

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. BAXTER.
SHIRT.

No. 253,574.

Patented Feb. 14, 1882.

Fig. 1,

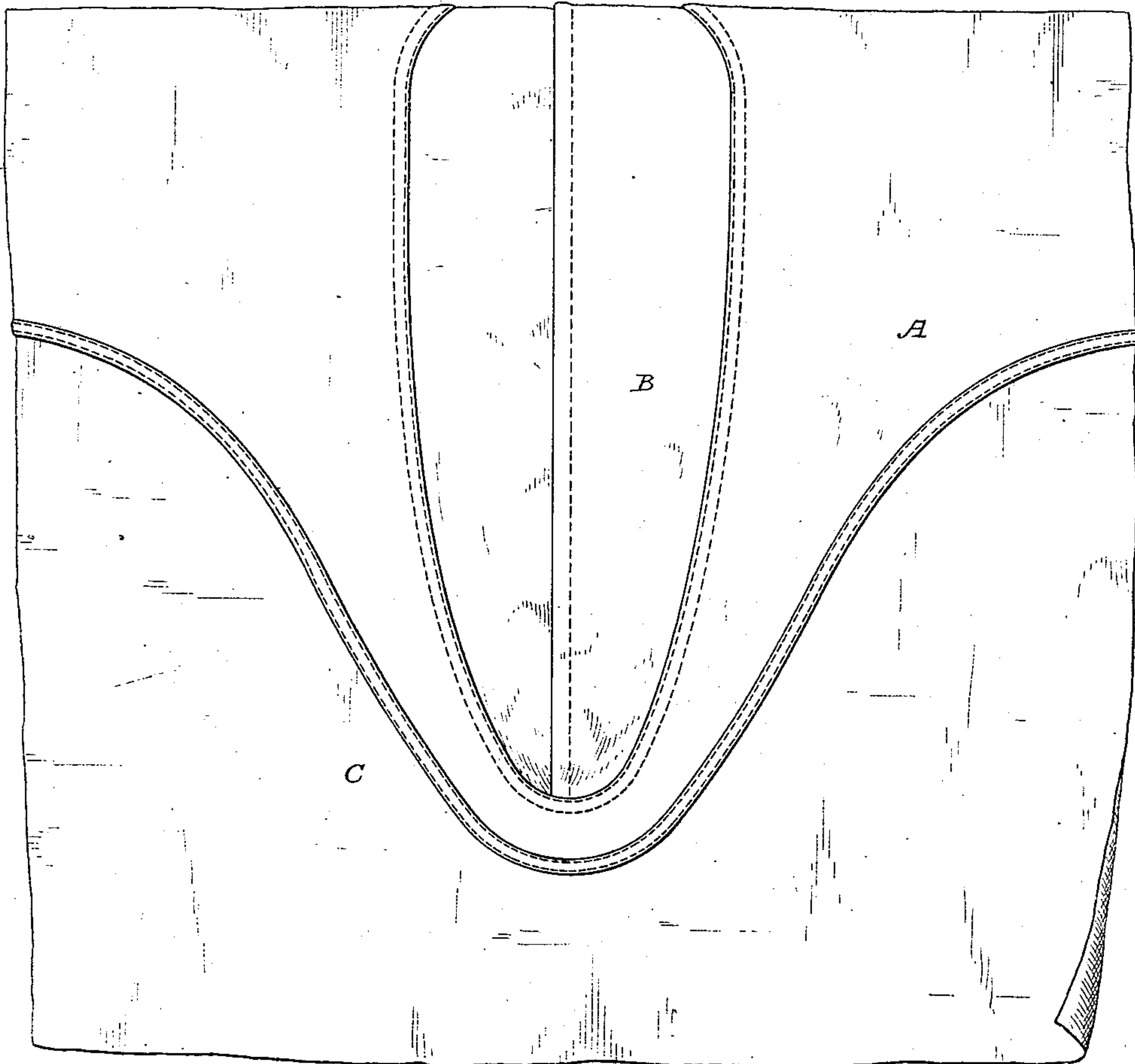


Fig. 2,

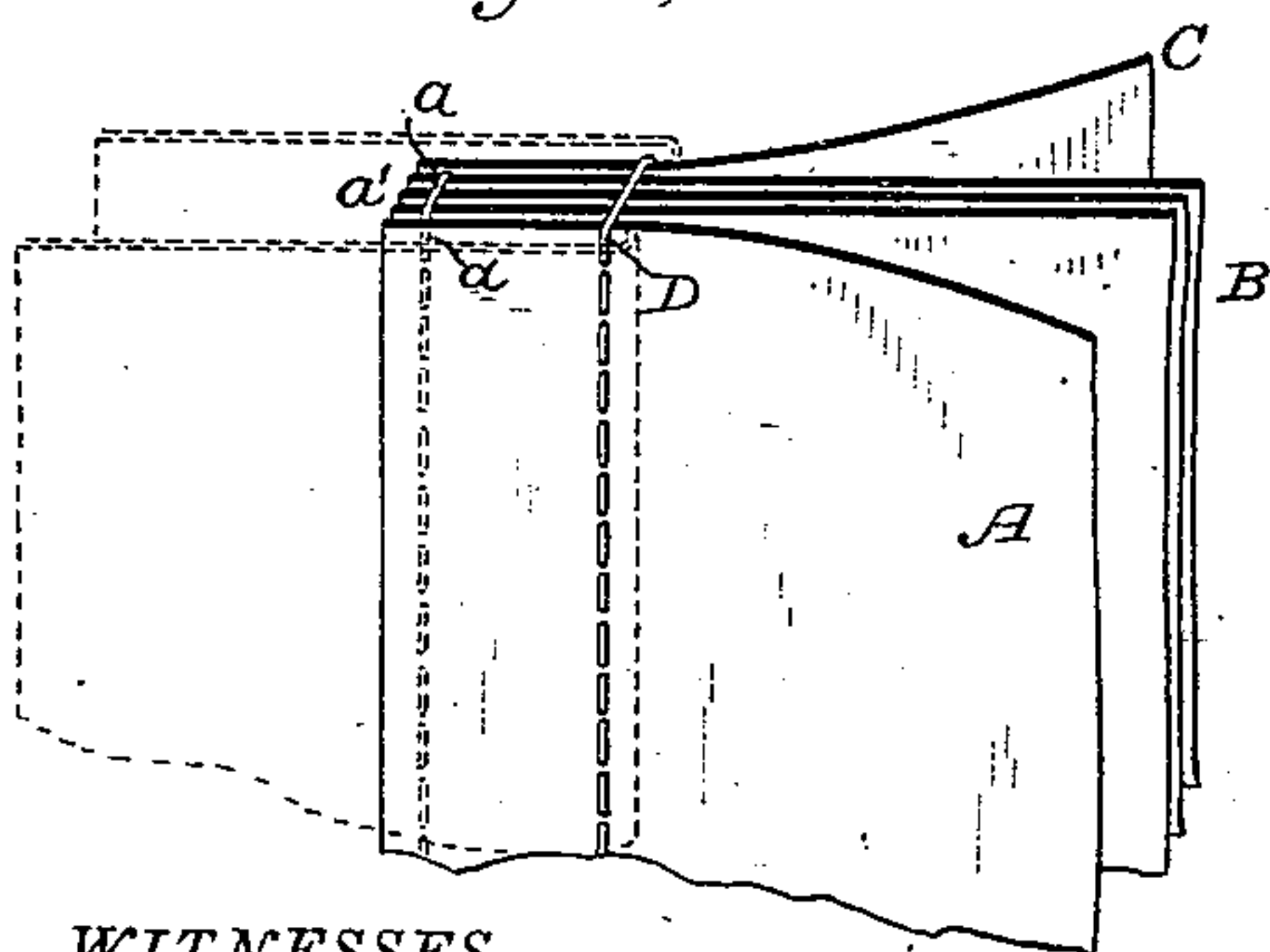
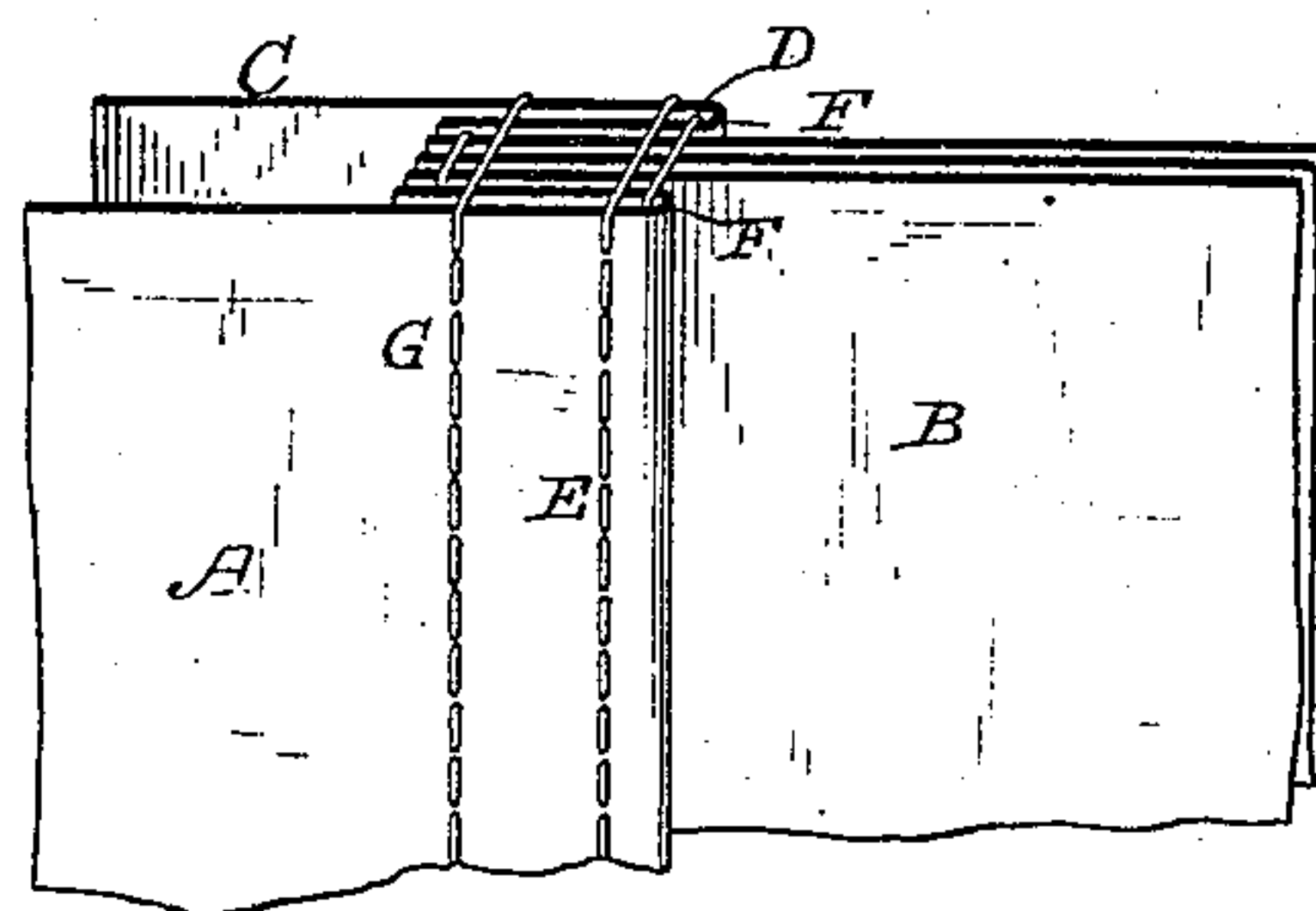


Fig. 3,



WITNESSES

Wm. A. Skinkle,
Geo W. Greck.

INVENTOR

By his Attorneys

Alfred Baxter.

Baldwin, Napkins, & Pappas

(No Model.)

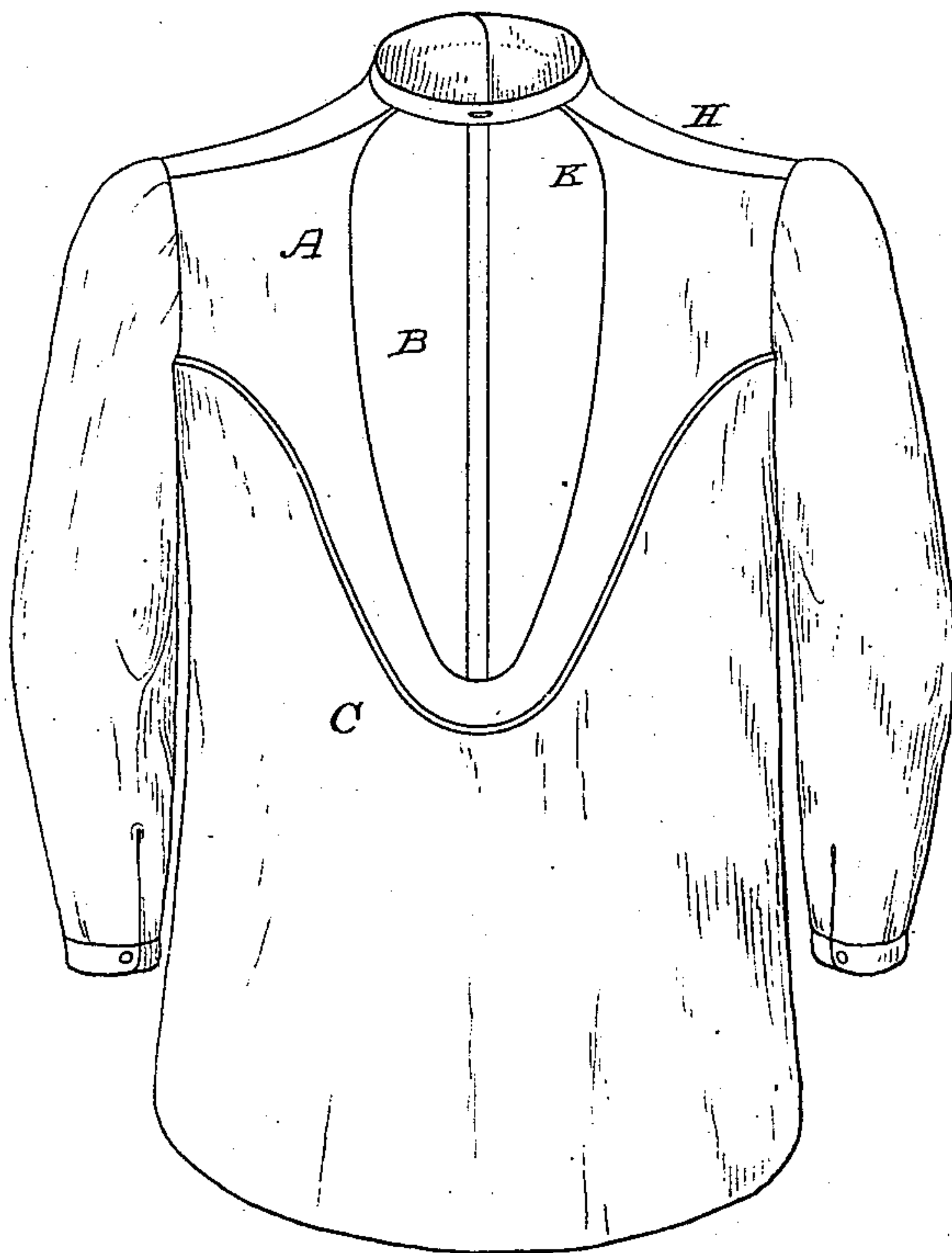
2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 4,



WITNESSES

Wm A. Skunk,
Geo W. Breck.

INVENTOR

Alfred Baxter,
By his Attorneys *Baldwin, Hopkins, & Poyt.*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALFRED BAXTER, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

SHIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 253,574, dated February 14, 1882.

Application filed November 28, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALFRED BAXTER, of Grand Rapids, in the county of Kent and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shirts, of which the following is a specification.

The first part of my invention relates to the class of shirts in which a re-enforce is used to prevent the body from wearing or tearing at the edge of the bosom. Heretofore, so far as I am aware, such re-enforces have extended on each side of the bosom only, and have not extended around the end or bottom of the bosom. It has been found in practice that such a construction leaves the shirt just at the bottom of the bosom very weak, as there is practically as much, if not more, strain and wear there as elsewhere. In laundering, in drawing and straightening the bosom over the ironing-board there is great strain at this point, and the body of the shirt is liable to be torn from the bosom. The object of this part of my invention is therefore to remedy this defect; and it consists broadly in extending the re-enforce around the bottom or end of the bosom as well as on each side.

The next part of my invention relates to the seam for uniting the bosom, re-enforce, and shirt-body. Its object is to join them by a smooth compact seam in such manner that the re-enforce and body will not extend under the shirt-bosom beyond the line of the seam. Heretofore, so far as I am aware, it has been difficult and practically impossible to have the re-enforce extend a uniform distance from the edge of the seam under the bosom. The bosom has thus been unequal in thickness at different points near its edge and correspondingly liable to break and become unsightly. Further than this, it is objectionable to have the re-enforce extend beyond the line of the seam under the bosom, because in laundering the edge of the re-enforce becomes displaced, raveled out or ragged, rolled up, and distorted, and when the bosom is ironed forms an unsightly impression upon it.

The next part of my invention consists in an improvement in the shape of the bosom and the manner of uniting the bosom and body at the neck or yoke, whereby a better fitting shirt is produced and the bosom is less liable to break, as will be fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of a front of one of my improved shirts. Figs. 2 and 3 are enlarged detail views, showing the seam for uniting the bosom, re-enforce, and body, and the manner of forming it; and Fig. 4 is a view of a shirt showing the improved shape of the bosom.

In the drawings I have shown the bottom of the bosom as curved or rounded. I prefer this form as being more durable and better fitting and as presenting a neater appearance.

The re-enforce A is shown as extending, as usual, from the arm-hole and yoke on each side; but instead of reaching to the side of the bosom at its end or above the end only, as has heretofore been the case, it extends entirely around the sides and bottom of the bosom B, and is firmly stitched to the body C of the shirt. By thus making the shirt it is rendered more lasting and neater in appearance than could otherwise be the case.

The improved seam by which the bosom, re-enforce, and body are united is formed in the following manner, reference being had to Figs. 2 and 3: The thicknesses of which the bosom B is composed are preferably first stitched together, as shown at *a*. The re-enforce A is placed over the face of the bosom B and the body C behind it, in the reverse position from what they will occupy when the seam is completed. The edges of the body, bosom, and re-enforce are brought nicely and uniformly together, as at *a'*, and are secured by a line of stitching, D, which extends entirely around the bosom. The re-enforce and body are then drawn away from the bosom, as shown in Fig. 3 and in dotted lines in Fig. 2, into the position for the final stitching, and are folded down on the line of stitching D, as clearly shown. I then run a line of stitching, E, along the folded edge of the re-enforce, which stitching passes through the bosom and the folded edge of the shirt-body. It will be observed that the inner line of the seam between the bosom and the re-enforce and body is formed by smooth folded edges F F of the latter, and that no portion of the re-enforce projects under the bosom beyond the line of the seam. A final line of stitching, G, is then run around the bosom, so as to firmly secure the inclosed or folded edges of the bosom, re-enforce, and body

and the exposed face of the re-enforce and body at the outer edge of the seam. The seams thus formed are absolutely uniform in thickness and width around the entire bosom, and no one portion is heavier than another. The result is that the bosom will not be liable to break at any one point more than other. The face of the bosom is not marred by an impression of an inwardly-projecting ragged re-enforce, as above mentioned. The seam is also, so far as I am aware, more durable and firmer than any heretofore known. Owing to the fact that the edges of the thicknesses of the bosom (of which there may be any suitable number) are accurately stitched together before the final stitching to form the seam, no one of the thicknesses is liable more than another to either be drawn toward or forced away from the needle in stitching the bosom, re-enforce, and body together, and there is therefore, of course, no liability of there being more fullness in one of the thicknesses of the bosom than in another. Consequently the bosom is uniformly smooth, is more easily laundered, and presents a handsome appearance. Of course shirts of any description having bosoms may be made in the manner described. I would mention that in making colored shirts the re-enforce is placed on the inside.

My improved form of bosom is shown in Figs. 1 and 4. Instead of carrying the bosoms straight up into the yoke or shoulder seam H, as has heretofore been the case with bosoms which are stitched or secured to the body around their entire edges, I cut or curve the upper corners, K, as shown, and preferably do not include them in the shoulder-seam. I am thus enabled to produce a perfectly fitting and comfortable shirt. The bosoms readily adapt themselves to the shape of the wearer and are not liable to bend and break.

I am aware that a shirt having a flap-like bosom which is open at one side and buttoned to the collar-band on that side has been shown in a patent as having its upper corners curved into the collar-band; but the purpose of the

patentee in that case was different from mine, and any advantage which might result from the shape of the bosom in that case would be defeated by the open or loose side of the bosom, which would tend to break and get out of place.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A shirt having a re-enforce, A, which extends around the sides and bottom of the bosom, substantially as set forth.

2. The improved seam for shirt-bosoms, formed by bringing the edges of the bosom, re-enforce, and body together, as described, stitching them, folding the body and bosom back into their final position, and then stitching around the edge of the bosom to secure the parts, as set forth.

3. The combination, substantially as herein set forth, of the bosom, the re-enforce, and the body, the bosom being placed between the re-enforce and body, as described, the parts securely stitched, the body and re-enforce folded back, and the parts finally secured by stitching.

4. A shirt having a bosom which is secured to the shirt-body entirely around its edge, and the corners of which are curved or cut away, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination of a shirt body and bosom, which is secured to the body entirely around its edge, and having its upper corners curved or cut in and not included in the shoulder-seam.

6. The combination of the shirt-body, the bosom having its upper corners curved in, as described, and a re-enforce which extends entirely around the sides and bottom of the bosom, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 21st day of November, A. D. 1881.

ALFRED BAXTER.

Witnesses:

E. C. DAVIDSON,
LLOYD B. WIGHT.