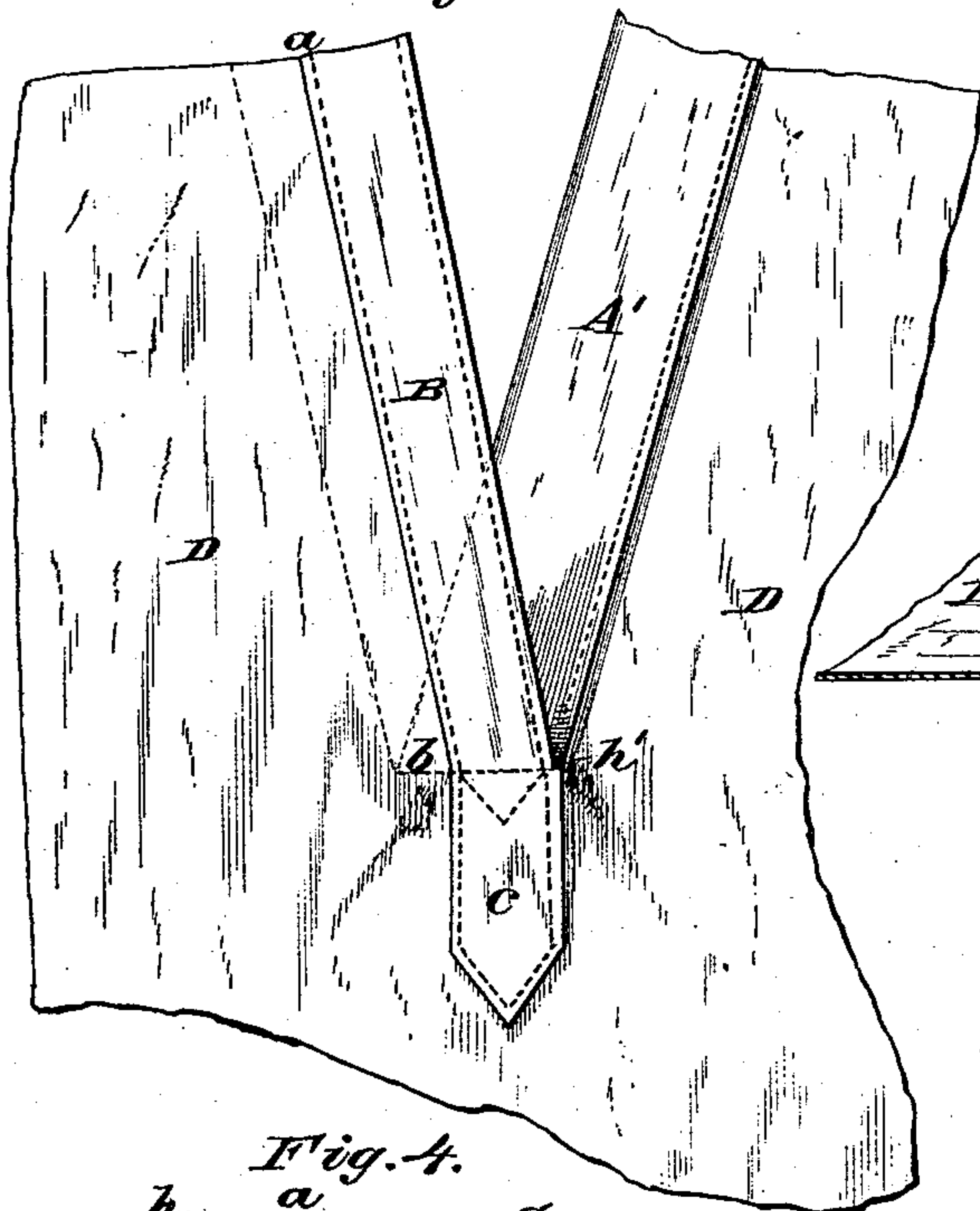


Fig. 2.

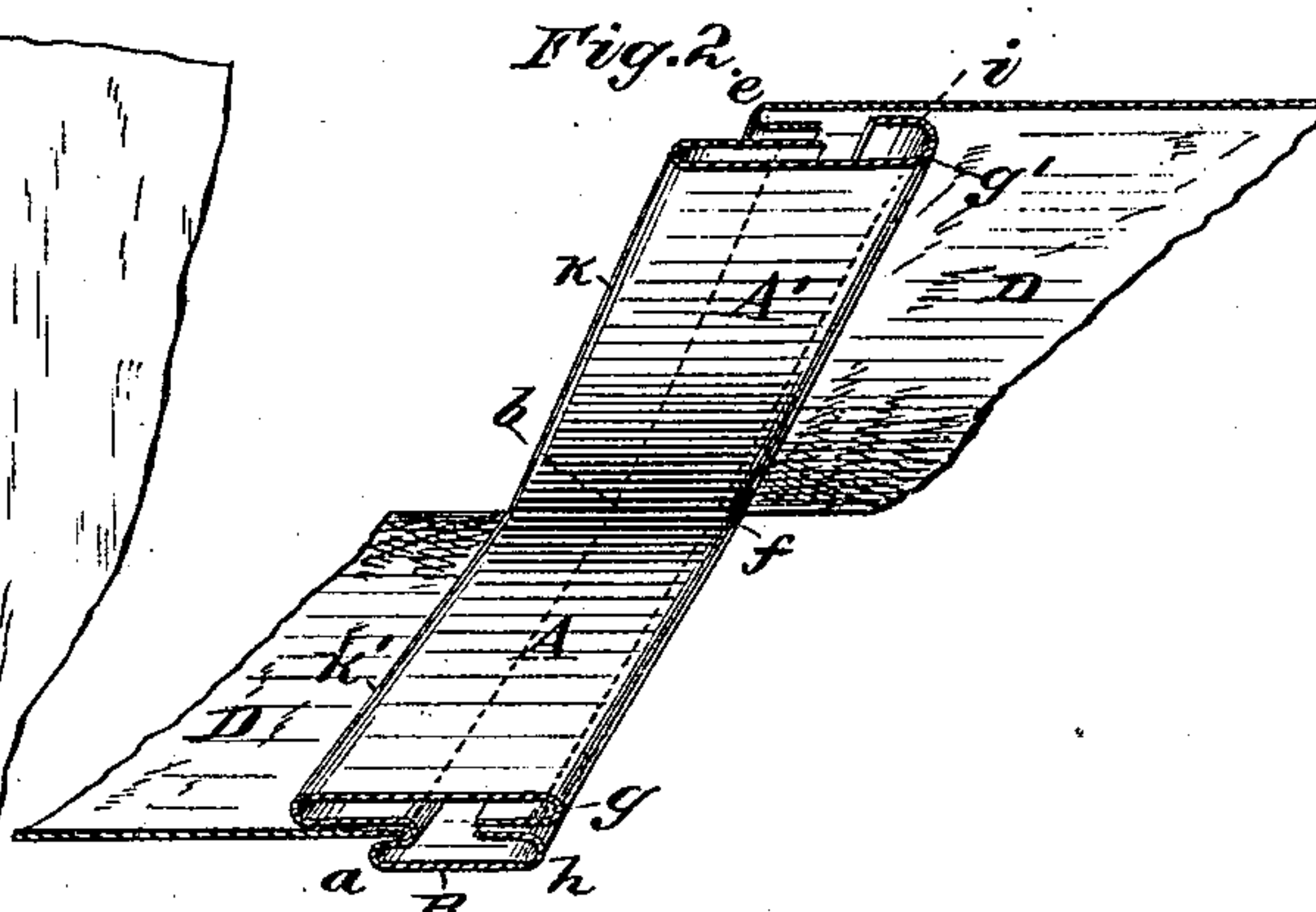


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

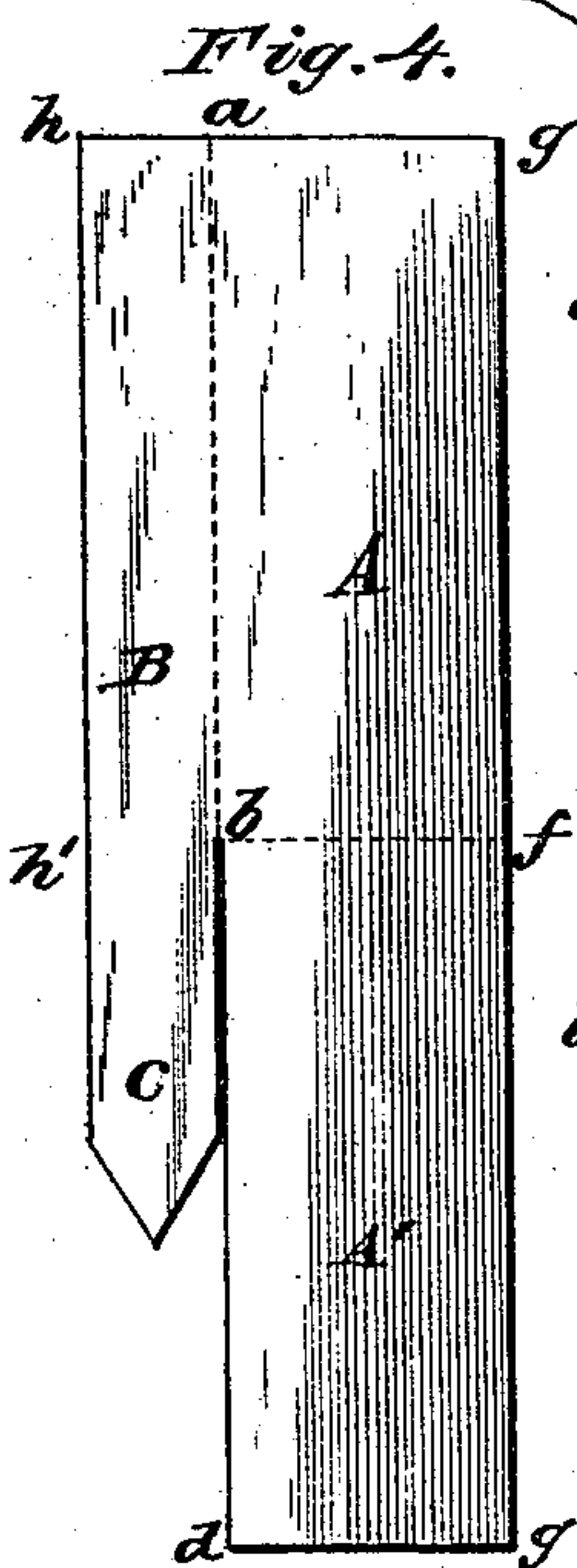


Fig. 5.

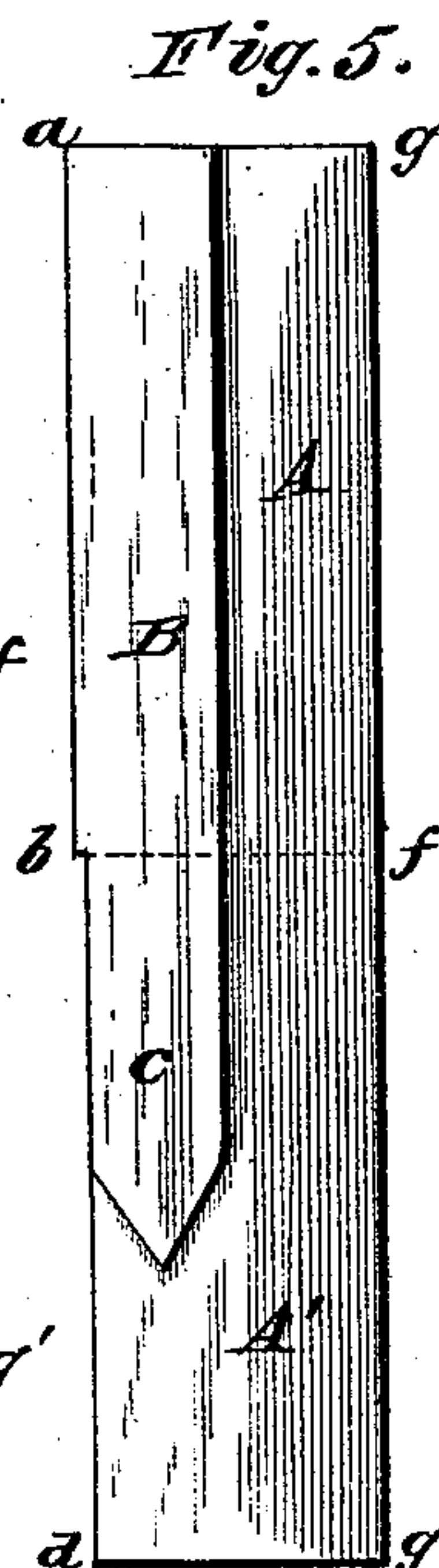
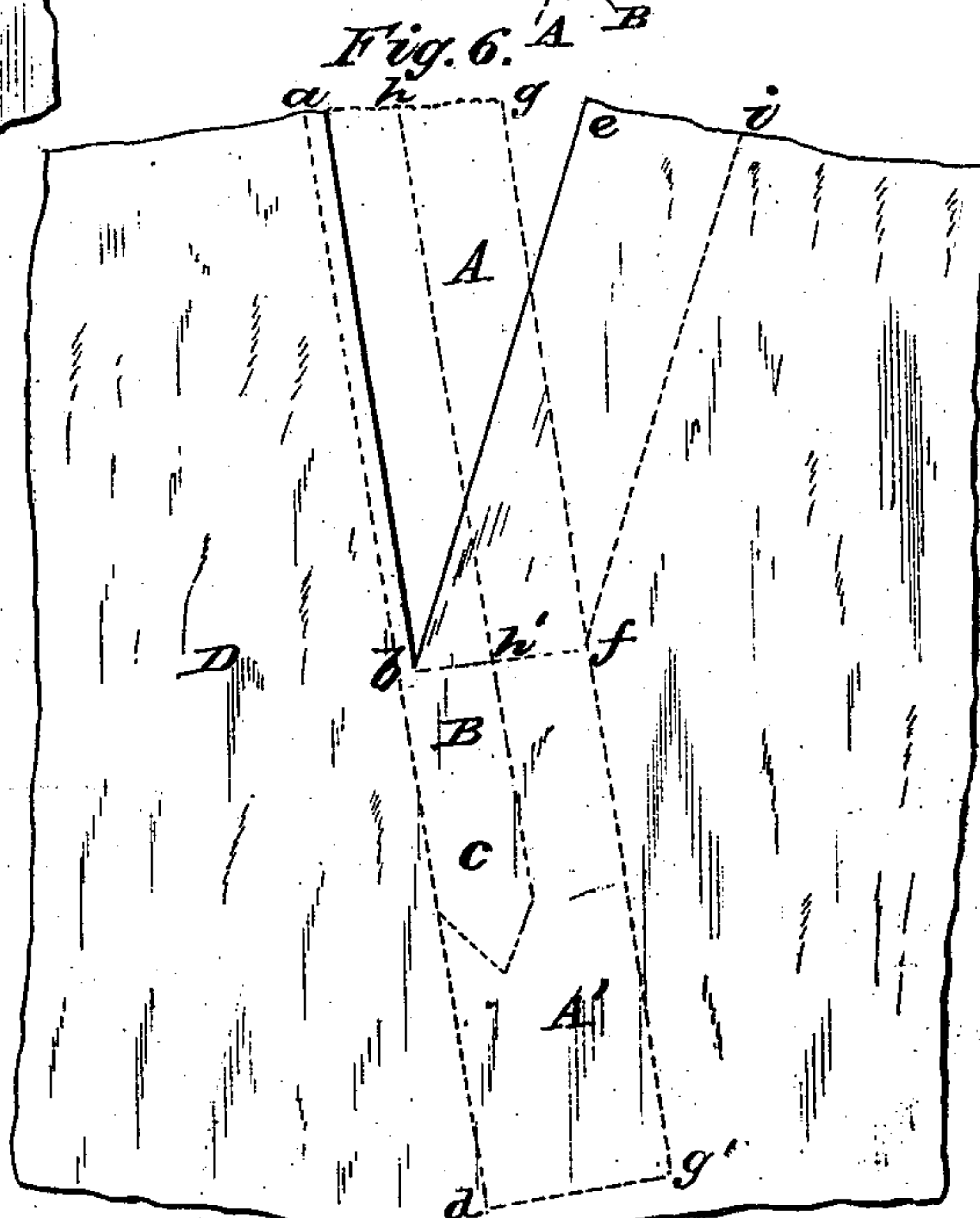


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES:

Frid. G. Dietrich

Edw. W. Byers

INVENTOR:

D. W. Thompson

BY *[Signature]*

ATTORNEYS.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID W. THOMPSON, OF ENGLEWOOD, ILLINOIS.

COMBINED BUTTON-LAP AND STAY FOR GARMENTS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 250,604, dated December 6, 1881.

Application filed August 23, 1881. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID W. THOMPSON, of Englewood, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Combined Button-Lap and Stay for Garments; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention relates to an improved combined button-lap and stay for the openings in garments—such as the opening at the neck of a shirt, the opening in the front or sides of drawers, overalls, &c.; and it consists in the combination, with the garment or body-piece having simply a straight slit cut in it where the opening is to be, of a single piece of material, which, when folded and stitched to the sides of said slit in the manner hereinafter described, constitutes both an upper and under button lap or fly, a facing, and a stay for re-enforcing the bottom of the opening, making a finished piece of work without raw edges, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents the button-lap and stay complete and partly opened. Fig. 2 is a view of the same in perspective, looking down into the opening, showing also the two laps on opposite sides of the opening in cross-section, to illustrate the manner of folding the edges. Fig. 3 is a view in cross-section, through the button-laps, showing the two laps juxtaposed, or in the position in which they are fastened together to close the opening by buttons and button-holes. Fig. 4 represents the shape of the piece of material to be inserted into the slit in the garment to form the two button-laps and the stay. Fig. 5 represents the same piece as folded in position for the first line of stitches which is to attach it to the garment; and Fig. 6 is a view of the garment having a straight slit cut in the same, and spread to form the opening, in which view the first position of the piece, shown in Fig. 5, is given in dotted lines, the said position being that which the piece occupies when it is being attached to one of the sides of the slit by the first row of stitches.

In the drawings, Figs. 1 and 2, A represents the inner lining to the upper button-lap; A', the adjacent lining to the under button-lap, and B the facing of the upper button-lap, all of which parts are made in one piece, the parts

A and A' being one continuous piece, with a bend at *b* in the bottom of the opening, which prevents the opening from ever tearing down, and the facing B being extended down in the shape of a re-enforcing stay or tongue, *c*.

To apply my invention the material of which the garment is composed is slitted to form an opening, the sides of which are then spread apart, as shown at *a b e*, Fig. 6. I then cut a piece of material of the shape shown in Fig. 4. This piece of material I fold longitudinally, with a bend at the line *a b*. Said piece then appears as shown at Fig. 5, and it is then placed as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 6, and the folded edge *a b* is stitched down upon the left-hand side of the opening. The wider portion, A A', is then passed through the opening to the back of the material D, is then bent or folded transversely at *b f*, and the edge *b d* is then stitched to the opposite edge, *b e*, of the opening. The piece A A' is now folded on itself to make the fold *k k'*, Fig. 2. The edge *g' f* is then turned under and stitched to the garment at *i f*, Figs. 2 and 6, and the free edge *g f* then turned under and stitched to the free edge *h h'* of the part B, Fig. 6, and the stitching then continued from *h'* around the stay or tongue *c*, as in Fig. 1.

In applying my invention it may be placed at the neck of shirts, where they open, at the sides of children's drawers, at the front of men's drawers and overalls, or in any other place where a re-enforced button-lap, opening, pocket, or placket is required. When used on men's drawers the tongue *c* is carried back over the crotch-seam to re-enforce it.

Now, I am aware that it is not new to make the adjacent linings of the two button-laps in one piece, with a transverse bend in the middle, as at *b*, and I do not claim this, broadly.

I am also aware that a separate stay has been applied to the button-laps of a pair of drawers in which said stay-piece was slitted at one end, its wide end folded longitudinally on both sides of one of the button-laps, and its two divided ends stitched the one to the other button-lap and the other across the crotch-seam. My invention is distinctive from these in the respect that it is not to be applied to button-laps already made, but actually forms with the slitted material the button-lap itself with but a single piece of material, avoiding all raw edges and

securing all the advantages of continuity of material at *b* in the bottom of the opening, and at the same time forming the facing *B*, to accomplish which results the part *A'* is folded longitudinally twice, while the part *A B* is folded longitudinally four times, giving terminal adjacent edges to *A* and *B* at the line where they form the edge of the upper fly, as at *g h*, Fig. 2.

In further defining my invention with respect to Patent No. 246,265, I would state that the latter has the main body portion of the inserted piece attached wholly to one button-lap, and with a bend instead of terminal edges *g h*, and the stay-piece, instead of being outside and below the opening, is inside and extends upwardly. In my construction the stay-piece is a straight continuation of the facing, and the main portion *A* is folded transversely to form both button-laps. In Patent No. 242,023 an opening in a shirt has been finished with a strip of cloth which forms the edge of both sides of the opening and is continuous at the bottom of the opening, while a separate piece forms a facing-strip and stay. My invention is distinctive from all the foregoing in the fact that a single piece of material is combined with the plain slitted garment to form, without raw edges, an upper and under button-lap, a facing, and a stay, and in the fact that the two button-laps and facing are made of one piece, with terminal edges *g h*.

Instead of having the facing *B* narrower than the button-laps *A* and *A'*, it may be of the same width, and when so made the line of fold *a b*, Fig. 4, will come in the middle of the piece of material.

Another modification which I may make is (see Fig. 2) not to sew the edges *g* and *h* together, but to fold them so as to form a double

fly, *B* being, in this case, the outer or blind fly, *A* the fly containing the button-holes, and *A'* the fly carrying the buttons. This modification is designed for drawers and overalls, to prevent gaping.

Reverting to the description of that part of my invention relating to the stitching of the piece, Figs. 4 and 5, to the opening shown in Fig. 6, I would state that the method given by me is the one which gives the clearest idea of how the fitting is effected. This may not, however, be the most practical and expeditious way of attaching the said piece; for I may not fold the piece at *b f*, but draw the edge *e b* into alignment with *a b* and then stitch straight from *a* to *d*. I therefore do not limit myself to any particular mode of fitting the said piece to the opening.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with the material of a garment having a simple slit in the same, of a single piece of material cut, folded, and stitched, substantially as described, to form both the upper and under button-lap, with a continuous lining at *b*, and a facing, *B*, the said facing *B* and lining *A* being arranged to have terminal edges *g* and *h*, as set forth.

2. The combination, with the material of a garment having a simple slit in the same, of a single piece of material, *A A' B c*, folded and stitched to the edges of the slitted opening, substantially as described, to form the upper and under button-lap, with a continuous lining at *b*, a facing, *B*, and a stay at *c*, as set forth.

DAVID WALLACE THOMPSON.

Witnesses:

HENRY W. THOMPSON,
L. FAXON.