No. 802,302. PATENTED OCT. 17, 1905.

I. MILLER.

UNDERWAIST.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 9, 1905.

3 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 2.

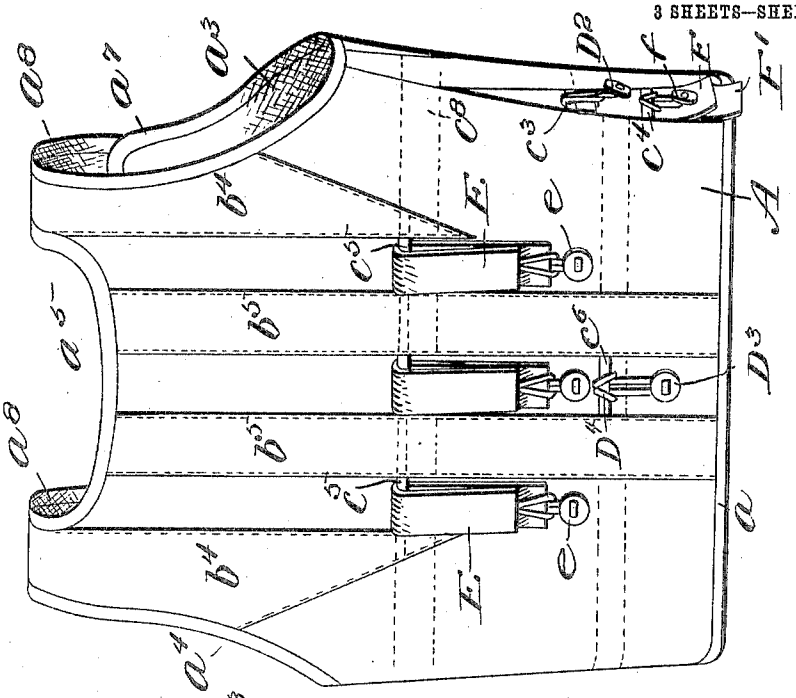
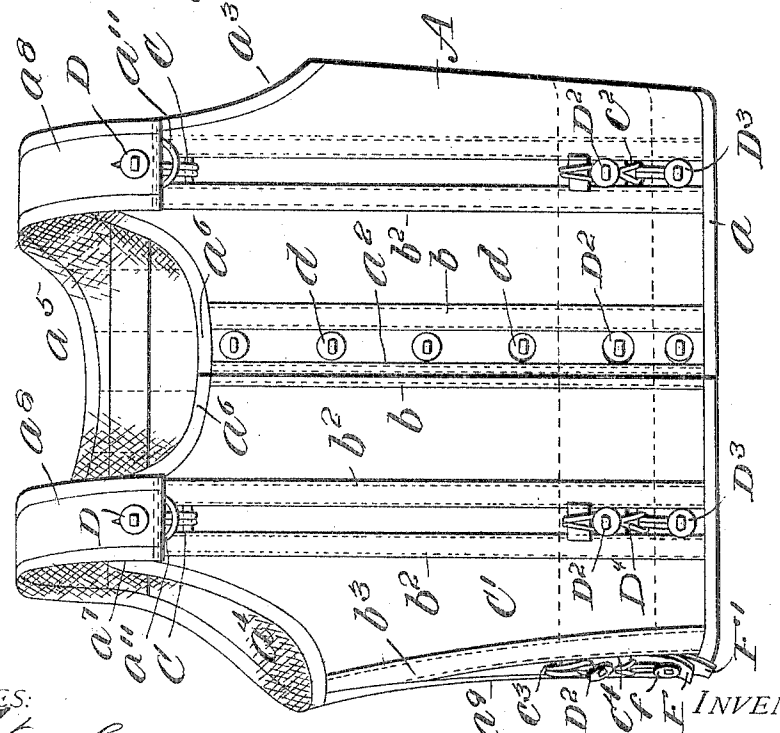


Fig. 1.



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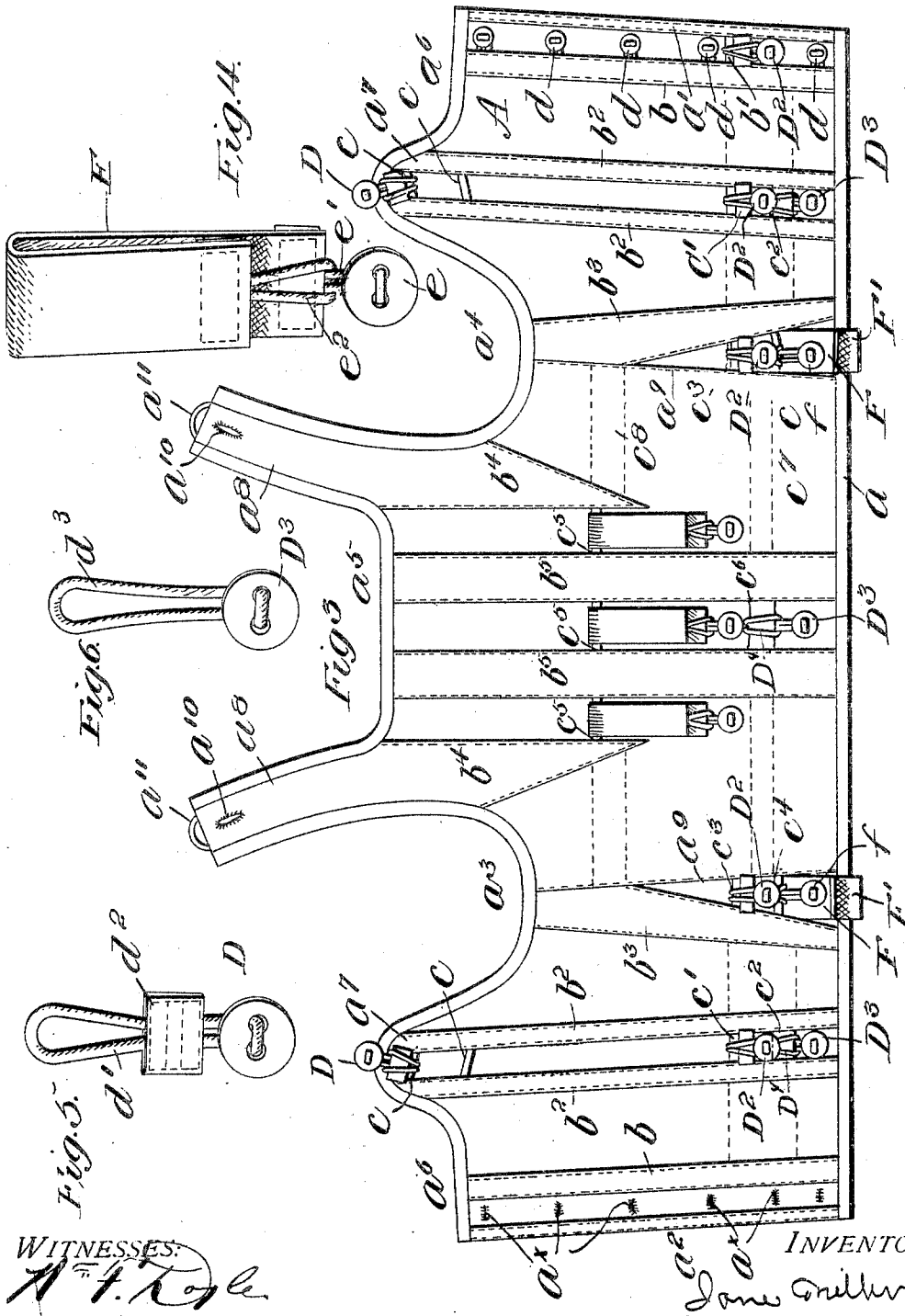
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3 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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3 SHEETS—SHEET 3.

Fig. 12.

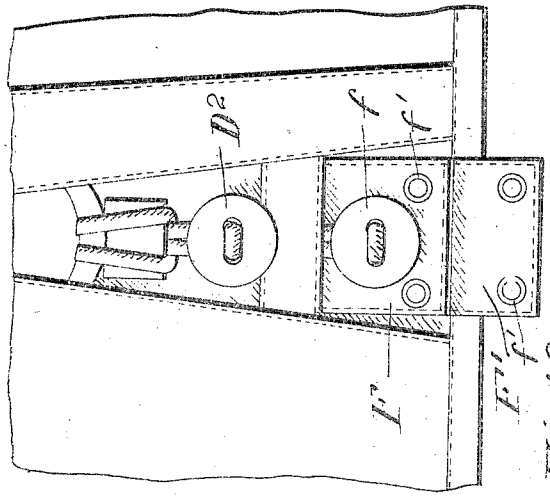


Fig. 10.

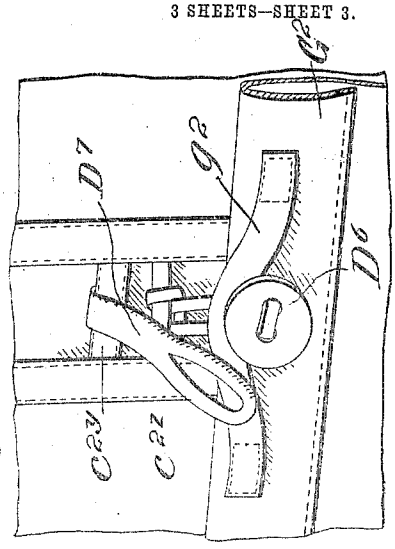


Fig. 6.

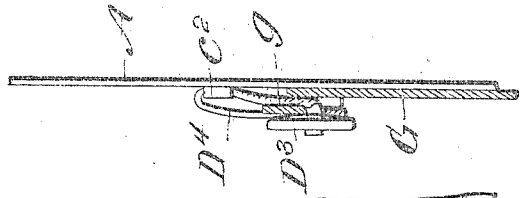


Fig. 11.

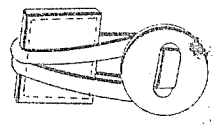
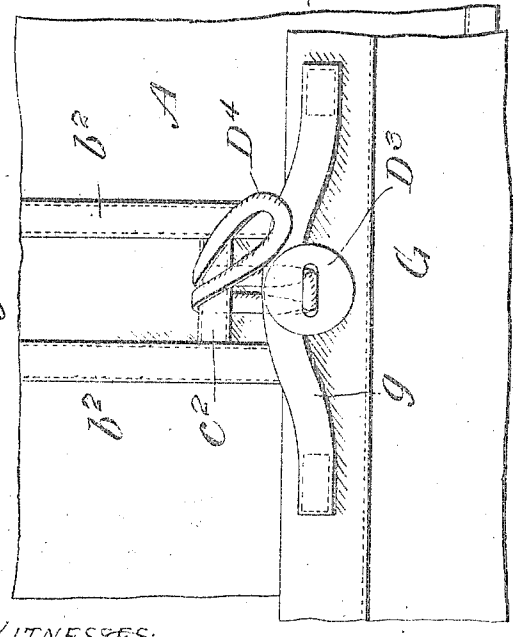


Fig. 7.



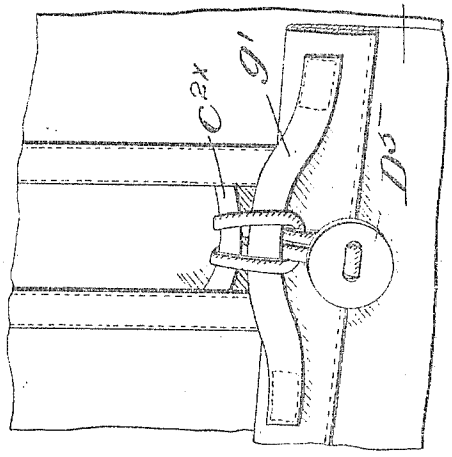


Fig. 9.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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UNDERWAIST.

No. 802,302. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 17, 1905.

Application filed May 9, 1905. Serial No. 259,505.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IONE MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bradford, in the county of McKean and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Underwaists; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention consists in the novel features hereinafter described, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which illustrate one form in which I have contemplated embodying my invention, and the invention is fully disclosed in the following description and claims.

Referring to the said drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of a boy's underwaist embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a back view of the same. Fig. 3 represents a plan view of the entire waist as it would appear if spread out upon a flat surface. Fig. 4 is a detail view of one of the detachable suspender attachments. Fig. 5 is a detail view of one of the detachable buttons. Fig. 6 is a similar view to Fig. 5, showing a slightly-modified form of the detachable button. Fig. 7 is a side elevation of a portion of the waist and of the waist portion of a pair of child's underdrawers, showing the arrangement for supporting the latter drawn to a larger scale, the parts being shown unfastened. Fig. 8 is a vertical sectional view of the same, showing the parts fastened. Fig. 9 is a view similar to Fig. 7, illustrating a slight modification of the drawer-supporting device and showing the parts fastened. Fig. 10 is a similar view of another slight modification of the drawer-support. Fig. 11 is a detail view of the detachable button illustrated in Fig. 5, showing it in operative position. Fig. 12 is an enlarged detail view of a portion of the waist shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3 and illustrating more clearly the straps for attaching the garters or stocking-supports and also one of the detachable buttons for engaging the waistband of a nether garment.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the main body of the waist, which is formed of suitable fabric. The main body has a straight lower edge a, which is preferably bound by a tape, as indicated. The front vertical meeting edges a' a^2 are also straight and are preferably similarly bound. The upper part of the garment is cut away at a^3 a^4 to form the armholes and at a^5 in the back and at a^6 a^6 in the front to form the neck and is provided with upwardly-extending portions a^7 a^7 at the front forward of the armhole portions and is also provided in the back on each side of the neck portion with shoulder-straps a^8 a^8. The entire upper edge of the garment is also preferably bound with tape, as indicated in the drawings. The main body is also provided with a plurality of vertically-arranged strips of tape or fabric stitched thereto to reinforce the main body. b b represent two of such vertical reinforcing-tapes, which are placed back a short distance from the front edges or meeting edges of the garment. One side of the garment is provided with a series of buttonholes a^x between the strip b and the extreme edge, as shown, and the other side is provided with a series of buttons d d, which are secured, preferably by means of tapes, as shown, said tapes being stitched under the strip b, as shown at the right in Fig. 3. A horizontal loop or cross-strap b' of tape (or strip of fabric) is stitched to the garment, preferably beneath the strip b and the marginal binding-strip at the edge a' adjacent to the waist-line, to receive a detachable button, as hereinafter described.

b^2 b^2 represent pairs of parallel vertical strips of tape or fabric extending downward from the projections a^7 a^7 to the lower edge of the garment. Between each pair of these strips b^2 b^2 are arranged near the upper part of the garment two cross straps or loops c c. At the waist-line a similar cross-strap c' is arranged and below it a similar cross-strap c^2, all of said cross-straps being adapted to receive the detachable buttons hereinafter described.

b^3 b^3 represent reinforcing-strips which extend downward from the under-arm portions and diverge from the under-arm seams a^9 a^9. Cross-straps c^3 c^3 are secured at the waist-line between one of said reinforcing-strips b^3 and the adjacent under-arm seam, and a similar cross-strap c^4 is similarly secured below the waist-line.

b^4 b^4 represent reinforcing-strips which are applied to the shoulder-straps a^8 a^8 and extend down the back nearly to the waist-line, and the center of the back is provided with parallel reinforcing-strips b^5 b^5.

Cross-tapes c^5 c^5 c^5 for the attachment of the removable suspender attachments are secured between the vertical strips b^5 and between each of said strips and the adjacent strip b^4,

as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, a short distance above the waist-line, and a similar cross-strap c^6 is arranged in the center of the back at the waist-line between the vertical strips b^5 b^5. I also prefer to stitch two or more horizontal reinforcing bands or tapes across the back of the waist, preferably on the inside thereof, one (indicated in dotted lines at c^7) at the waist-line and the other (indicated in dotted lines at c^8) several inches above the waist-line.

In connection with this improved waist I employ a novel detachable button. (Shown in detail in Figs. 5 and 6.) The preferred form of this button is shown in Figs. 5 and 11, in which it consists of a flat disk D, of bone, pearl, rubber, or other suitable material, provided with two holes through which is passed an endless attaching band or loop d'. I prefer to form this loop of a soft woven cord or tape and to attach thereto by stitching a cross-piece d^2 of fabric, such as a piece of tape folded. The tape is preferably folded upon the loop and stitched all around the edges, as shown, thereby securing the tape to the loop, and the two ends of the piece of cord or tape forming the loop may be brought between or under the cross-piece, and thus the securing of the ends will be simultaneously effected.

In Fig. 6 I have shown the button consisting of the disk D^3 and simple loop d^3, which in this case also is endless and is passed through the perforations in the disk. I wish it understood, however, that my invention includes the broad idea of a detachable button comprising a head of any character and a flexible attaching-loop secured thereto in any way whatever. In some instances it is found desirable to form the attaching-loop of the buttons of elastic material, so that the loop may yield slightly when subjected to considerable strain to avoid breaking or detaching the loop from the garment. To attach this button, it is only necessary to pass the attaching-loop under a strap (such as the cross-straps hereinbefore described) or through a loop, eye, or other aperture affording a hold to the loop and then to pass the head of the button through the loop, as is clearly shown in the drawings. The cross-piece d^2 is employed to prevent the loop from drawing up tightly, and thus prevents the head from being drawn too far from the point of attachment and also renders it easier to remove the buttons.

The detachable buttons are secured to one each of the cross-straps c c on the front extensions a^7 a^7 of the waist in the manner described and are adapted to be engaged by buttonholes a^{10} a^{10}, formed in the shoulder-straps a^8 a^8. The object of providing two cross-straps c c is to give an adjustment of the garment at the shoulder, and a further adjustment is provided by a loop a^{11} at the end of each shoulder-strap to engage the detachable button D, so that a considerable adjustment is permitted. This is particularly advantageous in the case of a child's waist, as it permits the garment to be adjusted to accommodate a growing child, so that the waist-line of the waist shall be maintained in the proper position with respect to the child's body, and thus prolongs the usefulness of the garment.

A series of detachable buttons, which are designated D^2 to distinguish them, are arranged along the waist-line and attached to the cross-straps c' c', c^3 c^3, and b' for the purpose of engaging buttonholes in the waist-band of a skirt, pair of pants, or trousers. I also provide the suspender attachments before referred to for supporting the pants, trousers, or skirt yieldingly in the back in order to permit the wearer to bend the body forward without undue strain on the waist. One of these devices is shown in Fig. 4 and consists of a band E of elastic material having at one end a button e secured thereto, preferably by a flexible cord or tape e', and at the other end a button-engaging device, such as a loop e^2 of flexible material. I prefer to employ three of these suspender attachments with the shirt-waist, although a smaller number could be used. The band of one of these devices is slipped under each of the cross-straps c^5 c^5 c^5, and the loop e^2 is then passed over the button e, thus securing the devices in place on the waist, and the buttons e are secured in buttonholes in the waist-band of the nether garment—*i. e.*, trousers, pants, or skirt—thus supporting them at the back and permitting the necessary yielding in sitting and in stooping or bending forward without straining the buttons of the waist or the buttonholes of the pants or trousers.

The waist is also provided with two or more devices (preferably three, as shown in the drawings) for supporting the child's underdrawers. The preferred form of this device is illustrated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, 7, and 8, and in Figs. 7 and 8 the waist portion of the drawers is illustrated at G and shown provided with the usual horizontal loops g of tape, with which such garments are usually provided. In the preferred form referred to the cross-straps c^2 c^2 c^6 (shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 3) are each provided with a button (designated by the letter D^3 to distinguish it from other buttons of the waist) attached to a loop of tape or cord, which is firmly stitched under the cross-straps referred to, and above said cross-straps are loops D^4 of tape or cord (see Fig. 7) also stitched firmly under said straps. This construction is conveniently secured by inserting the attaching-loop of a detachable button, such as is shown in Fig. 6, beneath each of the cross-straps, so that the button will hang below and the loop project above the straps, and then stitching cross-straps down upon the attaching-loop in this position. In attaching the underdrawers the button D^3 is passed beneath the loop g of the

drawers, as shown in Fig. 7, and the loop D^4 is then placed over the button, as shown Fig. 8, thus securing the two garments together in a very desirable and satisfactory manner. There are three of these drawer-supporting devices, as stated, located at the sides and at the center of the back slightly below the waist-line, and this arrangement is found to answer the purpose admirably, although a greater number could be used, and the devices could be arranged differently around the waist, if desired, without departing from the invention.

In Fig. 9 I have shown a slightly-different form of drawer-support. In this case the cross-strap c^{2x} is attached to the waist only at its ends, forming a loop through which is passed the detachable button D^5 of the form shown in Fig. 6. The head of the button is passed under the strap g' of the underdrawers G', as shown, and the end of the attaching-loop is passed over the head of the button. The effect is exactly similar to that of the construction shown in Figs. 7 and 8, except that the button is not permanently united to the waist.

In Fig. 10 I have illustrated another slight modification of the drawer-supporting device in which the cross-strap c^{2z} is also in the form of a loose strap to which a detachable button D^6 of the form shown in Fig. 6 (and having a very short attaching-loop) is attached removably. Above the cross-strap c^{2z} is a second cross-strap c^{2y}, which is preferably stitched down to the waist throughout its length, and to it is attached a loop D^7. The button D^6 is passed beneath the strap g^2 of the drawers G^2, and the loop D^7 is then brought down and slipped over the head of the button. It is shown detached in Fig. 10 for greater clearness.

The waist is also provided at each side with means for supporting the garters or hose-supporters usually worn by children. To this end I provide on each side of the waist below the waist-line two tabs or straps F F', provided with eyelets f', as shown, to which the garters may be attached by safety-pins or otherwise. I provide two of these straps or tabs on each side, so that if one becomes worn or torn the other may be used. I also prefer to provide a button f adjacent to these tabs or straps and secured to the garment by means of tapes or flexible cords sewed to the body of the garment, and the hose-supporters may be connected with these buttons if found more convenient.

The detachable button D^2 directly at the front of the waist is intended to button through one of the buttonholes a^x and also into the waistband of the pants or trousers, as will be understood, in order to support the latter directly in front.

When the waist becomes soiled, the detachable buttons and the suspender attachments are removed therefrom and restored after it has been laundered, thus facilitating the laundering of the waist and preserving the buttons and suspender attachments from injury, to which they would be otherwise exposed.

I wish it to be further understood that in making the detachable buttons herein described and shown, they will be made with attachments of different lengths, if desired, to better adapt them to the particular uses for which they are intended.

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

1. A waist provided adjacent to the waist-line thereof with devices for supporting a nether garment, shoulder-straps provided with button-engaging devices, button-attaching straps secured to the body of said garment in different vertical positions, and detachable buttons engaging certain of said straps, whereby said shoulder-straps may be adjusted to secure the proper position of the waist-line, substantially as described.

2. A waist provided with a horizontally-disposed retaining-strap, and a removable suspender attachment comprising an elastic band, adapted to engage said strap, and provided with a button at one end, and a button-engaging device at the other end, substantially as described.

3. A waist provided with a horizontally-disposed retaining-strap, and a removable suspender attachment comprising an elastic band, adapted to engage said strap, and provided with a loop at one end, and at the other end with a device for engaging a nether garment, adapted to be passed through said loop to secure the suspender attachment to said strap, substantially as described.

4. A waist provided adjacent to the waist-line with a plurality of retaining-straps, supporting devices for engaging a nether garment, comprising a button, adapted to be passed through a loop on said nether garment and a securing-loop adapted to be passed over the head of the button, substantially as described.

5. A waist provided adjacent to the waist-line with a plurality of retaining-straps, detachable buttons for engaging a nether garment, said buttons being each provided with a securing-loop adapted to be passed through one of said straps and over the head of the button to attach said button to the waist and to support a nether garment, said waist being provided at the back above the waist-line with a plurality of attaching-straps, and a plurality of removable suspender attachments each comprising an elastic band adapted to be passed through one of said straps and having at one end a loop and at the other a device for engaging a nether garment, adapted to be passed through said loop to secure it to the waist, substantially as described.

6. A waist having its main body provided

with vertically-disposed reinforcing-strips stitched thereto, horizontal attaching-straps extending between parallel reinforcing-strips, and having their ends stitched between said strips and the body of the waist, and detachable buttons, provided with attaching-loops adapted to be passed beneath said straps and over the heads of the buttons to secure them to the waist, substantially as described.

7. A boy's underwaist having its main body provided with adjustable shoulder-straps and provided at front and sides with a plurality of horizontal securing-straps, and at the back above the waist-line with a plurality of similar straps, a plurality of detachable buttons each comprising a head, and a flexible loop for attachment to said front and side straps, and a plurality of removable suspender attachments, each comprising an elastic band for engaging one of said back straps, said band being provided at one end with a button for supporting a nether garment and at the other end with a loop for engaging said button, substantially as described.

8. A boy's underwaist having its main body provided with adjustable shoulder-straps and provided at front and sides with a plurality of horizontal securing-straps, and at the back above the waist-line with a plurality of similar straps, a plurality of detachable buttons each comprising a head, and a flexible loop, for attachment to said front and side straps, and a plurality of removable suspender attachments, each comprising an elastic band for engaging one of said back straps, said band being provided at one end with a button for supporting a nether garment, and at the other end with a loop for engaging said button, said waist having a plurality of similar straps below the waistband and devices connected therewith for supporting underdrawers, substantially as described.

9. A boy's underwaist having its main body provided with adjustable shoulder-straps and provided at front and sides with a plurality of horizontal securing-straps, and at the back above the waist-line with a plurality of similar straps a plurality of detachable buttons each comprising a head, and a flexible loop, for attachment to said front and side straps, and a plurality of removable suspender attachments, each comprising an elastic band for engaging one of said back straps, said band being provided at one end with a button for supporting a nether garment and at the other end with a loop for engaging said button, said waist having a plurality of similar straps below the waistband and devices connected therewith for supporting underdrawers, said waist being also provided at each side with a pair of straps for engaging hose-supporting devices, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

IONE MILLER.

Witnesses:
C. C. MELVIN, 2d,
J. M. MCCLURE.