No. 679,866. Patented Aug. 6, 1901.

J. W. SHIELDS.

GARMENT POCKET.

(Application filed Feb. 5, 1901.)

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

Fig. 1 Fig. 2

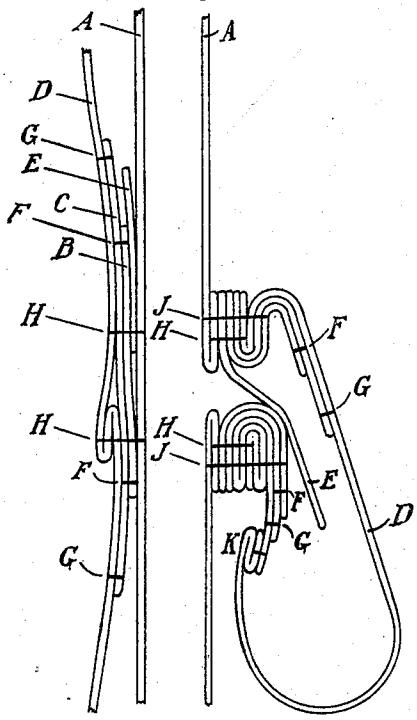

Fig. 3

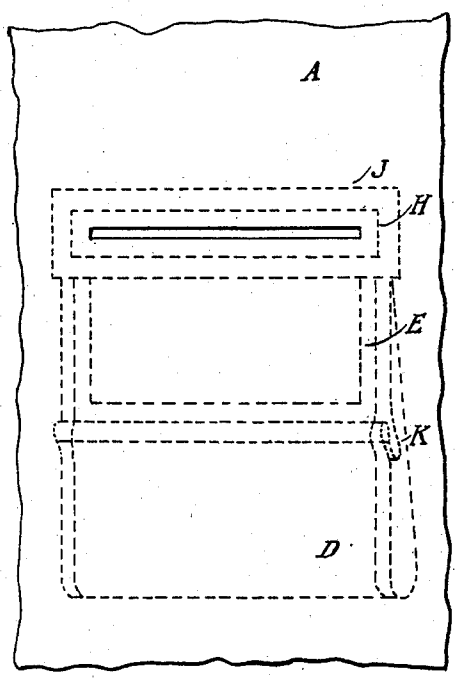

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Fig. 4

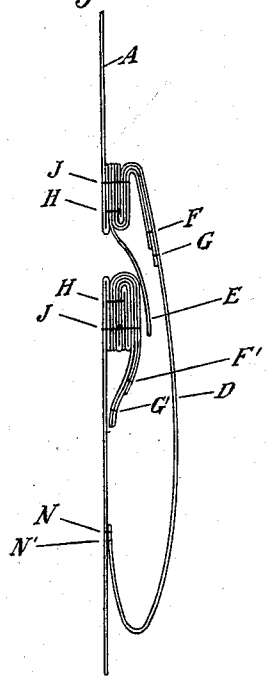
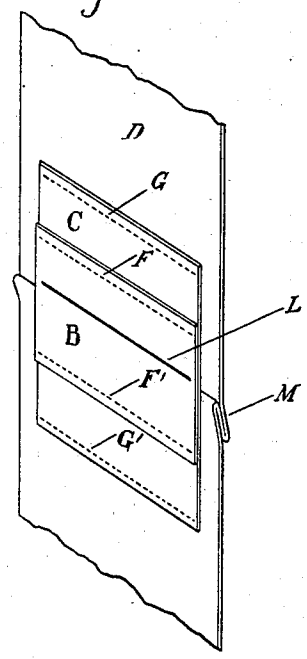


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH WALTER SHIELDS, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

GARMENT-POCKET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 679,866, dated August 6, 1901.

Application filed February 5, 1901. Serial No. 46,115. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH WALTER SHIELDS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Pockets, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to produce a pocket in the highest state of the art combining strength and finish and at the same time reducing the cost of making below that of pockets as commonly made.

In describing my invention reference is made to the accompanying drawings, in which is shown the process of making the pocket in five figures.

Figures 1 and 2 are in vertical section and show the two principal steps in the process, while Fig. 3 represents a front view of the pocket-opening in the garment. Fig. 4 is a vertical section of the reinforce applied to a watch-pocket fastened to the inside of the fabric of the garment, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of said reinforce.

The thickness of the material and the folds of the same are greatly exaggerated to enable the construction to be seen and followed readily. In actual use and practice all these folds are pressed down and stitched firmly to the fabric of the garment.

My pocket takes three pieces of cloth in its making, and they are, as shown in Fig. 1, first, a finishing-piece of the same fabric as the garment, rectangular in shape, having greater length than breadth, (indicated in the drawings by the letter B;) second, a strip of facing-cloth, (indicated by the letter C,) and, third, the material out of which the pocket proper is made, (indicated by the letter D.) In this material a single or a double plait may be folded to come even with the edges of the pocket-opening when finished. I show a single plait in the drawings. B is stitched along its top and bottom edges to C, the line of stitching being shown at F and at F′, as shown in Fig. 5, and C to D, the line of stitching being shown at G and at G′ in Fig. 5, there being no vertical stitches along the sides of either B or C in constructing said reinforce, which, as shown particularly in Fig. 5, is composed of the three pieces B, C, and D. The letter L in Fig. 5 shows where the slit is cut through the reinforce, which, it will be observed, is just above the line of the plait M in said figure. The object of this is to have said plait come even with the lower edge of the pocket-opening—a construction which renders it proof against being torn either along its edge or at the corners. I now take the said pieces, joined together, as stated, and I lay them down upon the upper side or face of the cloth of the garment A, the finishing-piece B being the undermost and next to the cloth of the garment, over the place where the pocket is to be located. The flap E is then inserted, as shown in Fig. 1, and I run a line of stitching H, as shown in Fig. 3, rectangular in shape, through all the said pieces, the plait, the flap, and the underlying cloth of the garment. Then I cut a slit through all the materials, the line of said slit being in the middle of the said rectangular figure formed by the line of stitching. Said slit stops short within said rectangle and does not cut through the stitching at its ends. The next step is to turn into and through said slit the ends of all of said three pieces and with them the edge of the cloth of the garment and press them smoothly down upon the under side of the cloth of the garment, and then a second line of stitching J is run around the edge of said slit to hold all the parts firmly in place. The position of the several pieces is shown in Fig. 2. The ends of the pocket material D are then sewed together, preferably on the front side of the pocket and about one to two inches below the opening or mouth. The reason for this is that I put a plait, distinct from those already mentioned and indicated at K, on the front side of the pocket, and it is conducive to smooth finish to have it come where the ends of the pocket material are joined. After sewing together said ends I next sew together the sides of the pocket material, first folding said plait in the portion which forms the front side or that next the garment, preferably at the place stated in the foregoing, and the pocket is then finished. It is to be noted that the said plait is only caught and held by the stitching at the sides of the pocket. The object of the plait and this mode of fastening it is to render the front side of the pocket yielding up to a certain point in order that

most of the strain, should the pocket contain heavy articles, may be thrown upon its back side—an arrangement which preserves the smooth appearance of and shows no strain upon the front of the garment even when the pocket is heavily loaded.

Another improvement which my method of fastening the pocket in the garment permits is that while the foregoing relates to swinging pockets I can attach a patch-pocket to and on the back side of the cloth of the garment and not to its face, as is commonly done. In order to do this, I simply use about half the quantity of pocket material necessary in the swinging pocket and attach one of its ends to the pieces B and C instead of, as in the swinging pocket, its middle portion, or thereabout, and deal with it as already described—that is, attaching it and the associated pieces B and C to the face of the garment, then cutting the slit, and then passing all through the slit, putting in, if desired, the flap. Having done this, I next sew the said pocket material directly to the back side of the cloth of the garment by preferably two lines of stitches N and N′, as in Fig. 4, around its sides and bottom, and the patch-pocket is completed and makes a very fine appearance in front. Besides, it allows a flap to such a pocket which cannot be neatly added by any other method.

It will be observed that when the pieces are inturned and fastened upon the under side of the cloth of the garment the plait provides a very strong reinforce to the mouth of the pocket and renders it very firm, so that it will keep its shape and not sag nor give way; also, that the facing-cloth comes into its place without further arrangement, while the finishing-piece B appears around the lower inside edge of the mouth of the pocket joined in such an intimate manner with the cloth of the garment as to make a very fine and satisfactory finish.

As it is old to fasten a pocket into a garment by two parallel lines of stitches around its mouth and as the edges around said mouth must naturally be inturned, I do not, therefore, broadly claim any such construction; but

What I claim as new is—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a garment provided with a pocket-opening, a pocket, a facing-strip or reinforce and a finishing-piece of the same fabric as the garment, the material of the pocket being folded into a plait about said opening at its edge and attached to the fabric of the garment, substantially as described.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a garment provided with a pocket-opening, a pocket and a reinforce consisting of a facing-strip and a finishing-strip of the same fabric as the garment, the material of the pocket being folded into a plait about the edge of said opening and inturned with said reinforce and attached to the cloth of the garment, substantially as described.

3. In a pocket for garments, a loose plait upon the front side of said pocket below the pocket-opening, formed by doubling the material of the pocket upon itself and catching and holding same solely by the stitching upon the sides of the pocket, substantially as described.

Signed at Philadelphia this 28th day of January, 1901.

JOSEPH WALTER SHIELDS.

Witnesses:

H. B. LONGACRE,

JAS. W. ROBERTSON.