April 23, 1929. A. F. McDONNELL 1,710,371

COLLAR

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Fig. 1.

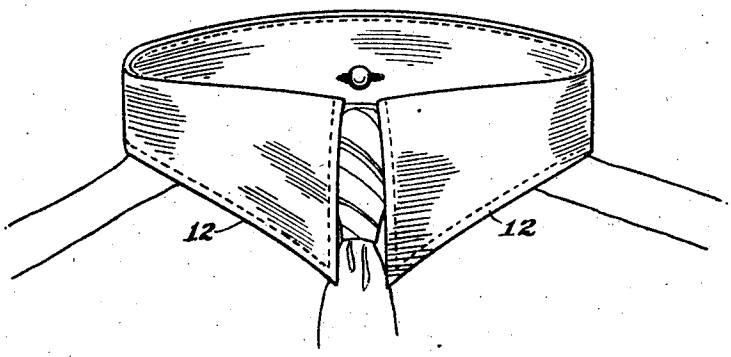
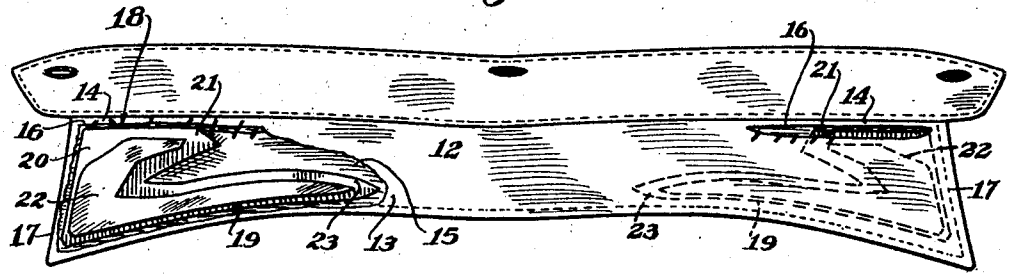


Fig. 2.



Inventor

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Fig. 3.

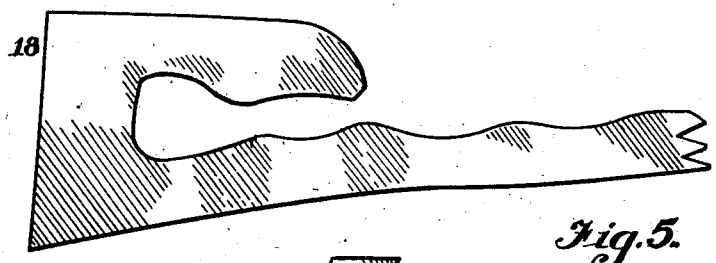


Fig. 5.

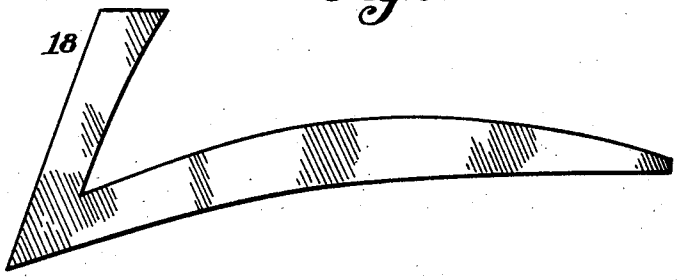


Fig. 4.

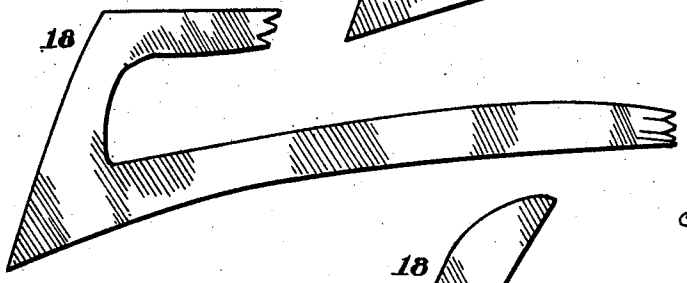


Fig. 6.

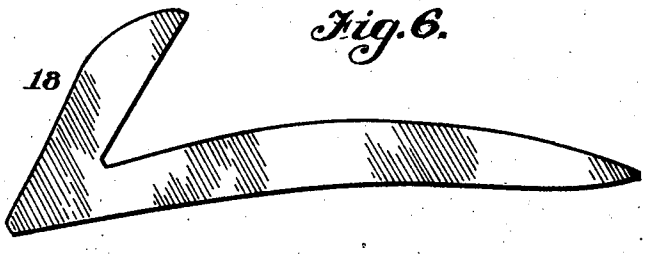


Fig. 7.

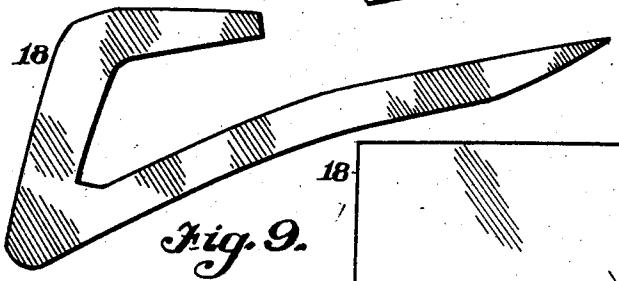


Fig. 8.

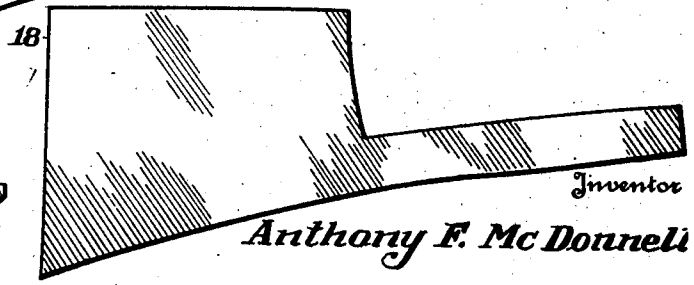
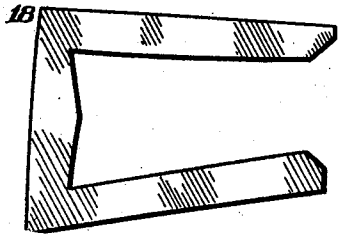


Fig. 9.



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Patented Apr. 23, 1929. 1,710,371

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANTHONY F. McDONNELL, OF DUNMORE, PENNSYLVANIA.

COLLAR.

Application filed October 29, 1927. Serial No. 229,711.

My invention relates to means for stiffening the front portions of negligee or soft collars, whether attached or attachable to the shirt, so as to preserve their neat appearance when worn under unusual usage or perspiration.

Heretofore, soft collars have been prepared with pockets between the inner and outer folds to receive stiffening inserts of various kinds and shapes.

My invention has for its primary object to provide means for stiffening and preserving the neat appearance of the outer fold of any ordinary soft collar, in a very simple, economical and effective manner, and to this end consists briefly in simply slitting the inner plies of the outer folds of an ordinary soft collar with a knife or scissors, so as to form short mouths of pockets between the outer and inner plies and in inserting in each of said mouths a stiffening piece of novel design, which will support the front of the collar and preserve its flexible appearance without betraying the unsightly contours and presence of the stiffening pieces, all as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I shall first describe in detail various modes in which I at present carry the invention into practice and then particularly point out the invention in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this application, in which like parts are designated by the same letters in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front view of a soft collar attached to a shirt provided with one form of a stiffening means according to my invention.

Figure 2 shows the inside of the outer fold of the collar thus equipped.

Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 illustrate other modified forms of stiffening inserts in accord with my invention.

Referring first to Figures 1 and 2, 12 designates the outer fold of an ordinary soft collar which is usually made, as in this example of my invention, of an inner fabric ply 13, and an outer ply 15.

In this particular performance of my invention, I cut with a knife or scissors a short slit 16 in the forward part of the inner ply 13 of each outer fold 12, extending rearwardly from the front stitched edge 17 of the outer fold substantially parallel and close to said folded edge for a distance shorter than the length of the stiffening sheet 18 hereinafter described, so as to form the mouth of a pocket between the outer ply 13 and inner ply 15.

I then provide for each collar end a stiffening insert 18, made for example of ordinary bristol board, which may be waterproofed by wax or otherwise, and formed integrally with a rearwardly extending branch 19, which insert can thus be passed through the shorter slit 16 and the branch 19 extended rearwardly between the inner and outer plies, so as to be supported therebetween and at the same time flexibly support the inner fold to the rear end of the branch. From the forward end of the stiffening branch 19 rises an integral body portion 20 to the folded upper edge 14, which it supports against wilting and wrinkling; and from the top of the body portion 20 extends rearwardly another integral branch 21, which extends under and upholds the upper folded edge 14.

In order that the contour of the stiffening piece 18 may not be revealed from the outside of the collar, I prefer to make the edges of the branches 19 and 21 waved as shown and to make the rear ends of said branches 19 and 21, pointed or serrated (as indicated in Figure 3.)

I also prefer to make the stiffening piece of two superposed but non-coincident laminæ 22 and 23, the smaller lamina 22 being of stiffer and heavier material and the larger lamina 23 of more flexible and lighter material. The outer border of the larger lamina 23 will thus project beyond the border of the smaller lamina 22, and soften the edge of the composite stiffening piece.

Figures 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 show other forms of branched stiffening pieces which may be used in carrying out my invention.

By this improvement the upper folded edge of the collar, as well as the whole front portion thereof, is flexibly supported against wrinkling or wilting, without betraying the presence of the stiffening piece and without detracting from the very desirable soft and flexible appearance of the collar.

I claim as my invention:

1. Means for stiffening a soft collar consisting of a pocket on the inside of the outer fold thereof and a stiffening piece held in said pocket and composed of superposed larger and smaller laminæ, the border of the larger lamina projecting beyond the border of the smaller lamina to soften the edge of the stiffening piece.

2. Means for stiffening a soft collar comprising slits cut in the inner ply of the outer fold and extending close and parallel to the folded edge thereof from both the stitched front edges thereof part way to the middle, and sheets of flexible stiffening material inserted in the pockets thus formed between the outer and inner plies of the outer fold and formed with body portions extending along the stitched end edges of the collar, with rearwardly extending branches extending from the upper ends of the body portions along the folded edge of the outer fold, and with rearwardly extending branches extending from the lower ends of the body portions along the lower edge of the outer fold.

3. Means for stiffening a soft collar in accord with claim 2, in which the branches extending rearwardly from the lower ends of the body portions of the stiffening sheets have waved edges.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

ANTHONY F. McDONNELL.