(12) **United States Patent**
Ward

(10) **Patent No.: X8575**
(45) **Date of Patent: Jan. 7, 1835**

(54) **GARMENTS, MEASURING & MARKING OUT COATS**

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Letters Patent

The schedule referred to in these Letters Patent, and making part of the same, containing a description in the words of the said Allen Ward, himself, of his improvement in the art of measuring and marking out Coats.

To all to whom these presents shall come: Be it known that I, Allen Ward, of the City & County of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new & useful improvement in the art of taking the measures for a coat, and in the method of setting down measures and in the application of measures for the purpose of marking out the bodies of coats, to fit the human shape, and that the following is a full & exact description of my said improvement— 1st I sketch or draw a model or diagram of a coat with curved lines, &c. similar to the blank model hereunto attached, which is for the purpose of noting the measures in, as shown in the figured model accompanying the same. 2nd I close my customers coat so that it may set close to his body, or I request him to take off his coat, and put on an elastic round about, or slip made of knit cloth, which a Tailor may keep for that purpose. 3rd I make four dots or marks on his outside garment, one at the top of back seam or socket of the neck behind, one at or near the prominent point of his shoulder-blade behind the arms, and one at the bottom of the back seam, at the hollow of the back, and another at his side near the pap or nipple, say about three or four inches below and a little front of the arm pit, for one of medium size. I proceed in the third place to apply the end of a tape inch measure at the top of the back seam or socket of the neck, and measure the distance from thence to the dot at the most prominent point of the shoulder blade behind the arms, or say to the second dot. This measure I note down, as in the model below, which is figured nine according to whatever my customer shall prove to measure, viz 10, at the back seam, near the end of the sweep which extends to the bladder bone. 4th I note the length of the waist, or to the hollow of the back, say, to the third mark or dot for length of waist. See the model noted 17½, and at the same time, I note the length of the skirt, as shown by the figures below the model, viz 41—
5th I then note the distance across from the back seam, to the dot at the point

of the blad-bone, and set it down, as in the model, or according to what the custom-er shall measure, see 33/4. 6th I measure from the mark or dot below the arm pit, to the dot at the bottom of backseam, or hollow of the waist, bringing the measure strap round in the form of a screw, and note the distance, see 10½ marked on the curve at the bottom of backseam. 7th I then measure from the same dot below the arm pit, to the mark or dot at the blade-bone and note this distance on the cross curve below the arm pit, see 8¾. 8th I then measure from the same mark at the side to the dot at the top of back seam or socket of the neck, leading the measure gently up behind the arm, and note this distance on the curve at the top of back seam, see 16½. 9th I take the measure from the dot at the side to the arm pit, or say, to the nearest point at the bottom of seye, or arm hole, and make an allowance for seam, & for raising the arm, so as to avoid wringing the coat, and note this measure on diagram, as shown at the bottom of seye, see figure 3½. 10th I now go to the front of my customer, and take six measures from the aforesaid mark or dot at the side - one to the flap line or bottom of the side body, see 5. marked on the curve - one to the bottom of the lappell seam, or say, to bottom of the coat, see 10, - one to the front of breast see 6. - one to the throat or neck-gore of the coat, see 11½ - one to the dot at the top of back seam, or socket of the neck, leading the measure up the front of breast, see 15¼ and one to the dot at the shoulder-blade, leading the measure front and over the point of the shoulder, see 19, on the cross of the far back. I set down or note these measures, each on its respective line or curve. This I do for the purpose of avoiding mistakes. I then measure the circumference of the customers breast, under his coat, and note the one half of what he measures on the line or curve which runs from the top of the neck-gauge upwards, see 18. I next take the measure of the customers waist, in like manner, and note the half thereof on the curve which represents the button mark, see 16 near the front at bottom of breast. and lastly, I measure round the shoulder joint over the coat, for the seye of the seye, and top of the sleeves. I note the full circumference thereof, in the arm hole of the model, see 17½. The sleeves of the coat may be measured for, in the usual way there are certain measures in the above described method, which I do not claim the discovery of, nor do I wish them embraced in my Patent - namely those taken from the top

of back seam to the length of the waist and skirt. Also that taken from Top of backseam to the point of blade-bone, and each of the circumference measures. I claim only the method of setting down these to avoid mistakes, by means of diagrams or models. But all the measures taken from the dot or point below the bottom of seye, I claim as my discovery, as well as the application of them — The application is as follows - after I cut out the back of a coat, as fashion or fancy may dictate, I make three dots on the back, one at the top of the back seam, one at the point of the blade-bone which I find by measure, and one at the length of the waist or hollow of the back, say at 17ps or what the measure may call for, and then I place the back on the cloth, and mark the shape of the side-seam of the back, or only a part of it will do, opposite the blade bone: and while the back lies in this position I look to my measure as taken from the blade-bone to the dot or crosp below the arm-pit, & with this length of measure I cast a curve towards the front, the pivot being at the dot at the blade-bone I then look to my measure as taken from the side dot to the hip or hollow of the waist, and with it cast another sweep pivoted at the mark for hollow of the waist across the sweep last made, and the croping of which will give the point at the side below the arm pit. I then make the crosp below the arm pit my pivot and cast nine sweeps or slurs, 1st by the length of measure as taken from the dot at the side, so as to crosp the top of the nigh back seam. 2nd so as to crosp the bottom of the nigh back seam. 3d towards the armpit. 4th towards the flapp - 5th towards the bottom of breast - 6th towards the front of chest - 7th towards the chin or neck gorge - 8th towards the fac top of back seam across the cloth - 9th towards the blade bone on the cloth under the fac-back above the seye: in this last I confine the measure at front of seye for a pivot, and shorten the sweep a fraction left to allow for the stretching of the seye: each of these sweeps to be governed according to their respective measures, as taken from the aforesaid dot at the side of the customer. I generally prefer measuring the left side but in some instances I measure the right side also, and then divide the differences between the two measures, or cut each back and fore part to suit their respective measures this last method is only necessary in case of deformity. But to complete the application of the measure while the back lies in the first position, and

the cloth being marked by the shape of the side seam of the back, I then stick a pin, or hold the point of my finger on the dot at the blade bone for a pivot and move the top of the back towards the fore parts, until it shall rest on the slm or curve, I there let the back rest, until I cast a curve or sweep by the half circumference of the breast measure, making the rear top of the back seam my pivot throwing the sweep by one inch less than the half circumference of the breast, this sweep must cross the sweep at the fore top of back seam, and the cross of these two sweeps will pitch the shoulders of coats more forward for crooked, and backward, for straight forms - I then mark at the top of the side seam, and remove the back, and form the side seam at top to suit the blade bone according to the measure: I then lay the top and bottom of the back seam dots, so as to reach their respective curves without diminishing the quantity of cloth which ~~which~~ was allowed for the blade bones, except the customer shall be of very stooping form in the neck & shoulders, in which case the back seam should have been cut convex or rounding to suit the form of the customers back, and while the back of his coat lies in this position, shape the fore part of the side seam, and place the hip rather short of what the measure calls for at bottom, as the flap seams will, if much curved, reach beyond the measure and will let the hip fly off or set loose if not cut within the measure. I proceed to form the shoulder seam of the forepart, by that of the back - I place the top of the back to the fore cross, as in the model, and place the back in such a position, as will bring the dot for the blade bone, which was marked on the back to rest on the curve above the scye, and while the back lies in this position, I mark the shoulder seam of the fore parts, rather more curved than that of the back. I then find the bottom of scye by the measure as taken from the dot or cross, at the side to the armpit, and then mark out the scye proving it by the measure which was taken round the shoulder joint. The rest of the coat may be formed in the usual way, as heretofore explained or exemplified in the diagram below.

Witnesses
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