

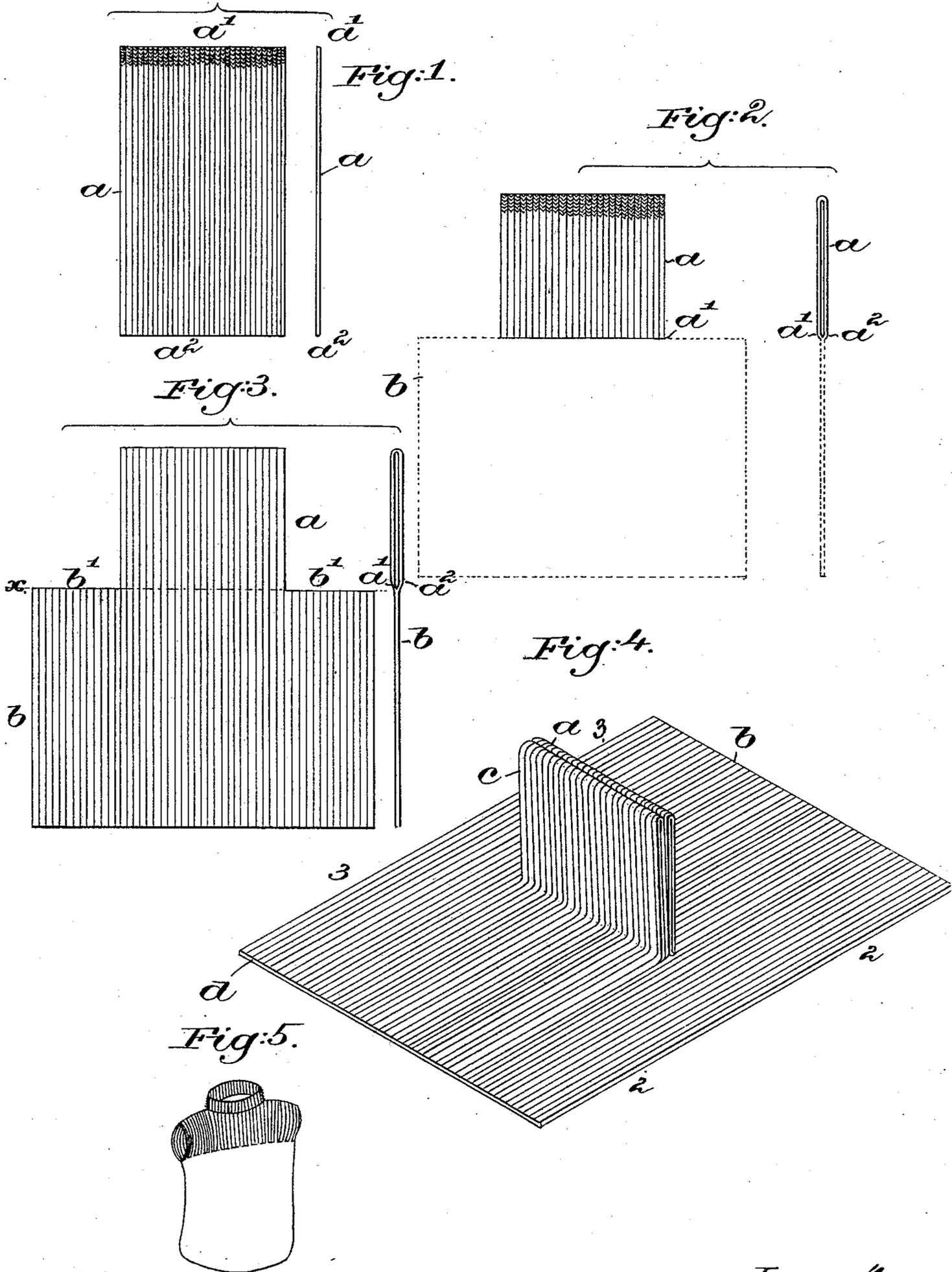
(No Model.)

W. A. O'BRIEN.

KNITTED GARMENT AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME.

No. 500,269.

Patented June 27, 1893.



witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER A. O'BRIEN, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

KNITTED GARMENT AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 500,269, dated June 27, 1893.

Application filed February 10, 1893. Serial No. 461,780. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER A. O'BRIEN, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Knitted Garments and Methods of Making the Same, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters and figures on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object to improve that class of knitted garment commonly designated as a "sweater," and also to improve the method of its production whereby it is made more comfortable for the wearer.

In the drawings Figures 1, 2, 3, 4, are diagrammatical views illustrative of the method of producing the garment, and Fig. 5 on a smaller scale represents the sweater completed.

The garment herein to be described may be produced on a Lamb or other knitting machine having two rows of needles, so inclined one with relation to the other, and so actuated that the needles of one row will, in their reciprocations, cross between the needles of the other row, as customary in knitting ribbed fabric.

Sweaters as now commonly made have long collars which are rolled over and down loosely about the neck. This collar works up, varies in height in use and leaves, at times, more or less of the neck of the wearer exposed, this difference in exposure tending toward producing throat trouble, and further, it is sometimes rolled down so as to present too great thickness. It has been my aim to make a double collar which shall remain permanently in the same position, and which will present a more uniform stiffness about the neck. To this end I have provided the body of the sweater with a tubular collar knitted to the body of the garment, and I have also devised a method of knitting whereby the garment is without a sewed seam at the top of the shoulder.

In the manufacture of my improved garment I set up the yarn for the collar on the knitting needles, using enough needles near the center of the series of needles to make the collar for one-half of the garment. I then knit a ribbed web as *a*, Fig. 1, of a length suf-

ficient for one-half the doubled collar, the edge *a'* where the knitting is commenced being a finished edge. When the knitting has been carried to the point *a*² the operator will stop the machine, and it will be understood that both rows of needles will have upon them loops of the knitted fabric. The operator will now pick off or transfer the loops from one row of needles onto the needles of the other row previously instrumental in knitting the collar. With the loops all on needles in one of the rows, the operator will bring up to the needles, from which he has just removed the collar loops, the end *a'* of the collar fabric and will pick its loops onto the needles just left bare for their reception. Next the operator will bring into action at each side of the needles then holding the loops at both ends of one-half of the collar, said collar being, it will be understood, doubled over on itself, as in full lines Fig. 2, a sufficient number of needles to form loops for the shoulders of the garment each side the neck, and the operator will then again set up the thread, this time on the extra needles so brought into action, and will start the machine, feed all the said needles with thread and knit one-half of the body of the shirt as *b*, said body being shown by dotted lines Fig. 2 and full lines Fig. 3, the knitting being continued until the body portion has been knitted of the proper or desired length, and that half of the garment is run off the needles.

Fig. 3, in side and edge view, shows one half of the sweater made in accordance with my invention.

To make the second half of the garment I proceed first to make the second half of the collar, and I make the said half *c* of the collar, as previously described of the half *a*, and double the collar putting the loops at the end of the collar fabric upon the set of needles left bare for their reception, as described of the half *a* and as shown in Fig. 2. Then extra needles at each side those holding the loops of the half *c* of the collar as just described are thrown into operation, and the first half *b* of the garment, see Fig. 3, previously knitted, is taken again to the machine, and the loops in the line *b'* of the body, which is the line of the top of the shoulder of

the garment, are put onto the needles, at the sides of the second half *c* of the collar already on the needles, the machine is started and yarn is fed to the needles and the second half *d* of the garment is knitted onto the loops of the two ends of the part *c* of the collar, and to the portions *b'* of the first half *b* of the body, and the knitting is continued until the second half *d* of the body is of the proper length, when the fabric so produced is run off the needles.

Fig. 4 shows the fabric for the collar and body knitted together. Now to make of the fabric in Fig. 4 a shirt such as shown in Fig. 5, the side edges of the folded or tube-like collar parts *a, c*, are stitched together thus completing the neck, the same being tubular, and the edges 2—2, 3—3, are brought together and united to form a tubular body, as shown in Fig. 5, leaving however proper spaces for the arms.

I am not aware prior to my invention that one-half the body of a sweater has ever been knitted onto a collar and the second half of the collar then made, and the second half of the body then knitted onto the second half of the collar and the shoulder parts of the first half of the body, and my improved method is not therefore limited to making the collar double or tubular in all instances.

I have not herein shown the sleeve of the sweater, but it will be obvious that the cuff end of the sleeve and the body thereof may be made in just the same manner as described for making the collar and the body of the sweater, and by the term collar and body, as designated in the claims, I intend to cover

the cuff as equivalent to the collar, and the body of the sleeve as equivalent to the body of the sweater.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a knitted garment composed of a circular body having a tubular collar knitted thereto, substantially as described.

2. The herein described method of knitting a garment having a collar, which consists in knitting one-half the collar, then knitting one-half the body to the collar, knitting the other half of the collar, and finally knitting the second half of the body onto the second half of the collar and as a continuation of the shoulder portions of the first half of the body, substantially as described.

3. The herein described method of knitting a garment having a collar, which consists in knitting one-half the collar, doubling the collar onto the needles, then knitting one-half the body to the collar, knitting the other half of the collar, doubling the second half of the collar onto the needles, and finally knitting the second half of the body onto the second half of the collar and as a continuation of the shoulder portions of the first half of the body, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WALTER A. O'BRIEN.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. GREGORY,
LAURA MANIX.