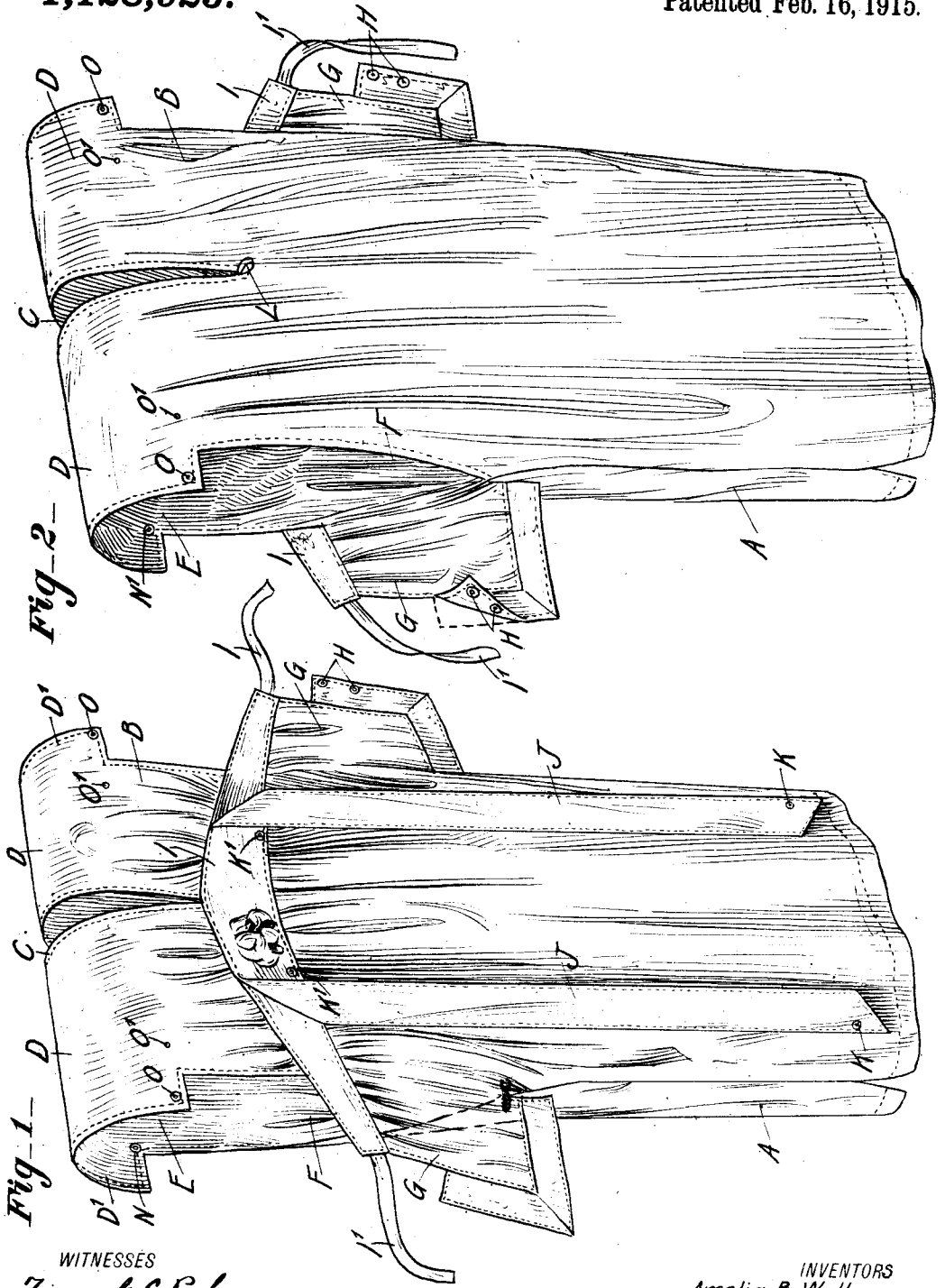
A. B. WELLS & M. BLICKHAN.

CONVERTIBLE GARMENT.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 8, 1914.

1,128,925. **Patented Feb. 16, 1915.**



WITNESSES

Frank C. Palmer.

Louis J. Hoskins

INVENTORS

Amelia B. Wells

Matilda Blickhan

BY

Munn & Co

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMELIA B. WELLS AND MATILDA BLICKHAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

CONVERTIBLE GARMENT.

1,128,925. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Feb. 16, 1915.

Application filed August 8, 1914. Serial No. 855,855.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, AMELIA B. WELLS and MATILDA BLICKHAN, both citizens of the United States, and residents of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Convertible Garment, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of the invention is to provide a new and improved convertible garment more especially designed for woman's wear and which can be readily converted by the owner into a house dress, empire gown, street dress, ball room dress, belt waist dress and loose back wrapper.

In order to produce the desired result use is made of a body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and the garment having side openings extending from under the arms to the hip line of the body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottom of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the said side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of said skirt portions and having means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle together at the back of the wearer. Use is also made of bands extending from the front of the girdle at opposite sides of the median line of the girdle, the bands being adapted to be passed around the garment to the rear thereof and over the shoulders to the front to connect with the girdle and thereby form shoulder straps, the said bands being also adapted to engage a loop at the rear of the neck opening for drawing the waist portion of the body up under the arms, and the said bands being also adapted for ornamental purposes.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the convertible garment; and Fig. 2 is a rear perspective view of the same.

The convertible garment in its general construction consists of a skirt body A and a waist B integral at the front and back with the front and back of the skirt body A. The waist B is provided at the top with a neck opening C, preferably V-shaped at the front and at the back. The waist B is provided with integral sleeves D having bottom openings E each extending from the scye to the terminal of the corresponding sleeve.

The garment is provided with side openings F each extending from the scye of a sleeve along the corresponding side of the waist B and down along the corresponding side of the skirt body A to a point at or below the hip of the wearer. Skirt portions G extend integrally from the front edge of the body portions of the side openings F and each skirt portion terminates at its upper end at the waist line of the garment and its lower end extends a distance below the bottom of the corresponding side opening F. The skirt portions G form closing flaps for the body portions of the side openings F and are adapted to overlie the same, to close the said side openings and to provide a coat effect. The skirt portions G may be passed through the side openings F to the inside of the garment to underlie the body portions of the side openings F and to thus close the same.

The free side edges of the skirt portions are provided with fastening devices H for fastening the said edges together whether the skirt portions are arranged inside of the body or exteriorly thereof, as above explained. To the front of the garment is secured a girdle I which extends rearwardly along the upper edges of the skirt portions G, and the rear ends of the said girdle are provided with fastening means I', such as tie strings or the like, for fastening the terminals of the girdle together at the back either inside of the body A or exteriorly thereof, as previously explained. It is expressly understood that the waist bands of the skirt portions G are fastened together at the back of the wearer by the use of the girdle I and its fastening means I', and then the skirt portions can be passed through the side openings F and extended exteriorly over the back of the body to be connected

with each other by the fastening devices H whenever it is desired to produce a coat effect. The skirt portions G when not used exteriorly extend from the sides of the wearer's body rearward within the skirt body A and the adjacent edges may or may not be fastened together as desired by the wearer.

The girdle I extends sufficiently high at the front to form a support for the bust of the wearer thus permitting the owner of the garment to wear the same with or without a corset. The girdle I also extends sufficiently far down the front to show off the waist line. From the front of the girdle I at the opposite sides of the median line thereof extend bands J provided at or near their terminals with fastening members K adapted to engage fastening members K' at the front of the girdle adjacent the beginning points of the bands J, as plainly indicated in Fig. 1. The bands J are of sufficient length to permit of passing the bands rearwardly and over the back and shoulders to the front of the garment to connect the fastening members K with the fastening members K' thus using the bands J as shoulder straps. The bands J may be crossed at the back at the waist line, and then extended over the shoulders, or the said bands may be crossed at the shoulder blades and then passed over the shoulders. The bands J may be passed through the side openings F to the rear of the wearer's body to be tied together at the back with the terminals hanging down inside of the loose back. The bands J may be passed through a loop L arranged at the back at the apex of the neck opening C to draw the waist line portions of the body A up under the arms and to allow of tying the terminals of the said bands J into a bow whenever it is desired to convert the garment into an empire gown. When the loop L is not used as described it hangs down at the inside of the garment and is hence not visible. When it is desired to convert the garment into a belt waist dress, then one of the bands J is passed around the back to the front to be tied with the other band into a bow. The bands J may also be passed to the rear of the garment and crossed, then passed forward under the arms and over the bust of the wearer, the terminals of the bands to be then tied into a bow at the apex of the neck opening C.

The front of the garment including the skirt portions G is gathered along the girdle I to provide the desired fullness at the bust portions of the waist and to provide graceful upright folds at the front of the skirt body. By reference to the drawings, it will be noticed that the skirt body A and the waist B with its integral sleeves E are made from a single piece of material doubled up at the middle to form the tops of the sleeves D and having the sides sewed together from the bottoms of the side openings F to near the lower end of the skirt to form both a plain front and a plain back from the top of the garment to the bottom thereof, but when the garment is worn then the front and back form graceful upright folds to enhance the appearance of the garment.

The sleeves D terminate at their outer ends in cuffs D' adapted to be folded back onto the sleeve, or extended outwardly. Each sleeve is provided at opposite sides of the bottom opening with fastening devices N, N' for closing the sleeve with a view to form a tight sleeve whenever it is desired to do so, and each cuff D' is provided at each side with fastening devices O, O' adapted to engage one the other when the cuff is folded back so as to hold the cuff in folded position. The fastening devices O may also be engaged with each other at the time the cuff D' is extended so as to form an extended tight sleeve. It is understood that the cuff may be used in either of its folded or extended positions with any one of the different dresses into which the garment may be converted to suit the individual taste of the owner.

It is understood that when the bands J, J are drawn around the wearer, then the rear edges of the openings F are drawn forward to overlap the front edges of the openings from the seyes to the hips thus closing the said openings and producing a close-fitting garment having a graceful effect.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the garment by the employment of very simple means can be readily converted into a wrapper, gown or various dresses to permit the owner to wear the dress in the house, on the street, in the ball room or for special occasions as the case may be.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

1. A convertible garment, comprising a skirt body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and the garment having side openings extending from the seye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the

garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, and fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer.

2. A convertible garment, comprising a skirt body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and the garment having side openings extending from the scye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer, and bands extending from the girdle at opposite sides of the median line of the said girdle.

3. A convertible garment, comprising a body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and the garment having side openings extending from the scye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottoms of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer, bands extending from the girdle at opposite sides of the median line of the said girdle, the said bands being adapted to be passed around the garment to the rear thereof and over the shoulders to the front, and fastening means for fastening the terminals of the said bands to the front of the girdle.

4. A convertible garment, comprising a body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and the garment having side openings extending from the scye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottoms of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer, bands extending from the girdle at opposite sides of the median line of the said girdle, the said bands being adapted to be passed around the garment to the rear thereof and over the shoulders to the front, and fastening means for fastening the terminals of the said bands to the front of the girdle adjacent their starting points.

5. A convertible garment, comprising a body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and the garment having side openings extending from the scye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottoms of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer, bands extending from the girdle at opposite sides of the median line of the said girdle, the said bands being adapted to be passed around the rear of the garment, and a loop at the back of the neck openings for the passage of the said bands to allow of tying the terminals of the bands into a bow at the back of the garment.

6. A convertible garment, comprising a body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said

body, the waist having a neck opening and having sleeves open at the bottom, and fastening means for each sleeve and located at opposite sides of a sleeve opening at the terminal thereof to permit of closing the sleeve at the bottom, and the garment having side openings extending from the scye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottoms of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, and fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer.

7. A convertible garment, comprising a body and a waist integral at the front and back with the front and back of the said body, the waist having a neck opening and having sleeves open at the bottom, cuffs at the ends of the sleeves and adapted to be folded back or extended and two sets of fastening devices for each sleeve, one for fastening the free ends of a cuff to its sleeve when the cuff is folded back upon the sleeve or for fastening the free ends of the cuff together when extended, and the other fastening device being arranged at opposite sides of the bottom of a sleeve opening at the terminal thereof for closing the sleeve at the bottom opening, and the garment having side openings extending from the scye of the waist to the hip line of the body, the said skirt body and the said waist being made from a single piece of material doubled up and having the side edges fastened together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, short skirt portions integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottoms of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the lower portions of the side openings, and in another position underlying the lower portions of the said side portions, a girdle at the front of the garment and extending along the upper edges of the said skirt portions, and fastening means at the ends of the said girdle to permit of fastening the ends of the girdle at the back of the wearer.

8. A convertible garment provided with sleeves open along the bottom and terminating in cuffs adapted to be folded back or extending forwardly, and two sets of fastening devices for each sleeve, one for fastening the free ends of a cuff to its sleeve when the cuff is folded back upon the sleeve or for fastening the free ends of the cuff together when the cuff is intended, and the other fastening device being arranged at opposite sides of a bottom opening of a sleeve at the terminal thereof for closing the sleeve at the bottom opening.

9. A convertible garment, comprising a skirt body and a waist formed of a single piece doubled up to provide a front, back and sleeves, the said waist having a neck opening and a back loop at the middle of the back edge of the said opening, the said edges of the doubled-up piece being sewed together from the bottoms of the said side openings to the lower end of the skirt body, the said garment having side openings, a girdle at the front of the garment and provided at its ends with fastening means for fastening the ends together at the back of the wearer, and bands extending from the front of the girdle at opposite sides of the front median line of the girdle, the said bands being adapted to be passed rearward under the arms of the wearer and engaged with the said back loop to draw the waist line portions of the body up under the arms of the wearer.

10. A convertible garment, comprising a skirt body having side openings extending from the waist line downward approximately to the hips, skirt portions in the form of flaps integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottom of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the said side openings and in another position underying the said side openings to cover the same in either position of the skirt portions, and a girdle attached to the front of the said skirt body and extending along the upper ends of the said skirt portions, the rear terminals of the girdle being provided with fastening devices for connecting the girdle terminals with each other at the back of the wearer.

11. A convertible garment, comprising a skirt body, having side openings extending from the waist line downward approximately to the hips, skirt portions in the form of flaps integral with the front edges of the said side openings and extending from the waist line downward a distance below the bottoms of the said side openings, the said skirt portions in one position overlying the said side openings and in another position underlying the said side openings to cover the same in either position of the skirt portions, a girdle attached to the

front of the said skirt body and extending along the upper ends of the said skirt portion, the rear terminals of the girdle being provided with fastening devices for connecting the girdle terminals with each other at the back of the wearer, and fastening members at the side edges of the skirt portions for connecting the same with each other.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

AMELIA B. WELLS.
MATILDA BLICKHAN.

Witnesses:
THEO. G. HOSTER,
PHILIP D. ROLLHAUS.