(Model.)

R. M. APPLETON.

Stocking.

No. 243,425. **Patented June 28, 1881.**

Fig. 1.

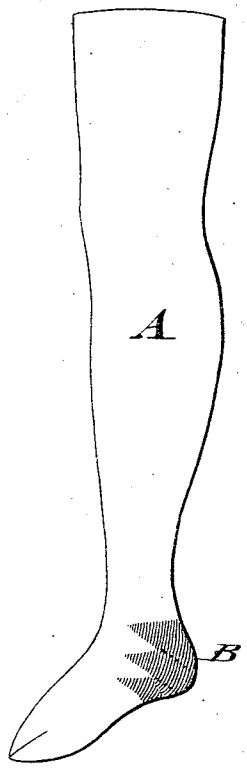
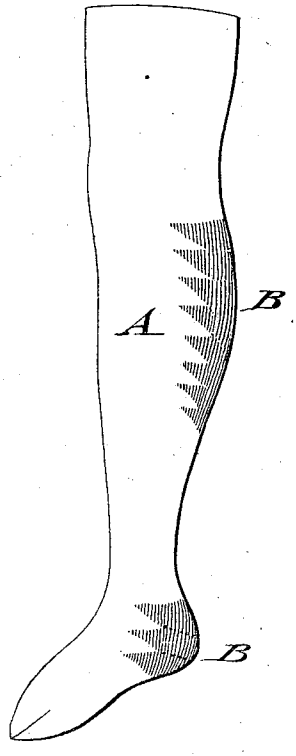


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT M. APPLETON, OF LAKE VILLAGE, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

STOCKING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 243,425, dated June 28, 1881.

Application filed December 16, 1880. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. APPLETON, of Lake Village, in the county of Belknap and State of New Hampshire, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stockings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to improvements in the manufacture of stockings or other knit articles made on plain circular-knitting looms, so that they will fit the foot or other part of the body with more ease and comfort, and that, furthermore, a greater durability is imparted to the same.

The stockings which are made on circular-knitting looms are made of one size of webbing throughout from top to toe, without seams, and are then shaped on wooden forms. They are known to the trade as "bag stockings." They as well as other goods made on circular looms—such as drawers, &c.—which are cut, sewed, and blocked into form have the disadvantage that they will lose their form by washing, so as to not fit the foot or other parts of the body. These articles are afterward soon worn at the parts exposed to wear, owing to the strain exerted thereon at the heel and other parts.

The object of my invention is to so enlarge the webbing at the heel, calf, or other parts that they retain the shape permanently and are more durable in use.

The invention consists in a stocking knit mainly in plain stitch and provided with one or more elastic gussets at the heel or calf, or both, said gussets being knit in tuck-stitch, whereby the stocking is widened and rendered more expansible at these points.

In the accompanying drawings, Figures 1 and 2 represent side views of my improved stocking, shown respectively with heel-gussets and with heel and calf gussets.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents a stocking or other knit circular fabric, which is made in the usual manner on circular-knitting looms with spring-needles, and of one continuous thread or yarn, the stockings of that class being popularly known in the trade as "bag stockings." This stocking is enlarged at the heel or the calf of the leg, or at both parts, by knitting them with gussets B, of tapering shape, in tuck-stitch, one or more of which are provided. These enlarged gussets are obtained by the use of special tuck-wheels.

Instead of the baggy appearance of the stockings or other articles heretofore made on circular-knitting looms, a stocking or other article is obtained which receives by means of the tapering gussets a better shape directly by the looms without any shaping on boards, as heretofore, so that a better-fitting and more durable article is obtained.

I am aware that stockings have been provided with thickening gussets at the knee and heel to re-enforce such parts against wear. Such gussets are essentially different in their construction, operation, and effect from my elastic tuck-gussets.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A stocking composed of one continuous thread, knit mainly in plain stitch and provided at the heel with one or more tapering elastic gussets knit in tuck-stitch, substantially as described.

2. A stocking composed of one continuous thread, knit mainly in plain stitch and provided at the calf of the leg with one or more tapering elastic gussets knit in tuck-stitch, substantially as described.

3. A stocking composed of one continuous thread, knit mainly in plain stitch and provided at the heel and calf of the leg with tapering elastic gussets knit in tuck-stitch, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 13th day of December, 1880.

ROBERT M. APPLETON.

Witnesses:
PAUL GOEPEL,
CARL KARP.