

B. WESSELL.
KNITTING.

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1,038,043.

Patented Sept. 10, 1912.

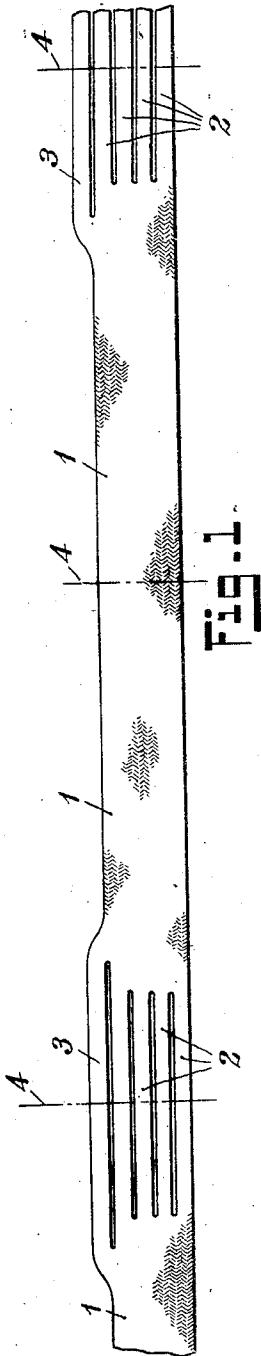


FIG. 1.

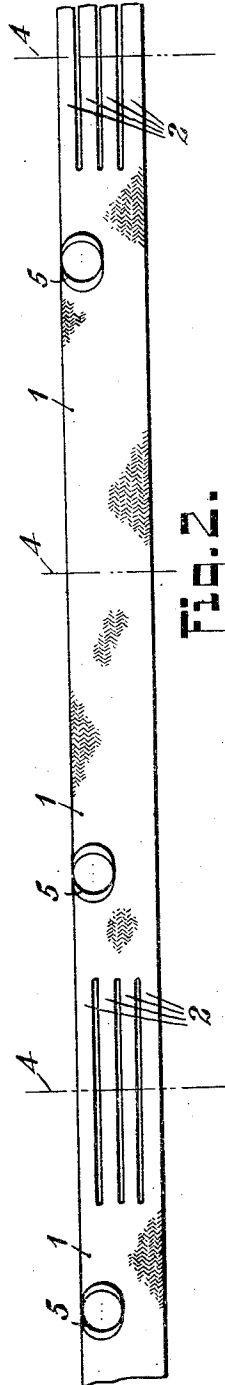


FIG. 2.

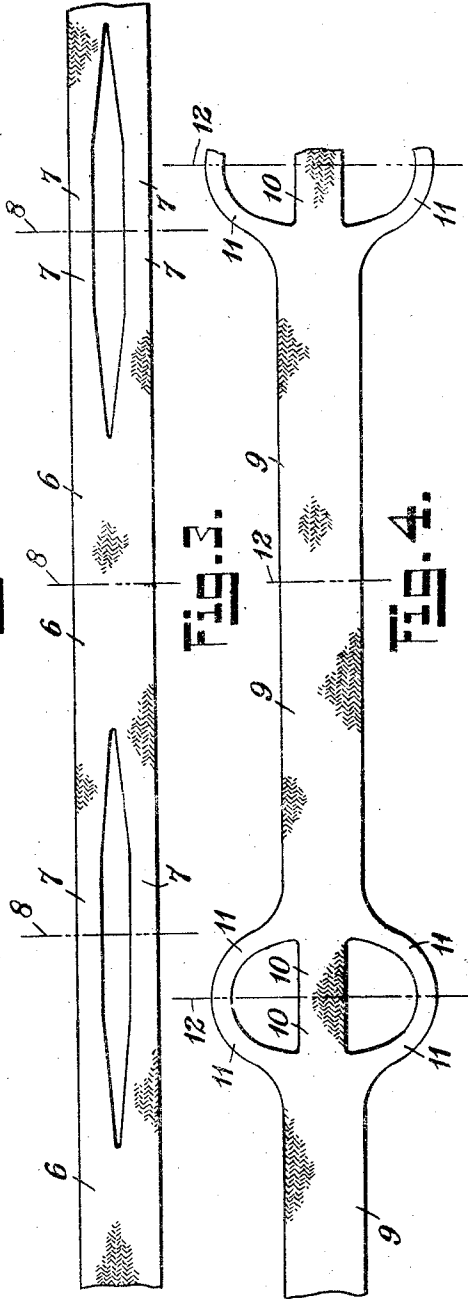


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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KNITTING.

1,038,043.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 10, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERT WESSELL, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Johnstown, county of Fulton, and State of New York, have invented or discovered certain new and useful Improvements in Knitting, of which the following is a full, clear, and complete disclosure.

My invention relates to knitting and knitted fabrics and more particularly to methods for knitting and forming gloves, drawers, shirts and similar articles having main body portions and a plurality of finger or limb extensions. Heretofore in knitting such garments it has been customary to form each garment by separate and independent operations. For example, in knitting gloves, it has heretofore been customary to knit the body portion and then the separate finger and thumb extensions and then to remove the finished glove and commence the formation of another glove. These independent operations require much attention and time by the operators and are expensive. It has also been customary to form the body portions of the gloves by separate operations and then to attach the thumb and finger extensions by sewing, but this method results in an inferior glove having objectionable seams.

The object of my invention is to make seamless gloves, drawers, shirts and similar articles by a continuous method with less labor and expense than has heretofore been necessary.

In practising my invention, the knitting machine, if a machine be used, is so arranged, adjusted and operated that a single elongated member is formed composed of a plurality of garments connected with one another, the elongated member is then cut into separate seamless garments. In the drawing accompanying and forming a part of this specification, Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 show examples of such elongated members.

In Fig. 1 the elongated member is composed of a plurality of gloves comprising body portions 1 with finger extensions 2 and thumb extensions 3. The body portion of one glove is a continuation of the body portion of the adjacent glove, and the finger and thumb extensions of one glove are extensions and continuations of the like parts of the adjacent glove. The elongated member is formed by one continuous operation

until it has reached the desired length when it is removed from the machine and cut on the lines, 4, into separate glove members. The finger and thumb extensions are then given the proper length and closed with thread or yarn, in any suitable way. The cut edges of the material at the ends opposite the fingers can be finished by hand or machines so as to prevent raveling.

The elongated member of Fig. 2 is the same as that of Fig. 1, except that the thumb extensions are omitted and openings 5 are left so that the loops forming these openings may be later transferred to needles and the thumbs formed by independent operations.

Fig. 3 illustrates an elongated member composed of a plurality of drawers made according to my improved method. Here the elongated member is composed of body portions 6 and leg extensions 7 formed by one continuous operation and adapted to be cut on the lines 8 into separate garments complete, except for the finishing of the cut edges.

In Fig. 4, the elongated member is composed of a plurality of sweater or shirt members having body portions 9, neck extensions 10, and arm extensions 11. These are formed joined to one another and adapted to be cut on the lines 12 into separate garments in the same way as the gloves and drawers above referred to.

In all of the instances above given the elongated member is formed of tubular body portions alternating with tubular divided portions adapted to form the thumb, finger, arm, leg or neck extensions. These divided portions are formed by dropping or picking up stitches and they are given the correct size, shape and set by changing the tension of the machine, the size of the yarn, or by other expedients now well known to those skilled in the art of knitting.

While I have described how certain articles may be made by my improved method, it is to be understood that these are only given as examples, and that my improved method is applicable to all knitted objects having main tubular body portions and a plurality of divided tubular portions or extensions.

In practising my invention any suitable knitting device or mechanism may be used though I prefer to use such a machine as is described in my pending application, Serial

No. 671,046. The machine referred to is of the flat type and embodies improvements devised by me especially intended for use in practising my improved method. I have
 5 pointed out in the said application that the machine is to be so operated as to knit first a tubular body portion, then to successively knit thereon a plurality of tubular limb extensions and to preferably join these with
 10 another body portion and so on, repeating the operations until an elongated strip of the kind above referred to is formed. These are essential steps of my improved method and this machine provides a convenient and
 15 practical means for practising the method.

Instead of beginning the series of steps by knitting a body portion it is of course obvious that the operator may first knit a series of limb extensions, then join these with a
 20 body portion, and continue the operation until a strip of the kind described of the desired length is formed.

Having now described my improved method, what I claim is:

25 1. The method of forming a knitted gar-

ment, which consists in knitting a tubular body portion and then successively knitting thereon divided tubular extensions, then joining another tubular body portion to said extensions and repeating these operations
 30 until a strip of the desired length has been formed and then cutting the strip into individual garments, substantially as described.

2. The method of forming knitted garments, which consists in knitting a tubular
 35 body portion, then successively forming thereon divided double length tubular limb extensions, then forming on the outer ends of such double length extensions a double length body portion and repeating these op-
 40 erations until a strip formed of alternate double length body portions and double length divided limb extensions has been formed, and then severing such strip into
 45 individual garments, substantially as described.

BERT WESSELL.

Witnesses:

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