

(No Model.)

W. M. STEPPACHER.  
SHIRT.

No. 584,168.

Patented June 8, 1897.

Fig. 1.

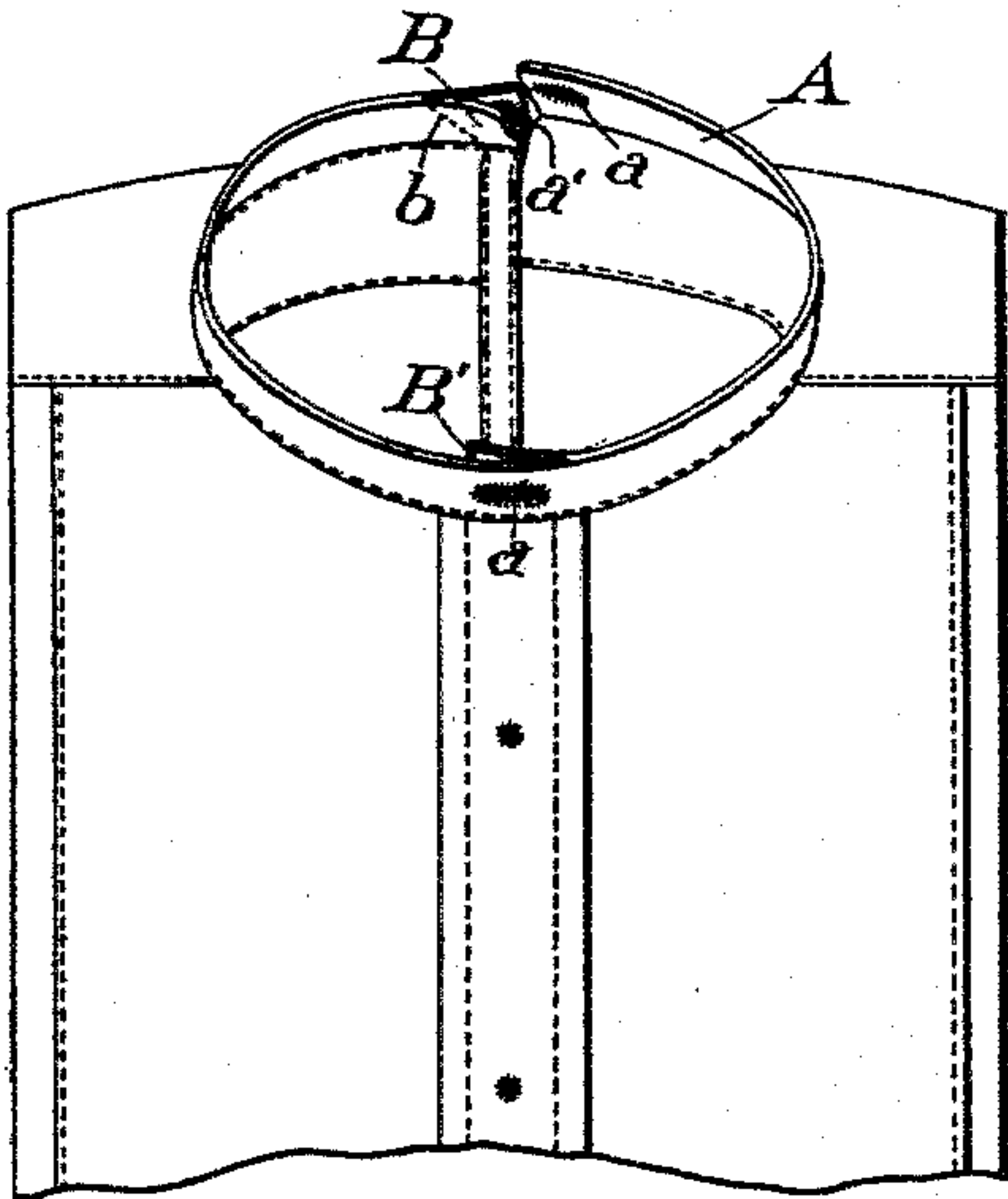


Fig. 2.

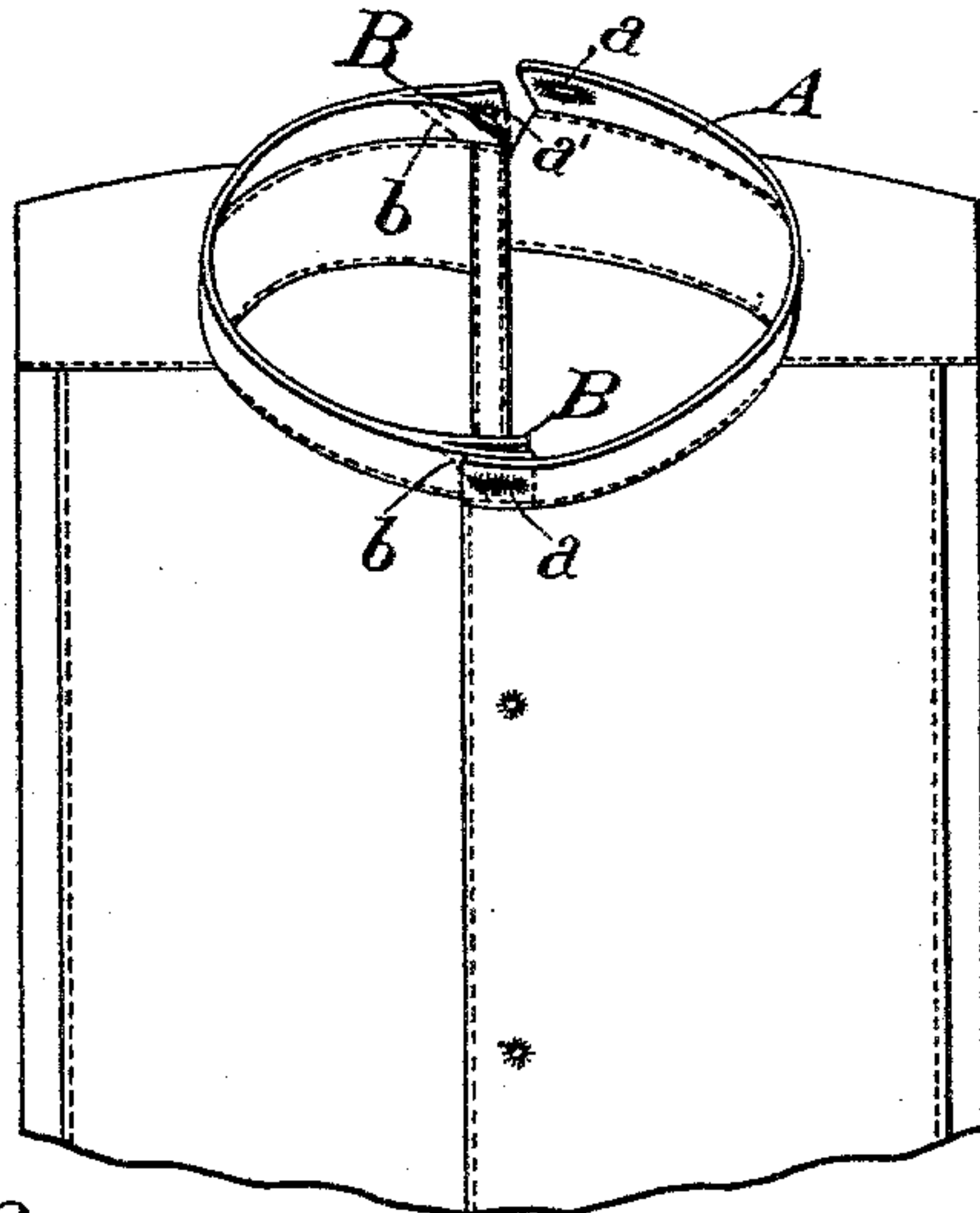


Fig. 3.



Fig. 4.

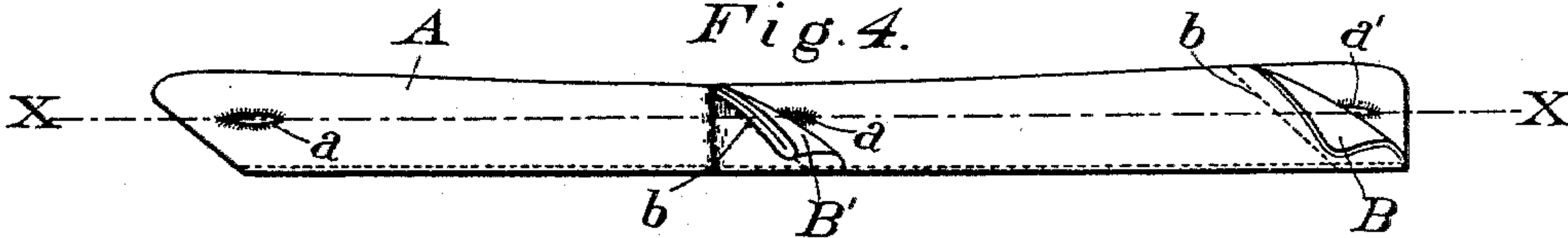


Fig. 5.

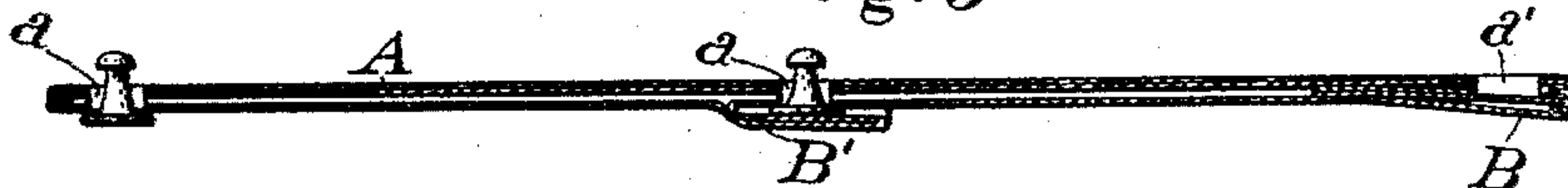
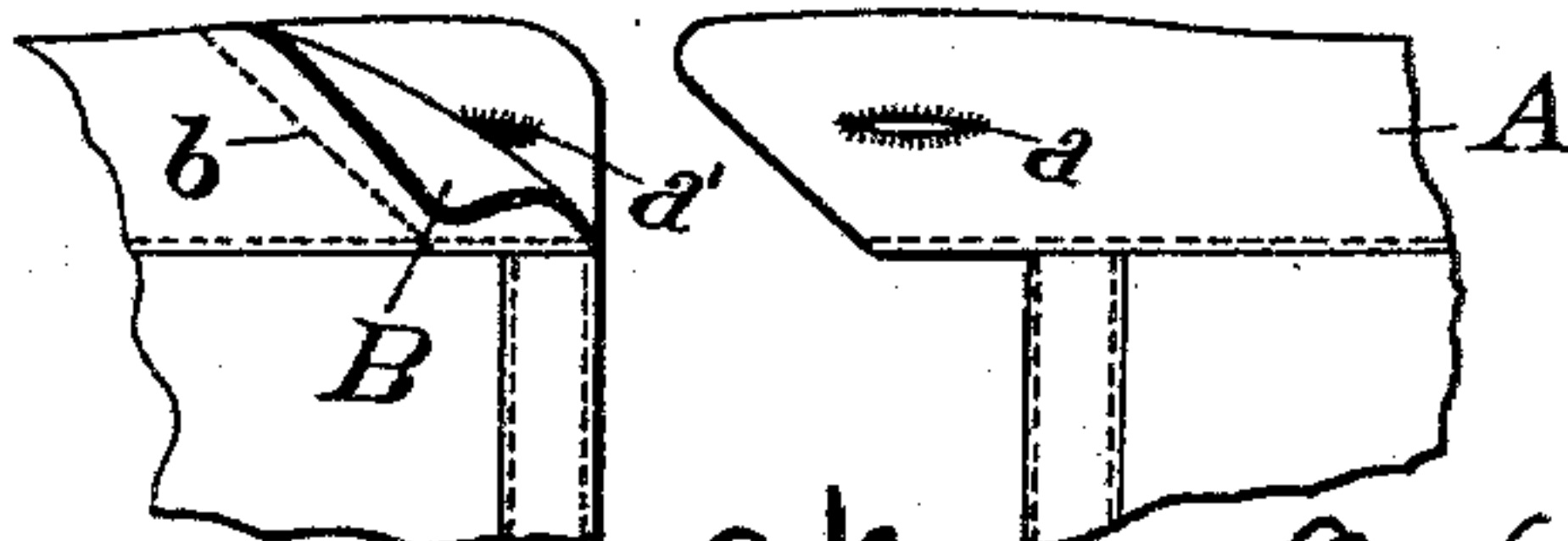


Fig. 6.



Fig. 7.



Witnesses  
James C. Smith  
Sam'l D. Jacobson

Inventor  
Walter M. Steppacher  
by Lewis Abraham  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER M. STEPPACHER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

## SHIRT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 584,168, dated June 8, 1897.

Application filed February 16, 1897. Serial No. 623,701. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WALTER M. STEPPACHER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Neckbands for Shirts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein like letters of reference indicate similar parts on each figure, forming a part of this specification.

My invention has special reference to shirt-neckbands provided with means to protect the connecting studs or buttons and to prevent them coming in contact with the wearer's neck.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents the upper portion of an open-back shirt having a continuous neckband constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 represents the upper portion of a shirt with front and rear openings having a neckband composed of two lengths constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the neckband shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 5 is a sectional view on line  $xx$  of Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a plan view of the neckband shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 7 is a detail view of opposite ends of the neckband, showing meeting ends connected to upper section of a shirt.

My invention relates to that class of neckbands having an inner flap that when the shirt is on the person will overlie the base of the fastening-stud and prevent chafing the skin of the wearer.

The invention consists of a neckband composed of a continuous length of folded fabric the lower edges of which are stitched together, having one end finished with an inclined edge and the opposite end with a receiving-pocket, as hereinafter fully described.

In a neckband constructed in accordance with my invention, of the form shown in Fig. 1, at one end of the band A is a buttonhole  $a$ , passing through all layers of the superimposed fabric. At the opposite end the overlying folds of fabric are left unconnected at

the upper edge a predetermined distance, forming a pocket-flap B, limited in length by a rearward diagonal line of stitching  $b$ . The fabric under the flap B is provided with buttonhole  $a'$ . I deem this form of pocket to receive the opposite end of the band as an improvement on devices employed for similar purposes, as when the opposite end is inserted under the flap B the buttonholes  $a$  and  $a'$  will at once overlie each other in exact registration, as the inserted end of the band is guided and limited by the diagonal line of stitching and is prevented from falling downwardly.

When a plain separate flap is attached to a neckband for similar purposes, leaving a free pocket with upper and lower openings, the end of the band introduced therein frequently falls downwardly and there is difficulty in bringing the buttonholes directly in conjunction. The diagonal row of stitching overcomes this objection in devices in common use for like purposes.

Another feature of my invention that will be duly appreciated is that the flap B is integral with the body of fabric composing the neckband proper. When separate strips or flaps of material are sewed onto the end of the neckband, they are apt to be torn away when the shirt is being laundered or by tension when the opposite ends of the band are being united, for, as will be readily understood, the connections are made simply by handwork without the operator having any view of the parts intended to be united.

Thus far I have confined my description to the opposite ends of a band and means for uniting them at rear of a shirt, but, as is well known, a stud is also placed in front of an open-back shirt, and in order to prevent the base of such stud chafing the wearer's neck, in carrying out my invention the band is looped over at the median point of its length, such looped fold of the fabric forming a central pocket B', as fully illustrated in the drawings, which in practice will overlie the rear disk of the stud. Said central pocket B' is limited by a diagonal row of stitches of same character as described for meeting ends of the band.

In practicing my invention it is not necessary that a neckband be of one continuous length. It may be composed of two sections,



as shown in Fig. 6, and this form will be found useful on open-front shirts.

In Fig. 2 is illustrated a shirt having a neckband embodying this feature of my invention  
5 connected thereto.

Each opposite end of one sectional length of the neckband is provided with buttonholes, and each opposite end of the other length is provided with a flap B, connected rearwardly  
10 to the underlying fabric by a row of diagonal stitches *b*.

In attaching the neckband it is preferable that one end thereof shall extend a short distance outwardly from the body of the shirt to  
15 freely enter the pocket formed by the flap B at the opposite end, as illustrated in Fig. 7.

As before set forth, the pocket is formed by the flap, which is an integral portion of the neckband, there being no separate pieces  
20 sewed on to form receptacles for the opposite tongue end of the band.

Having thus fully described my invention and the manner of its operation, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the  
25 United States of America, is—

1. A shirt-neckband constructed of a continuous length of fabric longitudinally folded to form a plurality of flies, one end of which band is finished with an upwardly-inclined  
30 edge provided with a buttonhole, the flies at

the opposite end being unstitched, forming an open pocket limited in depth by a diagonal line of stitching extending therein in the same direction as the outer edge of the opposite end of the band, substantially as described. 35

2. A neckband consisting of a continuous length of folded fabric having at each end buttonholes, looped up at median point of its length to form a central pocket-flap, connected  
40 rearwardly to underlying folded fabric, by a row of diagonal stitches, said band having at one end an open pocket composed of a flap integral with the fabric of which the band is composed, said flap at its rear end connected  
45 to underlying folded fabric by a diagonal row of stitches, substantially as described.

3. The combination of a shirt with a neckband of the character described having one end outwardly extending from the shirt-body,  
50 said extension provided with buttonhole, the opposite end of the neckband having a pocket composed of a flap integral with the band and connected rearwardly to underlying folds of fabric by a row of diagonal stitches, substan-  
55 tially as described.

WALTER M. STEPPACHER.

Witnesses:

WILFRED H. BALDWIN,

WM. H. BROOKER.