

No. 874,465.

PATENTED DEC. 24, 1907.

J. H. WAY.
KNIT MUFFLER.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 4, 1907.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. I

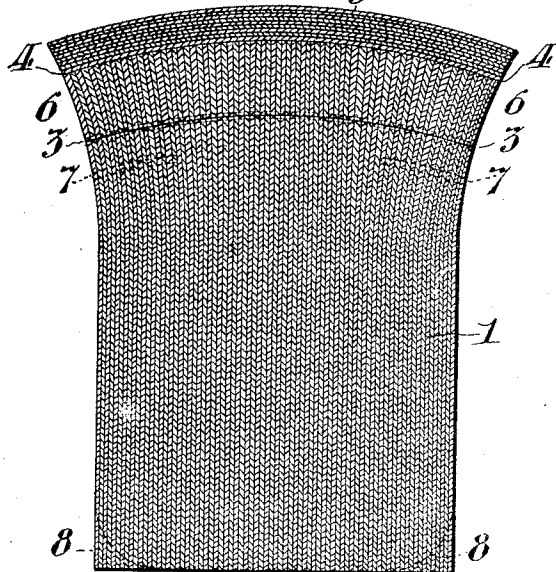
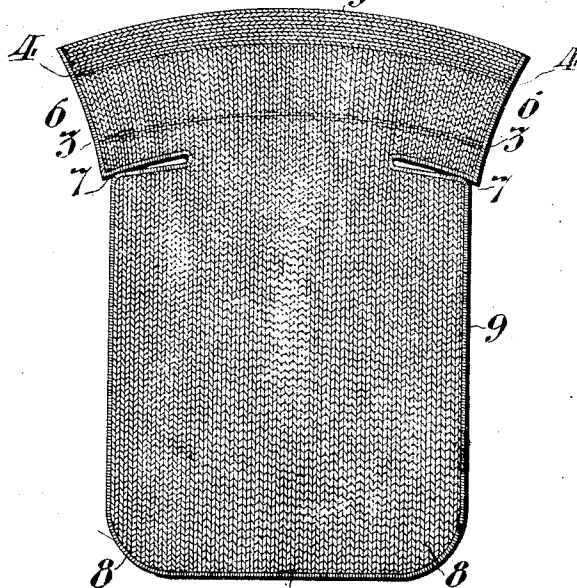


FIG. II



WITNESSES.

John C. Bergner.
Wm. J. Spurl.

INVENTOR:

JOHN HOWARD WAY,
by his Attorneys
Murray & Kane

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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. III.

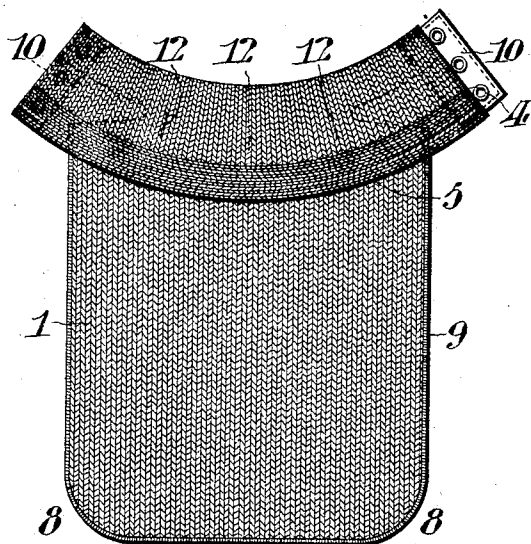
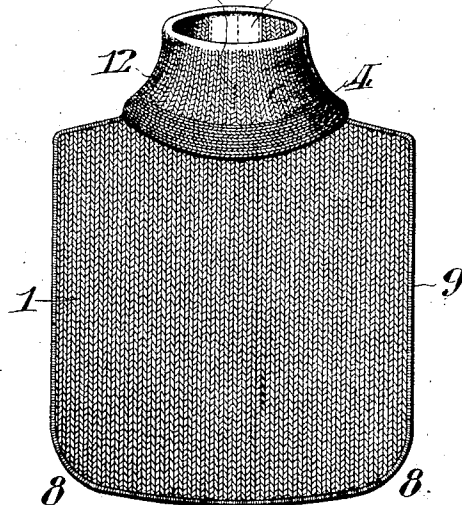


FIG. IV.
12 10



WITNESSES:

John C. Bergner.
Wm. J. Spurl.

INVENTOR:

JOHN HOWARD WAY,
By *His Attorneys*
Miley & Paul

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HOWARD WAY, OF ST. DAVIDS, PENNSYLVANIA.

KNIT MUFFLER.

No. 874,465.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 24, 1907.

Application filed June 4, 1907. Serial No. 377,159.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HOWARD WAY, of St. Davids, in the county of Delaware and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Knit Mufflers, whereof the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to knit mufflers of the general type originally invented and patented by me in United States Letters Patent No. 593,954, dated November 16th, 1897, and now generally known as "Way's Muffler". In mufflers of this type the entire article is constructed of vertically ribbed knit material, so as to possess great lateral elasticity, and the entire garment is preferably formed integrally from a single piece of such knit fabric.

It is the object of my present invention to secure for the neck or collar portion of such a garment, a downward flare, to correspond with the configuration of the human neck and shoulders. This I accomplish without interfering with the tight fit and unfolded application of my muffler, and without in any wise increasing the liability of the garment to admit drafts at the sides of the neck, which is a critical point of the construction of a garment of this character.

In the accompanying drawings, I have illustrated my improved muffler and the process of its manufacture.

Figure I, illustrates the integral knit fabric as initially knit from which my garment is made. Fig. II, represents the garment after it has been cut and its edges seamed. Fig. III, represents the completed garment lying flat. Fig. IV, represents the garment as in place upon the wearer.

The construction of the garment can best be understood by the description of its method of production.

The garment is formed of a single integral web 1, of vertically ribbed knit fabric. The width of this web corresponds to the desired width of the bib of the garment. The knitting is commenced at the bottom 2, and proceeds continuously until the line 3, is reached, where I insert a single welt course. The knitting then proceeds, still of the same width, until I reach the line 4, where the character of the knitting changes. Instead of ordinary rib knitting, I here add a series of courses, say eight to twelve, of rack stitch, until the upper edge 5, is reached. It is a

peculiarity of rack stitching that it expands the knitting laterally very much more than the corresponding number of stitches of rib knitting. Accordingly, this edging of rack courses causes the entire upper portion of the garment and particularly the part which is to form the collar, to bell or flare outwardly as seen in Fig. I, at 6, 6. I then make two partial horizontal cuts 7, 7, one at each side to form the upper edge of the bib, and to partially separate it from the collar in order to permit its application to the body at the shoulders without puckering. The lower corners may be trimmed or rounded at 8, 8, and the fabric is ready for edging.

At Fig. II, the same fabric is shown when the cuts have been made and the entire edge of the integral garment (except the upper edge of rack-stitching) over-stitched as indicated by the double line 9, 9, extending from one upper corner to the other upper corner. The neck portion of the garment is then folded along the line of the welt course 3, (which has a tendency to create a natural fold), so that it occupies the position shown in Fig. III. It will be observed that as a result of the flaring of the collar portion by the rack stitching the collar when folded and laid flat takes the form of an annulus, whereas, the bib portion remains unaffected by this shaping of the collar. At both ends of the collar portion facings 10, 10, are attached, and upon them the fasteners of the garment, as for instance, ordinary ball and socket fasteners, are placed.

At the points marked 12, 12, 12, short lines of radial stitching are made. These compel the collar portion to maintain its flat annular shape and its relation to the bib portion, without interfering in the least with its lateral elasticity, as would be done by any stitching which runs crosswise the bib.

The garment is thus completed, and when the collar portion is fastened at the back as shown in Fig. IV, which illustrates its position when placed upon the wearer, possesses the advantages that without folding or creasing, the collar portion maintains a downward flare corresponding to the downward enlargement of the neck, without interfering with the flatness of the bib and its capacity to be applied to the chest of the wearer and tucked under the coat, without any fullness or puckering. This is particularly advantageous, especially at the sides of the neck, where it is essential to have the

garment lie flat in order to prevent the entrance of air under the collar.

Having thus described my invention, I claim:

5 1. A knit muffler having a body portion of laterally elastic knit fabric, and a collar portion centrally united to the top of the body portion consisting of similar fabric folded over to form a collar, and edged by courses of
10 rack stitch, whereby the collar portion is caused to flare, while the body portion remains flat.

15 2. A knit muffler having a body portion of laterally elastic knit fabric, and a collar portion centrally united to the top of the body portion consisting of similar fabric folded over to form a collar and edged by courses of rack stitch, whereby the collar portion is

caused to flare, and short lines of radial stitching which maintain the collar portion 20 in flat annular shape.

3. A knit muffler having a body portion, of laterally elastic knit fabric and a collar portion with a welt course across the collar, along which the collar is folded, said collar 25 portion being edged by courses of rack stitching whereby the collar portion is caused to flare, while the body portion remains flat.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto signed my name, at Philadelphia Pennsylv- 30 ania this first day of June 1907.

JOHN HOWARD WAY.

Witnesses:

JAMES H. BELL,
E. L. FULLERTON.