

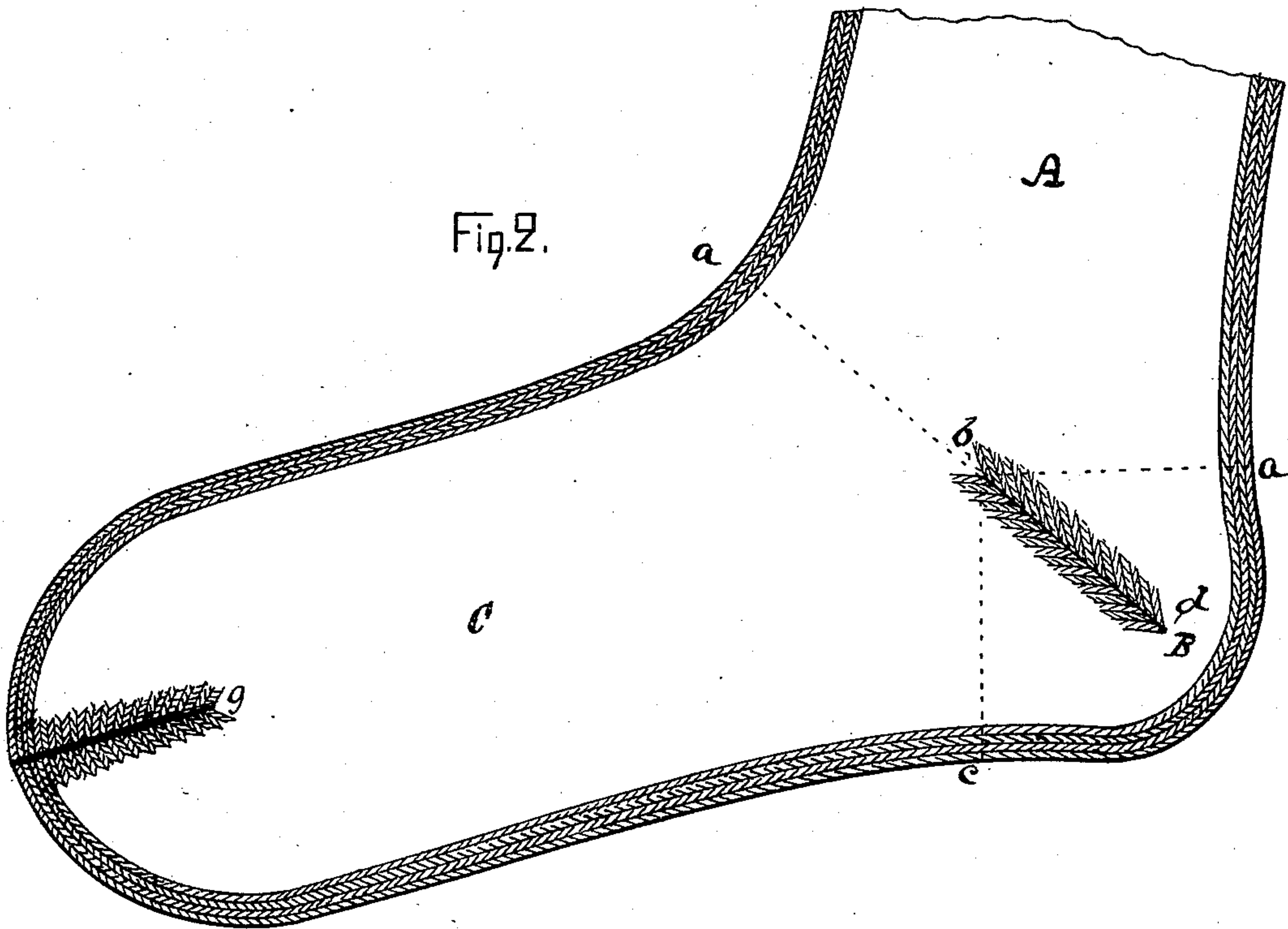
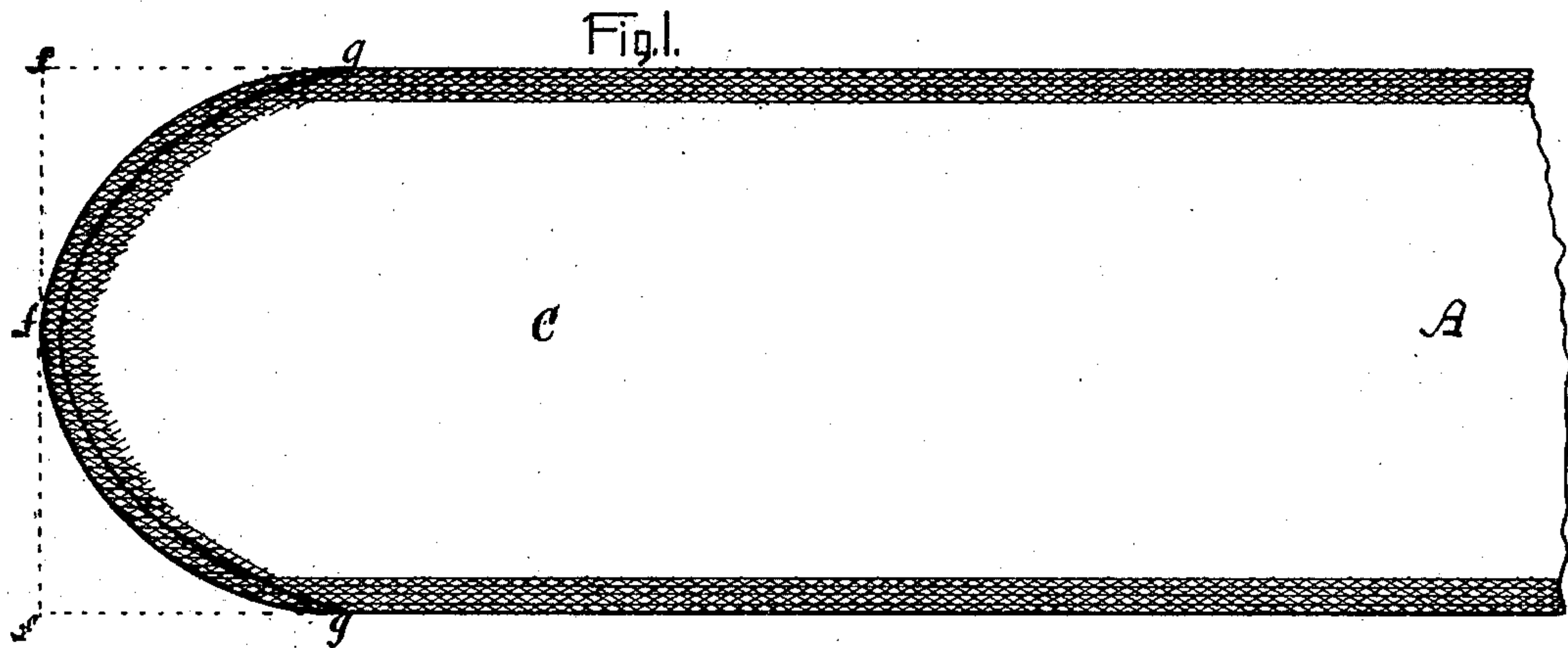
(No Model.)

T. C. CLOW.

METHOD OF MAKING STOCKINGS AND HOSE.

No. 358,383.

Patented Feb. 22, 1887.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## METHOD OF MAKING STOCKINGS AND HOSE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 358,383, dated February 22, 1887.

Application filed October 30, 1886. Serial No. 217,598. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. CLOW, a citizen of the United States, residing in Lake Village, in the county of Belknap and State of New Hampshire, have invented an Improved Method of Making Stockings and Hose; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making  
10 part of this specification.

In carrying into effect my improved art or method I employ any circular-knitting machine adapted to have raised or moved out of action a portion of its needles, and to knit a  
15 flat web and narrow and widen such flat web.

The method is as follows: The work having been put upon the machine, a tubular web is first knit to form the leg of a stocking. Then a portion of the needles are raised or moved  
20 out of action, leaving a sufficient number of needles in action to turn the heel with a flat web, and the heel is formed by first narrowing the web as far as necessary, and then widening the web again, at the same time joining  
25 the edges of the widened to the edges of the narrowed web in the manner well known to those skilled in the art, being effected by a machine of the construction above referred to. Then the other needles are brought into action, and a circular web is knit of sufficient  
30 width to form the foot of the stocking. The stocking is then cut from the web, and the end is sewed up with a curved seam to properly form the toe, and the end trimmed off around  
35 the seam. The work remaining on the needles of the knitting-machine, the circular web is continued to form the leg of the next stocking.

I will remark that it is not necessary to cut the stockings one by one from the web. A  
40 continuous web may be formed of the proper length between the successive heel-knittings, and then cut off at the proper points between the heel portions, to give the required length to the leg and foot portions; and it obviously follows from this that the order of knitting may  
45 be the reverse of that above set forth—that is, the foot-web may be first knit, then the heel formed, and then the leg-web knit.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top view of the web of a stocking 50 after it has been knit and the curved seam has been sewed across the toe end thereof, and Fig. 2, a side view of the completed stocking knit and sewed by the above-described method.

The leg A is first knit to the line *a b a*, Fig. 2. 55 Then the heel B is formed to the line *b c* by widening and narrowing at the line *b d*. Then the foot-web C is knit to the line *f f*, Fig. 1, where it is cut off. Then a curved seam is sewed on the line *g g*; and, finally, the end is  
60 trimmed off outside of and at a proper distance from the said line *g g*.

Stockings and hose are knit by this method on a single circular-knitting machine in a simple and expeditious manner, and after the  
65 knitting is completed there is no hand-sewing required, and only a short seam is sewed with a sewing-machine, and done very quickly. The stockings are made, therefore, more expeditiously than the ordinary cut-work stockings, while the goods produced have a full-  
70 fashioned heel and no seams, except at the extremity of the toe, and are therefore very good and desirable.

I claim as my invention—

The method of making stockings which consists in first knitting a tubular web to form the leg, then moving a part of the needles out of action and forming the heel by first narrowing and afterward widening the flat web  
80 on the needles in action, joining the edges of the narrowed and widened portions of the web in the act of widening, then knitting a tubular web of sufficient length to form the foot of the stocking, then cutting off the web and sewing  
85 a curved seam across the web to close and shape the toe of the stocking, and trimming off the web beyond the sewed seam, substantially as herein specified.

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Witnesses:

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