E. E. Kilbourne

Fabric.

No. 68,087. Patented Aug. 27 1867.

Fig. 3.

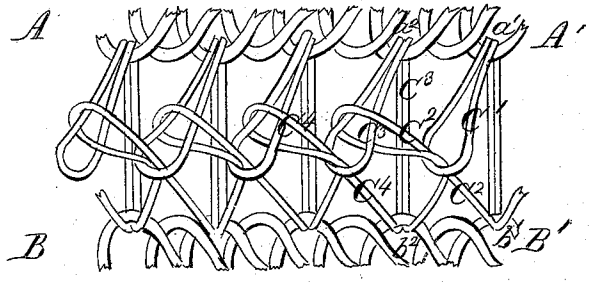


Fig. 2.



Fig. 1.



Witnesses.
John W. Lloyd
W. L. Bernard

Inventor.
E. E. Kilbourn
by his attorney
E. S. Renwick

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

United States Patent Office

EDWARD ELISHA KILBOURN, OF NEW BRUNSWICK, NEW JERSEY.

Letters Patent No. 68,087, *dated August* 27, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN UNITING EDGES OF HOSIERY GOODS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, EDWARD ELISHA KILBOURN, of New Brunswick, in the State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Looped Fabrics, or Hosiery Goods, as they are technically called in the trade, and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description and specification of my said invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the figures and letters marked thereon.

Hosiery goods, such as knit shirts, drawers, and stockings, are frequently made of parts which are formed in whole or in part with selvedge edges of loops, and these edges are subsequently connected together by sewing thread through the loops of the selvedge edges to be connected, and thereby fastening them together so that they abut without any overlapping margins. This work was done prior to my present invention principally by hand, and was quite imperfect, so that the seam produced was uneven in appearance and not uniformly elastic. My improvement consists in uniting the selvedge edges of hosiery goods by a chain-stitch formed by inserting loops of the connecting thread alternately through the loops of the fabric and outside of them, and by securing the said thread-loops by inlacing each loop with its successor. By this mode of sewing a highly elastic and handsome seam is produced, which is not only superior in quality to the old seam, but is so much better in appearance that the mercantile value of the goods is materially enhanced.

The improvement is applicable to the various cases which may occur in practice; such, for example, as the connection of the two edges of the body of a shirt, or of the two edges of a shirt-sleeve or of a drawers leg; the connection of the ribbed band of a shirt-sleeve or of a drawers leg to the remainder; the connection of the selvedge edges of the legs or feet of stockings, and the connection of the separate members of hosiery goods with each other. As the stitch, when drawn tight and made with yarns of the sizes used in practice, is too small to be distinctly seen with the naked eye, I have represented it in the accompanying drawing as larger and looser than it really is, so that the interlooping of the thread may be more readily perceived. In the said drawing—

Figure 1 represents the appearance of the connection at the face of the fabric,

Figure 2 represents the appearance at the back of the fabric, and

Figure 3 represents the interlooping of the thread, greatly enlarged and left loose.

The two selvedge edges to be connected may be represented by the lines of loops A A^1 B B^1, in fig. 3, and, supposing the sewing to commence at the right hand of the figure, and to proceed towards the left-hand end, the mode of proceeding will be as follows: The loop of thread C^1 is inserted through the two adjacent loops a^1 b^1 of the edges to be united, and beyond the second one, where it is left until a second loop, C^2, is inserted through it without being previously inserted through the fabric. The thread is then inserted in the form of a loop, C^3, through the next two loops, a^2 b^2, of the fabric, and through the intermediate loop C^2 of thread last formed, after which a second intermediate loop, C^4, is inserted through the last loop C^3 of thread, as before; and so on until the two edges are united from end to end, whereupon the thread is severed and the end pulled through the last loop to secure it. In this manner each second loop C^1 C^3 of thread is passed through the loops of the edges of the fabric, and through its predecessor, while the alternating loops of thread C^2 C^4 are inserted through the preceding loops of thread outside of the loops of the fabric, and each loop of the connecting-thread is secured by the interlacing of its successor with it.

The interlooping of the thread may be effected by hand, by means of an eye-pointed needle, or by means of a crochet-hook, and is most readily effected when the loops of the edges to be united are set up upon a series of points. I prefer to effect it by means of a machine which I have specially devised for the purpose, and which is fully described in the Letters Patent of the United States, No. 59,746, granted to my assignee, the Norfolk and New Brunswick Hosiery Company, the twentieth day of November, A. D. 1866. As that machine is fully described in the said patent, and as the subject-matter of this patent is not a machine, but an improvement in the article of manufacture, I do not deem it necessary to describe the machine in this schedule.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved connection of hosiery goods, consisting of the combination of the loops of the adjacent abutting edges of the article by means of the chain-stitch hereinbefore described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this thirteenth day of May, A. D. 1867.

EDWARD ELISHA KILBOURN.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. DAVIS,

LUCIUS P. PORTER.