

C. L. BRADLEY.
Underwear.

No. 199,780.

Patented Jan. 29, 1878.

Fig 2

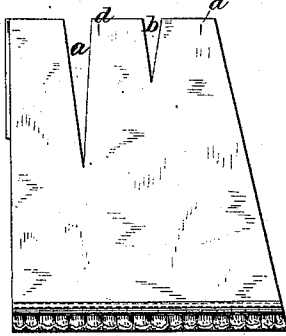


Fig 3.

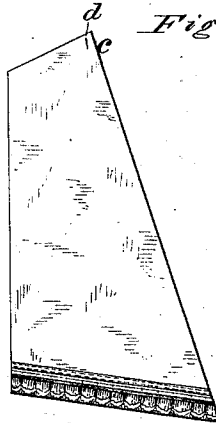


Fig 1.

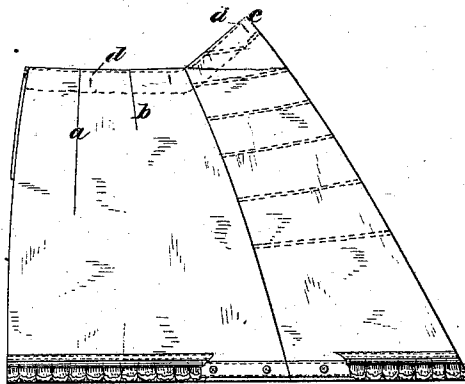


Fig 4.

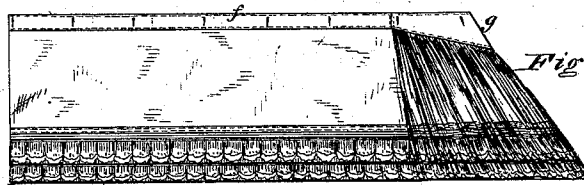


Fig 5

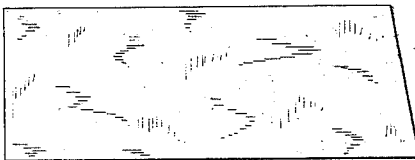
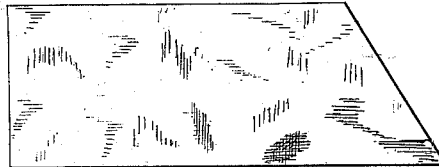


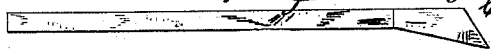
Fig 6.



Witnesses.

Harry King
A. Bradley

Fig 7



Inventor.

C. L. Bradley

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Fig. 9.

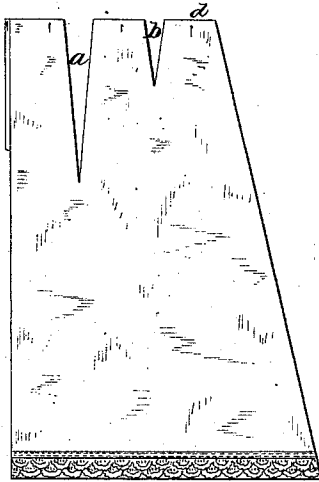


Fig. 10.

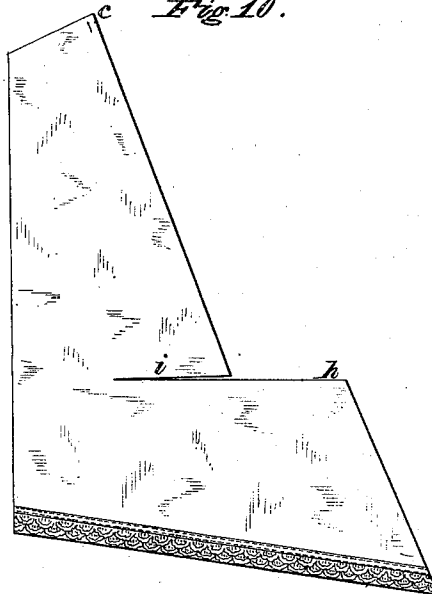
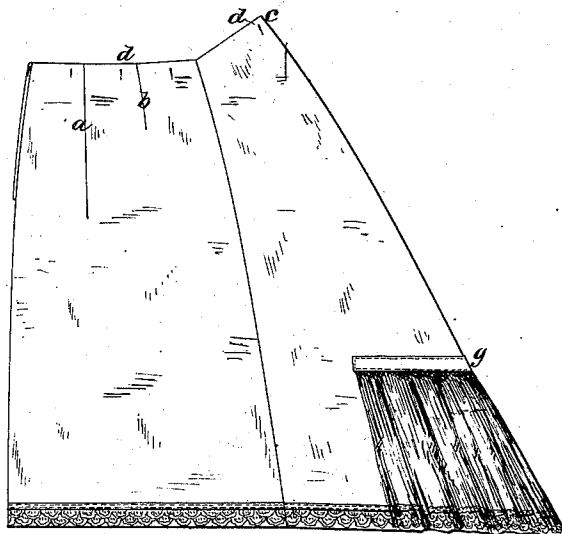


Fig. 8.



Witnesses.

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Fig 11.

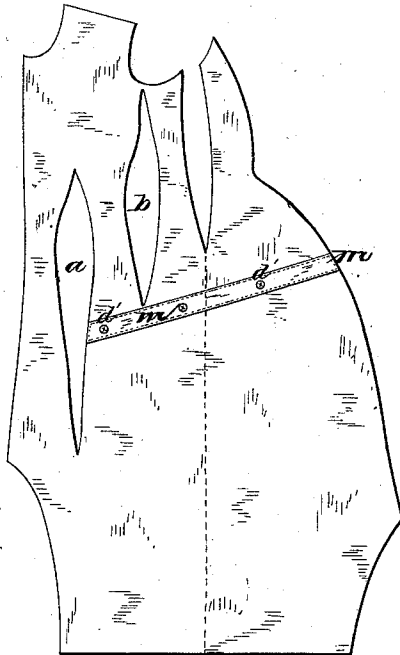


Fig 12.



Fig 13



Witnesses

Harry King
J. Bradley

Inventor.

Clara Lynde Bradley

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARA L. BRADLEY, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN UNDERWEAR.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,780**, dated January 29, 1878; application filed January 21, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARA LYNDE BRADLEY, of the city and county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Underwear, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to a skirt, preferably to be worn and combined with the under-suit for which Letters Patent of the United States No. 198,505 were granted to me under date of December 25, 1877.

The object of the invention is to lessen the amount of clothing now worn, as by this improvement only one skirt is necessary, and this one possesses all the advantages of the several skirts now generally worn, and also to furnish a skirt which is peculiarly adapted to the present style of close-fitting garments.

The invention consists, first, in the construction of a skirt adapted to be attached mainly below the waist-line; secondly, in said skirt being so constructed as to fit the form without fullness; thirdly, in the combination of this improved skirt with detachable flounces; fourthly, in the construction of said flounces; fifthly, in the combination of this improved skirt with the under-suit hereinafter referred to.

Figure 1 is a side view of the skirt. Fig. 2 is a pattern of one-half of the front breadth of the skirt. Fig. 3 is a pattern of one-half of the back breadth of the skirt. Fig. 4 is a side view of the detachable flounce. Fig. 5 is a pattern of one-half of the front breadth of the flounce. Fig. 6 is a pattern of one-half of the back breadth of the flounce. Fig. 7 is a pattern of one-half of the yoked band for said flounce. Fig. 8 is a side view of a skirt, showing a modification of Fig. 1. Figs. 9 and 10 are patterns of the front and back breadths thereof. Figs. 11 and 12 are patterns for the construction of the under-suit before referred to. Fig. 13 represents the suit and skirt combined and arranged for wear.

My improved under-suit, as shown in the drawings, consists of two or more pieces, cut and adapted to fit the form substantially in the manner shown in Fig. 13, and more particularly described in my patent before referred to.

As an improvement upon said patent, the garment may be provided with a stay, *m*, if

preferred, stitched crosswise of the garment a suitable distance below the waist-line, forming additional support for fastening devices.

To make the skirt, the breadths are cut in any suitable number, according to the width required, of a gored or tapering form—that is, wider at the bottom than at the top—substantially as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The skirt may be of any desired length, extending, when attached to the under-suit, from about six inches or other suitable point below the waist-line to a point at or below the knee, forming the short skirt, as shown in Fig. 1, or the full skirt shown in Fig. 8.

The upper portion of the back breadth is provided with an extension, *e*, Figs. 1 and 3, to be attached to the waist-line of the under-suit, as shown in the dotted lines at *E*, Fig. 13. The breadths are united in the usual manner, the skirt being made to closely fit the form by means of darts or gores *a b*, Figs. 1, 2, taken from the top of the breadth, or midway of the width, or at any other suitable place. The upper edge of the skirt may be finished with a hem, though a facing may be used to add strength. Said edge is provided with means of attachment by which it is united with the under-suit, as shown at *d*, Fig. 13, by the dotted lines, about six inches or other suitable distance below the waist.

The back extension is secured at the waist-line *e*, Fig. 13, as shown in the dotted lines.

The darts do away with the usual fullness caused by gathering or plaiting into a band or yoke.

The most essential advantages gained by the attachment of the skirt to the under-suit below the waist-line in manner described and shown are, that the additional thickness of material over the upper part of the hips is dispensed with, which is in itself of great importance, and that it permits a perfect fit of the close-fitting princess dress so much worn at present. The extension of the back breadth to the waist-line furnishes a support for the bottom fullness of the skirt and dress.

It may be here stated that wires or other stiffening devices may be inserted through pockets formed in the upper portion of the back breadth, thus forming a bustle thereon.

It is further designed to make the short

skirt extensible, and to furnish additional length to any desired extent, thereby doing away with the usual outside walking and trained skirts, which is accomplished by means of a flounce, detachably secured to the bottom of the skirt by fastening devices on the top and bottom of the skirt and flounce, respectively, as shown, Figs. 1 and 4, the attachment being concealed, if desired, by an ornamental tuck or ruffle arranged to fall on the same.

To make the flounce, the breadths are cut of the desired depth, and three or more in number, one front and two back, as shown by patterns 5 and 6, and in width about twice that of the skirt to which it is to be attached. A yoked band is then cut in the shape shown in Fig. 7, consisting of the plain portion *f* and the yoked portion *g*, and of a width corresponding to that of the bottom of the skirt. The breadths of the flounce, after being united, are attached to the yoked band, the front breadth fitting into the plain portion, and the back breadths being fulled or gathered into the yoke portion, the yoked fullness forming a fan-shaped train.

The employment of these flounces adapts the skirt to different purposes—as, for instance, the change of the depth suitable for walking to a full-train, water-proof, or felt flounce, the flounce being so readily adjusted that the style of the skirt may be changed with comparatively little trouble, and without the necessity of removing the dress.

The modification shown in Fig. 8 is cut as in the former case, and of any desired length. The lower portion of the back breadths are extended outward, as shown at *h*, Fig. 10, which extension provides for the requisite fullness in that portion of the skirt. The upper portion of the skirt is made to closely fit the form, and the extension is fulled into the body or lower part of the breadth, as shown at *g'*, Fig. 8. To admit of this being done, a cut is made

part way across the breadth, as shown at *i*, Fig. 10.

The skirts and flounces may be made of any desired material, as taste may dictate—for instance, cotton, silk, velvet, cloths, paper, &c.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A skirt adapted in its construction to be attached to an under-garment mainly below the waist-line, and provided with the extension *c*, substantially as described and shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. A skirt constructed substantially as above described, and provided with darts upon its upper edge, whereby it is adapted to fit the form without fullness, as set forth.

3. A skirt constructed substantially as above described, in combination with a detachable flounce, as set forth.

4. A detachable flounce consisting of the front and back breadths and the yoked band, the back breadths being gathered into the yoked portion of the band, substantially as described and shown.

5. The combination of a skirt adapted to be attached below the waist-line with an under-suit constructed substantially as described.

6. The combination of a skirt adapted to be attached mainly below the waist-line with an under-suit, substantially as described.

7. A skirt provided with a detachable flounce, in combination with an under-suit, substantially as described.

8. An under-suit constructed to fit the form closely above and loosely below the waist-line, substantially as described, in combination with a skirt having a detachable flounce, substantially as specified.

CLARA LYNDE BRADLEY.

Witnesses:

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A. R. G. NICHOLS