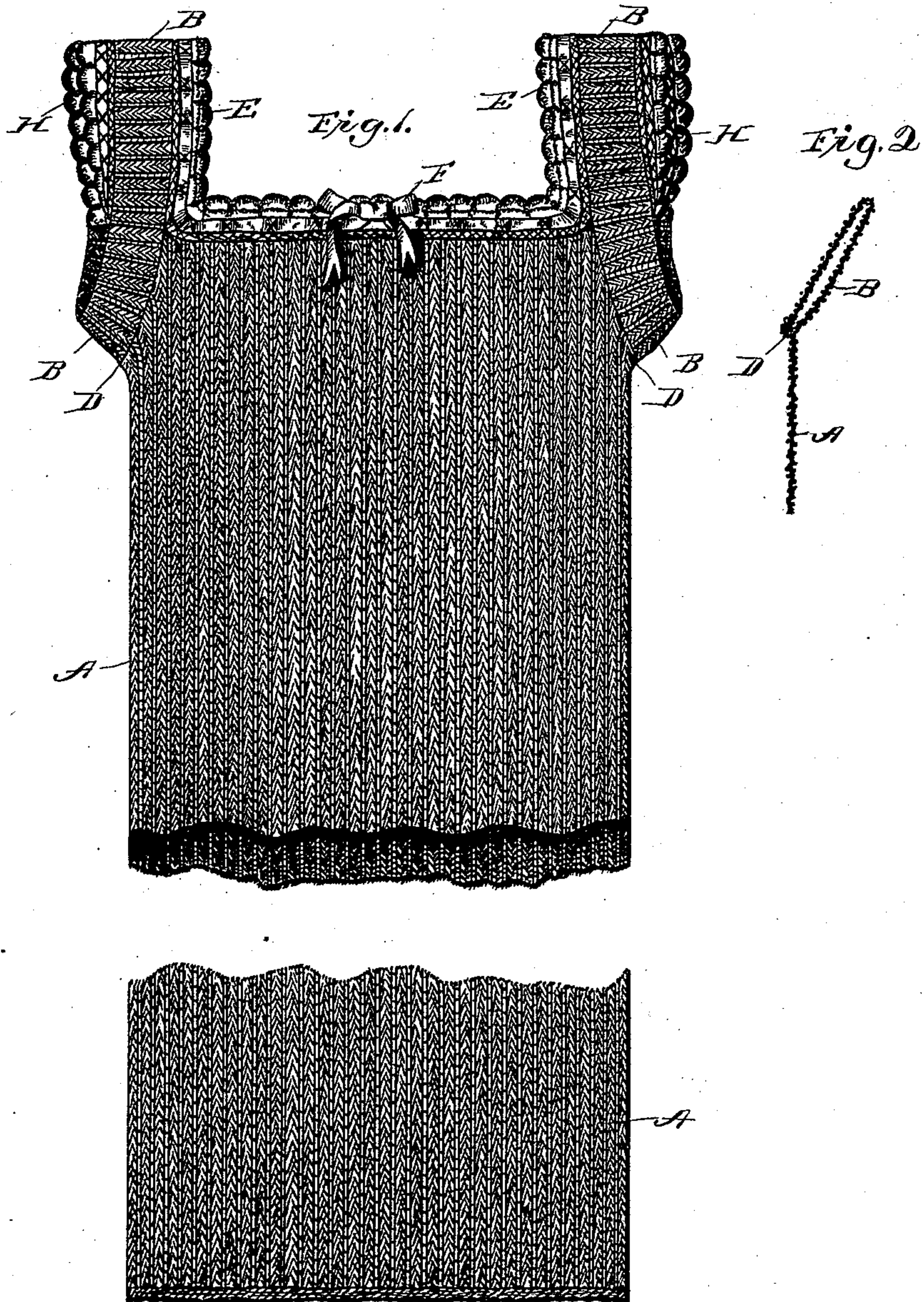


(No Model.)

J. FELDENHEIMER.  
KNITTED UNDERSHIRT.

No. 528,536.

Patented Nov. 6, 1894.



Witnesses:  
J. M. Fowler Jr.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH FELDENHEIMER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## KNITTED UNDERSHIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,536, dated November 6, 1894.

Application filed August 9, 1894. Serial No. 519,860. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH FELDENHEIMER, of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knitted-Fabric Undershirts; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention has for its object to provide an improved under shirt or vest of knitted fabric and designed more particularly for ladies' wear, the objects of the invention being to provide a garment which will adapt itself to the wearer's body without drawing under the arms, and the shoulder pieces of which will remain in place better than heretofore by reason of the elasticity of the arm opening and consequent clinging fit of the garment, all as will be now described and pointed out particularly in the claims at the end of this specification.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 represents a lady's knit under shirt or vest embodying my present improvement. Fig. 2 is a detail illustrative section taken through the fabric forming the shoulder piece and opening for the arm.

Shirts or vests of the character contemplated by this invention are sleeveless and as heretofore commonly made and sold, the body portions were made in tubular form with a "two and two" or other suitable rib stitch which is exceedingly elastic transversely of the body portion of the garment and at the top integral portions of the fabric were extended over the shoulder, the neck opening being formed by cutting out the central portion of the fabric at front and rear, and the arm holes by slitting the fabric at each side. The edges were then finished off with an ornamental border or edging through which a narrow ribbon was usually run.

Now, in my present invention, while I form the body A in the usual manner and may finish it off around the lower edge as heretofore, at the top instead of forming the arm-openings by simple slits in the fabric and which owing to the fact that the opening is

formed longitudinally of the ribs will be comparatively non-elastic, I remove a V section of webbing on each side of the back portion at the top and form the bottom of the arm opening by inserting a piece of webbing having its greatest elasticity transversely of the arm-hole. In the construction shown, a narrow piece of fabric B similar to the body portion and of a diameter corresponding to the size of the arm hole is doubled on itself transversely of the ribs, and its raw edges united to the body portion at the bottom of the arm-hole along the line D by any of the usual stitching or overseaming machines. These pieces of web B extend up and form the shoulder straps, the inner raw edges forming the sides of the neck opening being united and finished by any usual trimming E and which preferably extends entirely around the said neck opening and carries the ribbon or tape F for drawing up the neck opening when desired.

The doubled edge of the shoulder strap is preferably not finished by a bordering at the bottom, as it is desired to preserve the greatest possible elasticity at this point, but around the upper portion from say points opposite the bottom of the neck opening it is desirable to place an ornamental border or edging H. This gives the garment a completely finished appearance and prevents any undue stretching of the shoulder straps where they pass over the shoulder of the wearer.

By the construction described it will be noted that not only are material advantages gained in the wearing qualities of the garment, to wit the adaptability of the garment to the size of the wearer's shoulder, and the perfect fitting of the same under the arm and over the shoulder, but an advantage is gained in the manufacture, as there is no waste in cutting the knitted tube from which the body of the garments are made to form a proper neck opening, it being simply necessary to make a substantially straight cut across the tube at the bottom of the neck opening and then cut the bottom of the arm-holes, the material coming from the latter, when any is removed, constituting the sole waste. When a section is removed in this manner, it is preferably removed in front of each side line



so as to leave the full width of the body portion across the back as will be readily understood from the drawings.

Doubling the fabric around the arm-hole is a most convenient and strong manner of making the garment, giving a good body of soft absorbent material fitting well up under the arm and drawing the shoulder straps down firmly on the shoulder, but it will be understood that I do not wish to be limited specifically to this feature as the fabric may be of single thickness and still fall within the scope of the invention.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, the herein described sleeveless undershirt, of knitted fabric, having the body formed with the ribs running longitudinally and having the upper portion slitted or cut at the sides, and the narrow endless shoulder straps, formed of knitted goods with the ribs running transversely, secured at the lower portion along one edge, around the edges of the

slits or cuts in the top of the body to lie beneath the arms of the wearer and form the edges of the arm openings; substantially as described.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, the herein described sleeveless undershirt of knitted fabric, having the body formed with the ribs running longitudinally and having the upper portion slitted or cut at the sides, the narrow two ply shoulder straps formed of knitted goods with the ribs running transversely, secured at the lower portion along one edge to the edges of the cuts formed in the top of the body portion, to lie beneath the arms of the wearer and form the edges of the arm openings and the substantially non-elastic edging secured along the edges of the shoulder straps over the top of the opening; substantially as described.

JOSEPH FELDENHEIMER.

Witnesses:

HERBERT ALRECH,  
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