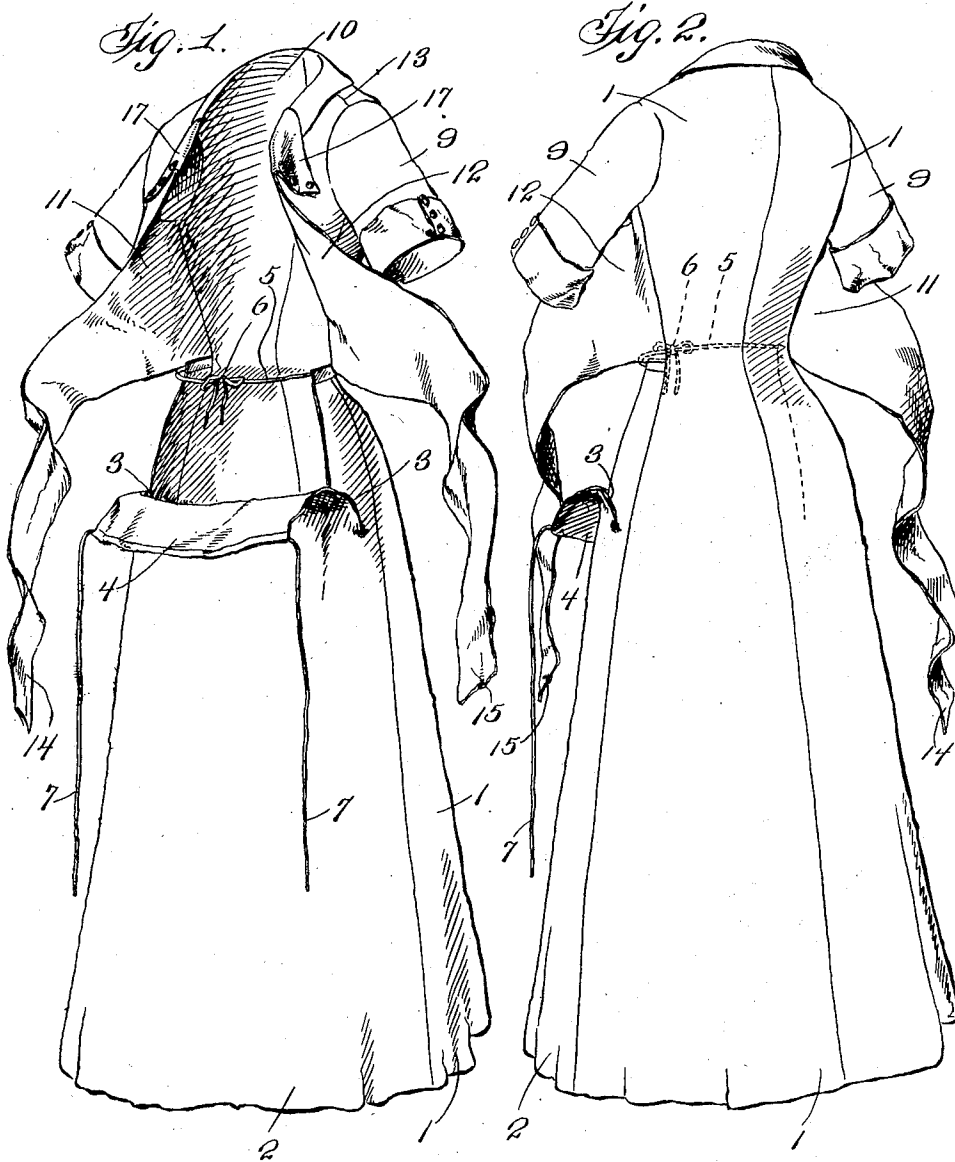


I. LEFKOWITZ.
LADY'S DRESS.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1912.

1,037,270.

Patented Sept. 3, 1912.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



WITNESSES
Wm. J. Schweiger
L. B. ...

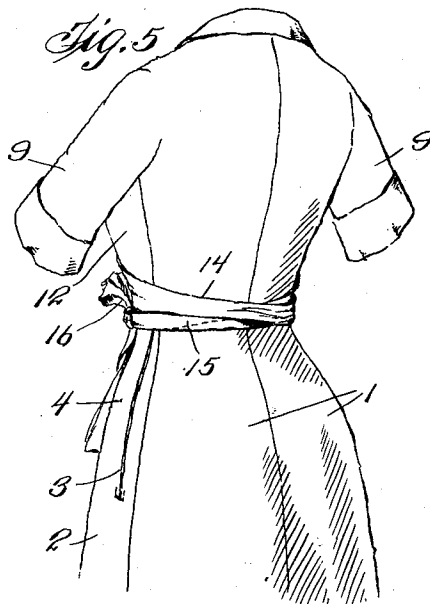
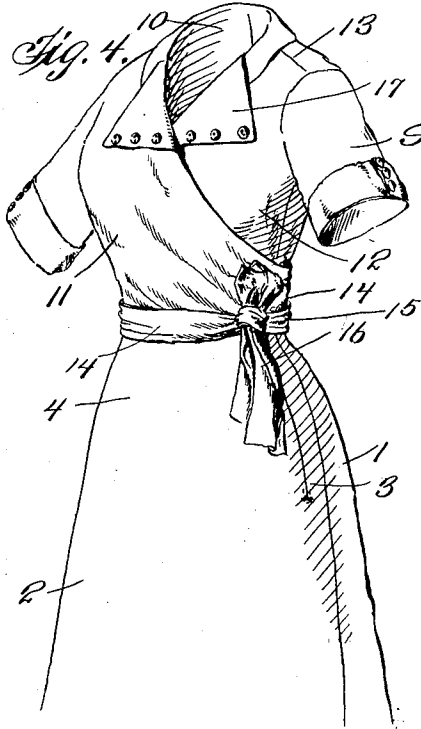
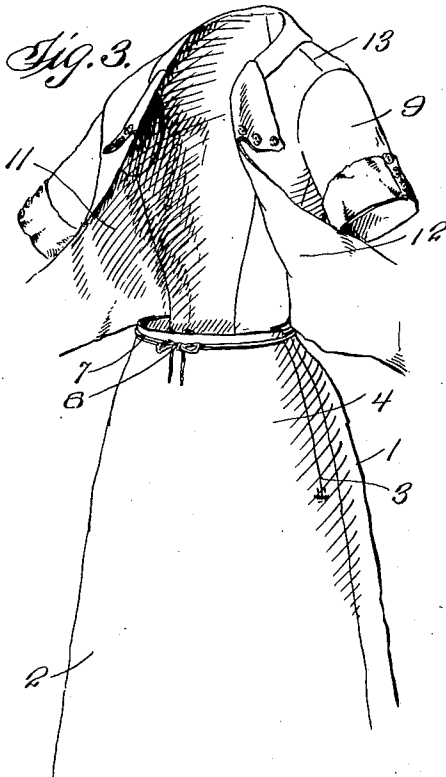
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ISAAC LEFKOWITZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

LADY'S DRESS.

1,037,270.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 3, 1912.

Application filed February 19, 1912. Serial No. 678,711.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ISAAC LEFKOWITZ, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the borough of Manhattan, county, city, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ladies' Dresses, set forth in the following specification.

This invention relates to a combination outer garment and its embodiment is shown in a lady's dress combining in addition to the waist and skirt, a girdle and a sash.

An object of the invention is to facilitate and simplify the operation of dressing without a consequent sacrifice in general appearance and style.

A further object is to provide for self-adjustment as to size so that the dress will be adaptable to a considerable variation in size of wearer both at the hips and bust, all with a view to its employment as a maternity dress as well as to its adaptability, without alteration, to different wearers of the same frame but having differing degrees of plumpness.

To these ends there is contemplated a lady's dress having a substantially solid back panel extending from a waist portion above the waist line and a skirt portion below the waist line, the waist portion being made back fitting and the skirt portion being suitably flared and draped from said waist portion, the waist portion having fixed thereto symmetrically formed draping front sections, and the skirt portion having fixed thereto an independently formed skirt front section. The skirt front section extends only from the waist line downwardly and is vertically severed by one or more suitable flaps or plackets adapted to be closed by tie-strings adjustable about the waist of the wearer. The waist front sections are adapted to lap each other and are so arranged that they are self-adaptable to various bust measurements without any alterations in the waist, and the entire dress being capable of being donned and secured to the body of the wearer without the use of pins, hooks or buttons, the waist front sections being continued and forming girdle portions adapted to be secured about the waist line for covering and concealing the otherwise exposed adjacent edges of the waist and skirt front sections and the tie-strings of the skirt.

The above and further objects of the in-

vention will be apparent from the following specification and will be pointed out more particularly in the following claim, which should be read in connection with the illustrative embodiment of the invention shown in the accompanying drawings, which form part of this application, in which like characters designate corresponding parts and in which,—

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the dress in position with the several parts held open; Fig. 2 is a rear view of Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but showing the skirt portions of the dress closed; Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 3, but showing the skirt and waist completely closed as it would appear in use; and Fig. 5 is a rear view of Fig. 4.

The dress illustrated is formed with a solid back panel extending substantially half way around the body of the wearer and extending from the neck preferably to the bottom of the skirt. This back panel may comprise any desired number of sections or gores as 1 so as to give the proper set and fit, the waist portion being made back fitting and the skirt portion being suitably flared and draped from said body portion below the waist line. Obviously the section, or the several sections, of the back panel may be formed in a continuous piece or pieces extending from the neck line to the skirt bottom or, if desired, they may be formed of two or more parts connected preferably at the waist line to complete the length of the back. A skirt front section 2, comprising one or more gores, is fixed to opposite sides of the skirt portion of the back panel and serves to complete the skirt.

In order to facilitate the donning and removal of the dress the front section of the skirt is formed preferably with two plackets 3 one at or adjacent the connection of said front section 2 to each side of the back panel 1, said plackets forming a loose flap 4 which may be closed after the garment is placed over the body of the wearer. One side of each of the plackets is fitted with a tie-string 5 adapted to be brought forward about the wearer and tied in front as by a knot 6. The flap 4 is then closed and is in turn secured by tie-strings 7 extending in opposite directions about the wearer and being brought forward and tied as by knot 8 at the front.

The waist portion of the dress is provided with suitable sleeves as 9 and the usual neck

opening as at 10. The lower portion of the back of the waist is obviously secured by the skirt tie-strings 5 and 7 already described. The front portion of the waist is completed by two lapping sections 11 and 12 which also combine other parts as will appear. These sections 11 and 12 are, of course, patterned and shaped so as to conform, or substantially conform, to the body contour and size of the wearer and are fixed one to each of the opposite side edges of the solid back panel 1. Each of these waist front sections 11 and 12 is suitably secured at the shoulder to the upper edge of the back panel as at 13 and to the sleeves 9. The lapping portions of the front sections are continued into girdle portions 14 and 15 respectively. The lower edge of the portions 11 and 12 coincide with the waist line at the upper edge of the skirt, and the girdle portions 14 and 15 are adapted to be extended in opposite directions about the waist of the wearer and brought to a common point and tied as by a sash bow 16. These girdle sections thus in effect provide a belt which produces the appearance of completeness in the dress design and serves to entirely cover and conceal the line of juncture between the skirt and waist front sections and the tie-strings of the skirt.

As soon as the wearer has donned the garment to the extent of dropping the skirt over the head and thrusting the arms through the arm holes, the tie-strings 5 are first tied about the waist line and the flap 4 is raised and secured by the tie-strings 7. The adjustment of the skirt is then complete as shown in Fig. 3 but the tie-strings are not concealed. The portions 11 and 12 of the waist are then lapped across the bust as shown in Fig. 4 and the girdle portions 14 and 15 are extended in opposite directions backwardly about the waist line, brought forward upon opposite sides to a common point and tied as by the sash bow 16. This bow may be formed either at one side or

another, or more or less rearwardly or forwardly of the wearer, as desired.

Any suitable design of ornamentation as 17 may be formed upon the waist portion as desired without affecting the spirit of this invention.

Though it is shown and described that there are two plackets 3, one at each side of the skirt, for forming the apron-like flap 4, yet it is obvious that if one of these plackets should be omitted or closed, the flap would still be present but would swing relatively diagonally for enlarging the waist opening to facilitate donning of the garment, in the same manner as where the two flaps are employed.

What is claimed and what is desired to be secured by United States Letters Patent is:—

As an article of manufacture, a complete dress donnable and self-adjustable to various sizes of both bust- and waist-measure and comprising a blouse and a skirt; a closed back panel extending from neck to skirt-hem, comprising a waist-portion and a skirt-portion; a front section for the skirt joined to the skirt-portion of said back panel and completing the skirt, said skirt having a placket forming an overlying flap for said front-section; tie-strings adapted to extend about the waist of the wearer for holding said placket closed; separate lapping front sections joined one to each side of the waist-portion of said back panel; and each said waist-front-section being continued to form extensions for covering and concealing the parting edges of the skirt and waist front sections.

In witness whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

ISAAC LEFKOWITZ.

Witnesses:

N. J. HARDING,
LEONARD DAY.