

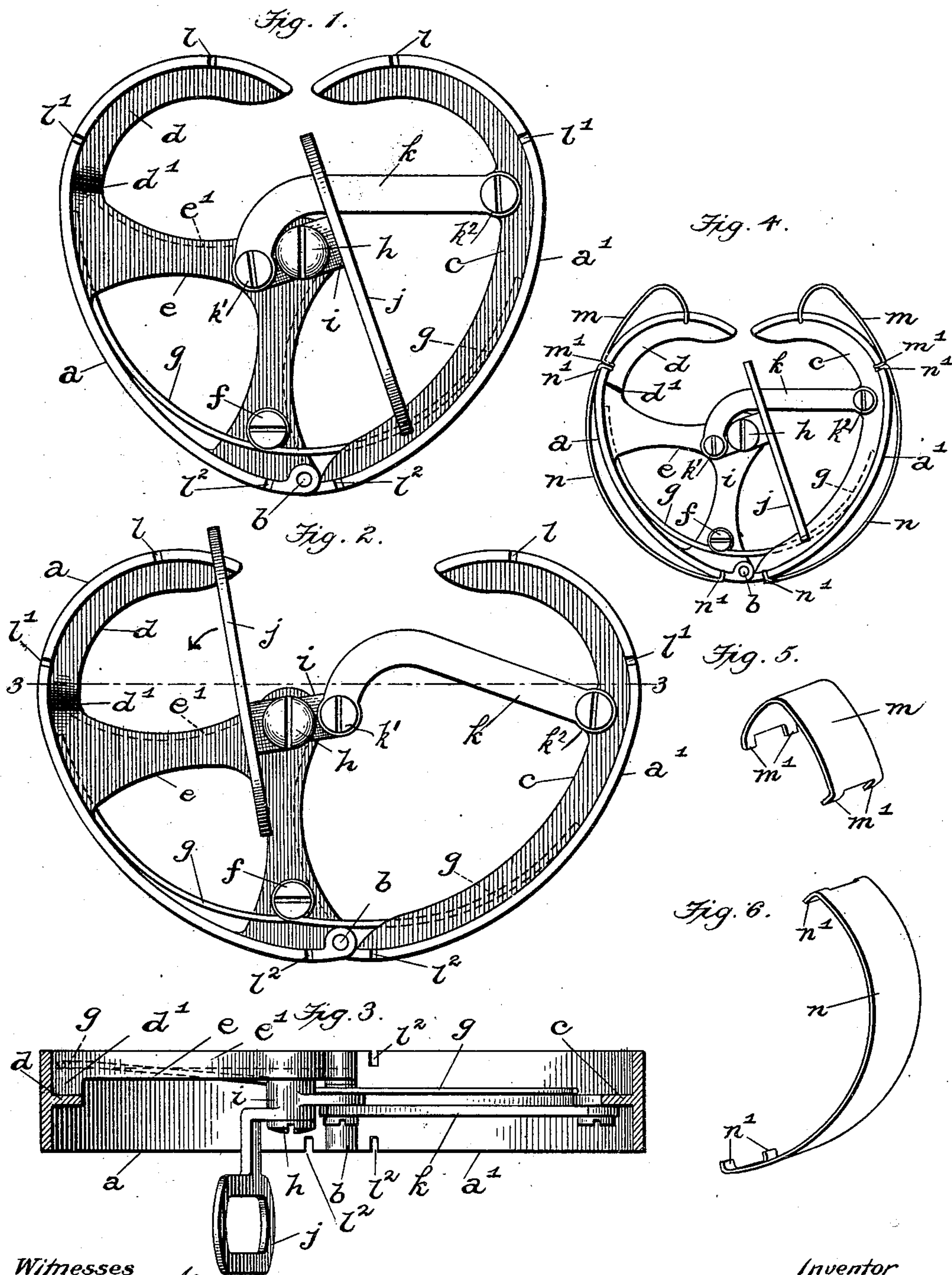
No. 712,752.

Patented Nov. 4, 1902.

D. B. ASHMAN.  
NECKBAND SHAPER.

(Application filed Aug. 23, 1901.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses  
H. F. Meyer Jr.  
J. S. Stitt.

Inventor  
David B. Ashman  
By Chas. B. Mann  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID B. ASHMAN, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND.

## NECKBAND-SHAPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 712,752, dated November 4, 1902.

Application filed August 23, 1901. Serial No. 72,979. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DAVID B. ASHMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Neckband-Shapers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is an improved device for holding in expanded shape the neckband of a shirt while the bosom is being ironed.

In laundering shirts it is customary to iron the neckband first. The two portions of the neckband are then connected together by a collar-button. The body portion of the shirt is then drawn over a bosom-board to be ironed. In order to hold the neckband in expanded shape while the bosom is being ironed, a neckband-shaper is inserted when its parts are in closed or contracted position in the said neckband, and the shaper is then opened or spread apart to expand the neckband. While the bosom is being ironed, its material can be stretched and pressed by the iron in directions away from the already-ironed neckband.

One of the objects of this invention is to provide an improved neckband-shaper which will exert an automatic spring-pressure on the expanded neckband and which when in contracted position will automatically hold itself closed against the action of the outwardly-pressing spring; and another object of the invention is to provide a neckband-shaper with means whereby its marginal contour may be changed when desired to give different shapes to the expanded neckband.

The invention consists in certain constructions, arrangements, and combinations of the parts hereinafter fully described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a face view of the improved neckband-shaper with the parts in closed position. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the parts in open position. Fig. 3 is a section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a face view of the shaper, on a smaller scale, and illustrates the auxiliary sections or plates employed to change the marginal contour of the neckband-shaper. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of one of said plates. Fig. 6 is a similar view of another plate.

The improved neckband-shaper comprises

two curved sections  $a a'$ , made of rigid or inelastic material, preferably cast metal, and pivotally connected together at one end, as by a hinge  $b$ . One section  $a'$  is provided throughout the length of its inner side with a longitudinal rib  $c$ , and the other section  $a$  is provided with a longitudinal rib  $d$ , extending from its free end and merging at  $d'$  into an angle-bracket  $e$ , which extends inwardly toward the first-named section  $a'$  and which has a marginal rib  $e'$ , as shown in Fig. 3. From one face of the said bracket  $e$ , and preferably near the hinge  $b$ , projects a pin  $f$ , and a spring  $g$  is coiled around said pin, the two ends of said spring extending in opposite directions and each bearing against one of the pivoted sections  $a a'$ , whereby to press the free ends of the latter away from each other and hold the neckband-shaper open. To the said bracket  $e$  is secured a stud  $h$ . A draw-arm  $i$  is swiveled on said stud. To said draw-arm is secured a handle  $j$ , which facilitates turning the draw-arm, and one end of a curved link  $k$  is secured by a joint  $k'$  to said draw-arm and the other end secured by a pivot  $k^2$  to the opposite hinged section  $a'$ .

When the hinged sections  $a a'$  of the shaper are in the closed or contracted position illustrated in Fig. 1, the stud  $h$  is nearer to the pivot  $k^2$ , which joins the link  $k$  to the hinged section  $a'$ , than is the joint  $k'$ , which joins said link to the draw-arm  $i$ , and when the said hinged sections are in the open or spread-apart position illustrated in Fig. 2 said stud  $h$  is farther from the pivot  $k^2$  than is the joint  $k'$ .

In order to draw the two hinged sections of the neck-band shaper together, the swiveling draw-arm is turned on its stud in the direction indicated by the dart in Fig. 2, and so soon as the joint  $k'$  connecting the draw-arm and link reaches a position where the axis of the stud  $h$  lies between the joint and pivot and past the center line drawn between the axis of joint  $k'$  and pivot  $k^2$  the tension of the spring  $g$ , acting to spread the two sections  $a a'$ , will draw the concave edge of the link against the draw-arm, and thereby automatically hold the hinged sections of the neckband shaper in the closed position illustrated in Fig. 1. In this closed position of the shaper-sections the axis of the stud  $h$  has position between the concave edge of the link and an



imaginary center line drawn straight between the axis of the joint  $k'$  and the axis of the pivot  $k^2$ . When the draw-arm  $i$  is turned in the direction reverse to that shown by the  
 5 dart, the spring  $g$  will press the two hinged sections to the open position just so soon as the joint  $k'$  passes to the other side of the "center" line just described.

The two pivoted sections illustrated in the  
 10 accompanying drawings are each approximately of semiheart shape, which is the shape generally desired for certain grades of shirts; but it is sometimes desired to shape a neckband in slightly-different forms, and for this  
 15 purpose I have provided means, which will be now described, to temporarily alter the marginal contour of the shaper-sections. Each of the said sections  $a a'$  is provided in its side edges with a plurality of notches—in  
 20 the present instance there are three notches in each side edge and designated  $l l' l^2$ , respectively—and four relatively short curved plates or auxiliary sections  $m n$  are provided with lugs  $m'$  and  $n'$ , respectively, which take  
 25 in said notches, as indicated in Fig. 4, in order to detachably hold said plates on said sections. It is obvious that either the two shorter plates  $m$  or longer plates  $n$  may be used with or without the other two plates, so that the  
 30 neckband may be shaped in different forms, and the said plates are preferably made of spring metal, so that they will securely retain themselves in place on their respective sections. The said detachable plates are of  
 35 course of different curvature than the sections to which they are intended to be attached.

In practice the neckband of the shirt is first ironed and its portions fastened together  
 40 by collar-buttons. The shirt is then drawn over a bosom-board. The shaper, with its sections closed together, is inserted within the already-ironed neckband and is then sprung open, so that its two sections will press  
 45 outwardly against the neckband and hold the same in proper shape, and the bosom of the shirt is then ironed.

In those appended claims in which the detachable plates or auxiliary sections  $m$  or  $n$   
 50 are recited the pivoted sections  $a a'$  are for the sake of clearness called "main" sections.

While the accompanying drawings illus-

trate one form of the invention, it is to be understood that changes in the shape and arrangement of the parts may be made with-  
 55 out departing from the scope of the invention as defined in the appended claims.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters  
 Patent, is— 60

1. A neckband-shaper, comprising two shaper-sections pivotally connected together at one end; a link pivoted at one end to one of said shaper-sections; and a swiveled draw-  
 65 arm carried by the other shaper-section, said draw-arm and the other end of said link being jointed together and arranged so that the joint between said draw-arm and link may be moved past a center line connecting the  
 70 axis of the pivot between said link and its shaper-section, and the axis about which said draw-arm is swiveled, whereby to hold said two shaper-sections locked in closed position, as set forth.

2. A neckband-shaper, comprising two  
 75 curved shaper-sections of inelastic material hinged together at one end and one of said sections provided with a bracket extending inwardly toward the other section; a draw-arm swiveled on said bracket and provided  
 80 with a handle; a curved link jointed to said draw-arm and pivoted to the other hinged section; and a spring tending to press the free ends of said shaper-sections apart, as set forth. 85

3. A neckband-shaper, comprising curved main sections hinged together at one end; means for spreading said sections apart; and spring auxiliary sections of different degrees  
 90 of curvature than the said main sections and adapted to be detachably secured to the latter, as set forth.

4. A neckband-shaper, comprising curved main sections pivotally connected together and provided with notches; means for spread-  
 95 ing said sections apart; and auxiliary sections provided with lugs to take into said notches.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

DAVID B. ASHMAN.

Witnesses:

FREDERICK S. STITT,  
 CHARLES L. VIETSCH.