

1,141,284.

Fig. 1.

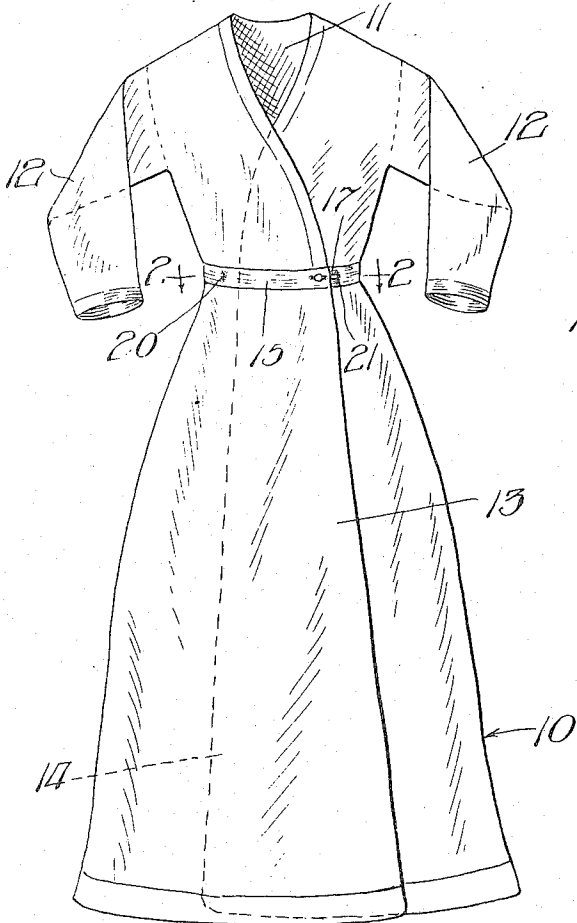


Fig. 3.

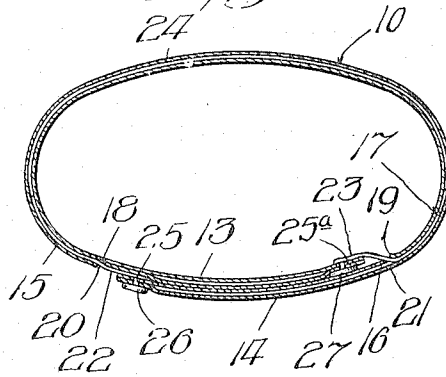


Fig. 4.

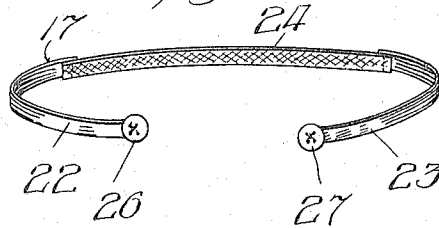


Fig. 5.

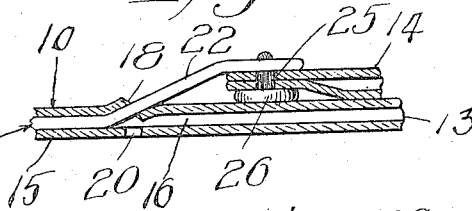


Fig. 2.

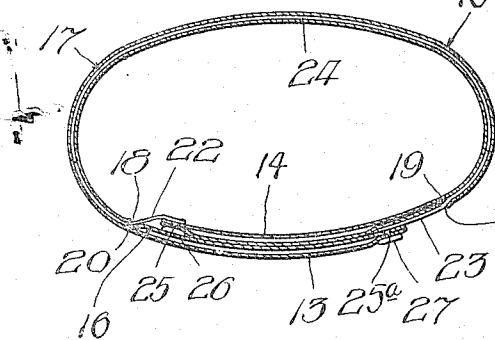
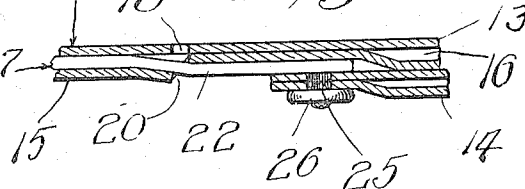


Fig. 5a.



Witnesses:

Harry S. Gauthier
August B. Wynn

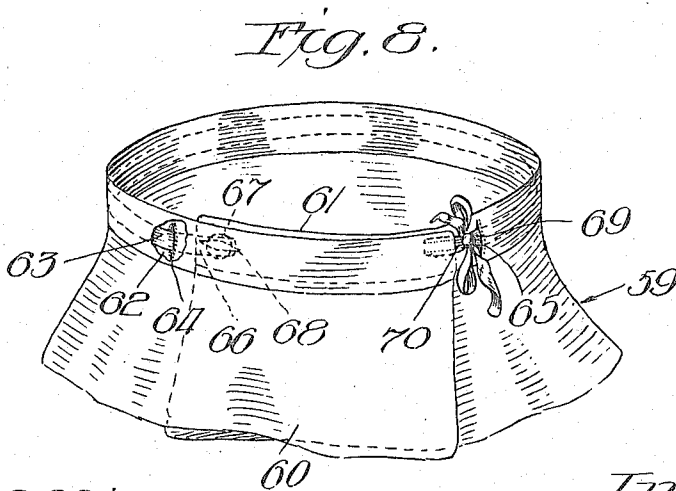
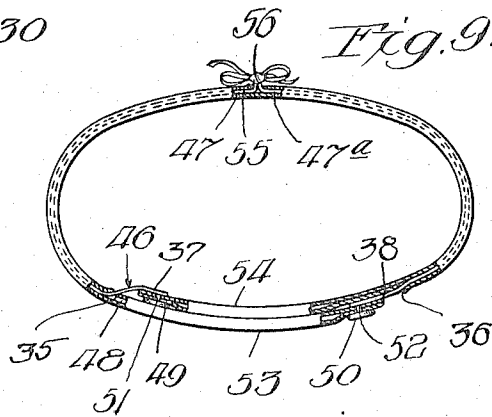
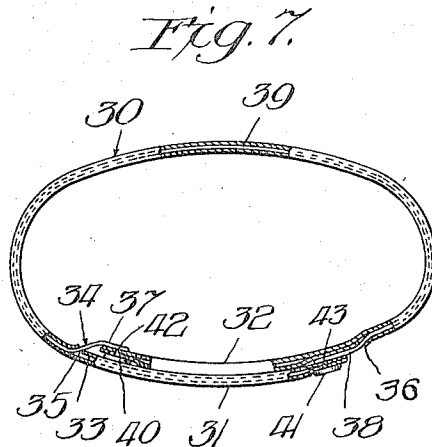
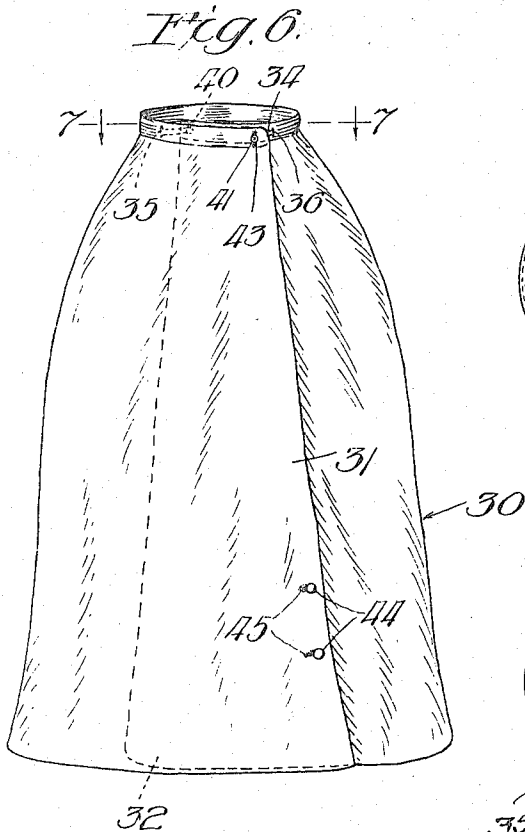
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Attys

1,141,284.

Patented June 1, 1915.
2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES STONE, OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN.

BODY-GARMENT.

1,141,284.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 1, 1915.

Application filed October 5, 1914. Serial No. 864,971.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES STONE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of La Crosse, in the county of La Crosse and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Body-Garments; and I, JAMES STONE, do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to body-garments and more particularly to that type of such garments that are known as house dresses, petticoats, skirts and the like.

Among the objects of the present invention is to provide an improved construction in such garments adapted to afford adjustment of the same at the waist-portion thereof.

The invention consists further in the matters hereinafter described and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings: Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a house dress embodying the features of my invention; Fig. 2 is an enlarged cross-sectional view, taken on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and showing the reversible front flaps of the garment in one overlapped position; Fig. 3 is a similar cross-sectional view of the parts shown in Fig. 2, with the exception that the positions of the overlapping front flaps and free ends of the fastening belt or tape are changed; Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the fastening belt or tape used in the dress shown in Fig. 1; Fig. 5 is an enlarged detail sectional view, showing one end of the fastening belt or tape in the position it occupies when the flap with which it has detachable connection is the innermost one; Fig. 5^a is a similar view, showing the same end of said fastening belt or tape in the position it occupies when said flap with which said tape has detachable connection is the outermost one; Fig. 6 is a view in front elevation of a skirt or petticoat having applied thereto the features of my invention; Fig. 7 is an enlarged cross-sectional view, taken on line 7—7 of Fig. 6; Fig. 8 is a view in front elevation of the upper or waist-band portion of a petticoat or skirt, showing as applied thereto another form of my invention; and Fig. 9 is an enlarged cross-sectional view similar to that shown in Fig.

6 and illustrating another form of my invention.

Referring to the drawings, the garment 10, shown in Fig. 1, and to which one form of my invention is applied, is of that type known as a house dress and, as shown, said garment opens at the front, so that the same may be put on in the same manner as a coat. As shown, said dress 10 comprises a back 11, sleeves 12, 12, and two front flaps 13, 14 attached to or made integral with said back 11. Said front flaps 13, 14 extend the full length of the front of the garment and are adapted to overlap each other at the front of said garment, when the latter is closed. In order to hold the front flaps 13, 14 in overlapping relation and afford adjustment of the garment at the waist thereof, I provide the following construction: The dress 10 is provided with a tubular waistband, forming a slide-way 16. Said tubular waistband may be made in any preferred manner, but as shown the same is made by attaching to the outside of the garment a relatively narrow strip of material 15, constituting in effect an outer belt. Such strip of material is attached to the garment along the upper and lower longitudinal margins and forms, with the body of the garment therebehind, the slide-way 16. A tape 17 is drawn through said slide-way and constitutes in effect an inner belt. The opposite free ends of the said inner belt 17 emerge from said slide-way 16 at the front of the garment and adjacent the lateral margins of said flaps. The ends of said tape 17 emerge from said slide-way 16 through suitable holes or slots provided in said tubular waistband of said garment. As shown, each front flap 13, 14 is provided, adjacent the lateral margins thereof, with a slot 18, 19 opening into said slide-way 16 from the inside of said garment. The outer belt 15 is provided with two holes or slots 20, 21, both of which open into said slide-way 16 from the outside of said garment, the slot 20 being opposite or near the slot 18 in the front flap 13, and the slot 21 being opposite or near the slot 19 in the front flap 14. (See Figs. 2, 3, 5 and 5^a.) Each set of opposed slots is so located that the same are spaced beyond the free lateral margin of the other front flap, when said front flaps are overlapped. The end portions 22, 23 of said inner belt 17 are both made of non-elastic material, and such por-

tions extend beyond the body of the garment through the associate slot of one of the set of slots, depending of course upon which of the front flaps 13, 14 is outermost. Said holes or slots may be made in the same manner as button holes. Said inner belt 17 comprises an intermediate elastic section 24 located in said slide-way 16. The non-elastic end portions 22, 23 are connected with the opposite ends of said intermediate elastic section 24. (See Fig. 4.) Each front flap 13, 14 is provided, adjacent its free lateral margin and at the belt line thereof, with one member of a fastening device, such as a button hole 25, 25^a, and the inner belt is provided at each end with another member of a fastening device, such as a button 26, 27, secured to such free end of the inner belt.

When the parts occupy the positions shown in Figs. 1, 2 and 5, the garment is closed and the front flaps 13, 14 overlap each other at the front of said garment; the front flap 13 is at such time the outermost one. As shown, the non-elastic end portion 22 of the inner belt 17 emerges from the slide-way 16 and extends inside of the garment through the inner slot 18 in the flap 13, and the button 26 on the end of said inner belt 17 is engaged with the button hole 25 in the innermost front flap 14. It will be noted that no portion of the inner belt 17 extends through the outer slot 20. (See Fig. 5.) The opposite end portion 23 of said inner belt 17 emerges from said slide-way 16 through the outer slot 21 in the innermost front flap 14 and extends outside of said garment. The button 27 secured to such end of said inner belt is engaged with the button hole 25^a in the outermost front flap 13. No portion of the inner belt 17 at this time extends through the inner slot 19. (See Fig. 2.) When the front flaps 13, 14 are attached to the inner belt 17, said front flaps are held in overlapping relation and the inner belt 17 serves to draw or hold the parts of the garment snugly about the waist of the wearer. To reverse the position of the front flaps 13, 14, so that the front flap 14 will become the outermost one, the flaps are disconnected from the ends of the inner belt 17 and the position of the flaps and the free ends of the said inner belt are reversed. When reversed, said front flaps 13, 14 occupy the positions shown in Figs. 3 and 5^a. The positions of the ends of the inner belt 17 are changed, so that the front flaps may be connected with the inner belt 17. The free end portion 22 of said inner belt is withdrawn through the inner slot 18 and inserted through the opposite outer slot 20, so that such end of the belt will extend outside of the garment and be in position to be attached to the front flap 14 which is now outside of the garment. Similarly, the free end portion 23 of said inner belt is with-

drawn through the outer slot 21 and inserted through the opposite inner slot 19, so as to extend inside of the garment and be attached to the front flap 13 which is now inside of the garment. When the ends of the inner belt 17 are thus changed, the buttons 26, 27 thereon are engaged with the button holes 25, 25^a in the front flaps 13, 14, and the latter are thus held in overlapped relation. It will be noted that the free ends of the inner belt 17 extend beyond the garment, at the front and sides thereof, through the front flaps, and that the ends of said belt 17 are adapted to be attached to the opposite front flaps.

The inner belt 17 is made of a length to correspond approximately to the initial minimum size for which the dress is made or cut. The elastic section 24 in said inner belt serves to draw the parts of the garment snugly about the waist of the wearer and holds the dress smoothly over the waist and hips. Said elastic section 24 enables the belt to expand when the dress is worn by a person whose waist measure is somewhat larger than the minimum waist measure for which the dress was initially made.

In Figs. 6 and 7 I have shown a form of my invention applied to a skirt or petticoat, which is open at the front so that such garment may be put on without slipping the same over the head. As shown, said skirt or petticoat 30 comprises two front flaps 31, 32, which overlap each other at the front of the garment, when the latter is closed. At its upper margins or belt line said garment 30 is provided with a tubular waistband, forming a slide-way 33, which may be conveniently made by folding the material upon itself. In the said slide-way 33 is inserted a fastening tape or inner belt 34, the opposite, free ends of which emerge from said slide-way through slots 35, 36 provided in the waistband of said skirt or garment. One of said slots 35, 36 opens into said slide-way 33 from the inside of the garment and the other from the outside of the garment, so that one end of said fastening belt 34 will extend inside of the garment and the other end outside of said garment, and thereby enables the overlapped front flaps to be attached to said tape 34. The free end portions 37, 38 of said inner belt 34 are made of non-elastic material and the same are connected with each other by an intermediate elastic section 39, the latter being within said slide-way 33. As shown, the slot 35 opens into the slide-way 33 from the inside of the garment, so that the non-elastic free end portion 37 of said inner belt 34 extends inside of said garment. The slot 36 in the innermost front flap 32 opens into said slide-way 33 from the outside of the garment, thereby permitting the free end portion of the inner belt 34 to extend in front of the

garment. The free ends of said inner belt 34 are provided with buttons 40, 41 adapted to be received by button holes 42, 43 in the respective front flaps 31, 32. When the parts are in the position shown in Figs. 6 and 7, the front flaps 31, 32 of said skirt or petticoat 30 are overlapped at the front of the garment and said flaps are held in such relation by their connection with the ends of the inner belt or tape 34. As shown in Fig. 6, the said front flaps 31, 32 are further connected with each other near the bottom of the skirt by means of suitable fastenings, which, as shown in the drawings, comprise buttons 44 attached to the innermost front flap 32 and adapted to engage button holes 45 worked in the outermost front flap 31. The inner belt 34 just described is substantially the same as the one shown in Fig. 4.

The same results in adjustability of the waistband of the garment may be obtained when the inner belt is made entirely of non-elastic material. As shown in Fig. 9, the inner belt 46 is a non-elastic one and is made in two separate parts 47, 47^a, each part being preferably one-half of the belt. The front ends of each part 47, 47^a emerge from the slide-way 48 at the front of the garment, in the same manner as shown in Fig. 7. To the free front ends of said belt 46 are attached buttons 49, 50 adapted to be received by button holes 51, 52 made in the waistband of the front flaps 53, 54. The rear ends of the two separate parts of said tape 46 emerge from the slide-way 48 at the rear of the waistband through the single slot 55, and are adapted to be tied together in a knot or bow 56 at the back of the garment. The non-elastic inner belt 46 is thus in the form of a draw-string and may have its ends tied together at the back of the garment to bring the portions of the waist line or waistband of the garment snugly about the waist of the wearer. Such form of fastening belt or tape 46 may be employed either with a skirt of the type shown in Fig. 6, or with a dress of the kind shown in Fig. 1, or other open-front garment. The parts in Fig. 9 that correspond with the parts in Fig. 7 are indicated by the same reference numerals.

In Fig. 8 I have shown a form of my invention differing in form from that shown in the previous figures, and applied to an open-front skirt or petticoat. As shown in said Fig. 8, the garment 59 is provided with overlapping front flaps 60, 61, and the waistband of the said garment is provided with a slide-way 62, through which is drawn a non-elastic fastening belt or tape 63. The opposite free ends of the tape 63 emerge from said slide-way 62 through slots 64, 65 provided in the waistband of said garment. One of said slots opens into said slide-way

62 from the inside of the garment, and the other into said slide-way from the outside of said garment, thereby enabling the opposite free ends of the tape 63 to extend one inside and the other outside of said garment. As illustrated, the slot 64 opens into said slide-way from the inside of the garment, and the slot 65 from the outside of said garment. The free end 66 of said belt 63 extends inside of said garment through the inner slot 64, and such tape end is provided with a button 67 adapted to be received by a button hole 68 made in the waistband of the innermost front flap 61. The adjacent free end 69 of said tape extends through the outer slot 65 to the front of said garment. A short tape section 70 is attached at one end to the waistband of the outermost front flap 60, and said tape section 70 is adapted to be tied to the adjacent free end portion 69 of the fastening tape 63, when the garment is closed and the overlapped front flaps are to be held in such overlapped relation.

The overlapped front flaps of the skirt or petticoat, shown in Figs. 6 and 8, act as a double loose front panel.

A garment, whether in the form of a dress as shown in Fig. 1, or in the form of a petticoat or skirt as shown in Figs. 6 and 8, having applied thereto a belt fastening embodying the features of my invention, may be easily put on and the front flaps thereof easily and quickly secured in overlapping relation. Moreover, the fastening belt or tape, being provided with an intermediate elastic section, is an adjustable one, in that it will readily accommodate itself to the waist of the wearer without requiring that the flaps be disconnected from the front ends of said inner fastening belt, and without requiring additional means, permitting adjustment of the overlapped front flaps in themselves. The non-elastic inner belt, whether in the form shown in Fig. 8 or Fig. 9, is an adjustable one, for the reason that such belt may be shortened or lengthened by letting out or drawing up said belt. With either of the forms of fastening belts shown, the garment may be of the open-front type and further the parts of the garment may be made to fit snugly and closely about the waist of the wearer. The fastening belt or tape, being located in a slide-way, is carried by the garment and will not become detached therefrom when the ends of the belt are disconnected from the front flaps. Said belt or tape, being slidably mounted in said slide-way, may be readily and quickly withdrawn from the garment when the latter is to be laundered or the belt to be repaired or replaced by a new one.

Although I have shown a button and button hole type of fastening means for connecting the inner belt or tape with the front

flaps, yet it is to be of course understood that any other suitable form of detachable fastening or connecting device may be employed without departing from the spirit or scope of my invention. It is to be further understood that the exact details and arrangement of the parts herein shown and described may be changed or modified without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I do not wish to be confined to the exact details of construction and arrangement of the parts, except as pointed out in the appended claims.

I claim as my invention:

1. A body-garment having inner and outer overlapping flaps, said garment being provided at the waistband thereof with a tubular portion forming a slide-way, a belt or tape located in said slide-way, said tubular portion being provided adjacent the lateral margins of each flap with a hole or slot, one opening into said slide-way from the inside of the garment, and the other opening into said slide-way from the outside of the garment, said holes or slots enabling the free end portions of said belt or tape to be extended from said slide-way, one inside and the other outside of the garment, and the end portion of said belt extending inside of the garment having detachable connection with the inner flap, and the end portion of the belt extending outside of the garment having detachable connection with the outer flap.
2. A body-garment having two overlapping reversible flaps, said garment being provided with a tubular waistband forming a slide-way, a belt located in said slide-way and provided between its ends with means enabling the length of said belt to be varied, said tubular waistband being provided adjacent the lateral margins of each of said flaps with oppositely disposed holes or slots, one opening into said slide-way from the inside of the garment, and the other opening into said slide-way from the outside of said garment; said holes or slots permitting the free end portions of said belt to emerge from said slide-way and be extended either inside or outside of the garment, depending upon which of said flaps is outermost when said flaps are overlapped, and the free ends of said belt adapted to detachably engage said flaps when the latter are overlapped.
3. A body-garment having two overlapping reversible flaps, said garment being provided at the waistband thereof with a tubular portion forming a slide-way, a belt located in said slide-way, said tubular portion being provided adjacent the lateral

margins of each of said flaps with oppositely disposed holes or slots, one opening into said slide-way from the inside of the garment and the other opening into said slide-way from the outside of the garment; said holes or slots enabling the free end portions of said belt to emerge from said slide-way and be extended either inside or outside of the garment, depending upon which of said flaps is outermost, when said flaps are overlapped, and the free ends of said belt being provided with fastening members adapted to detachably engage said flaps.

4. A body-garment having two overlapping reversible flaps, said garment being provided at the waistband thereof with a tubular portion forming a slide-way, a belt located in said slide-way, said tubular portion being provided adjacent the lateral margins of each of said flaps with oppositely disposed holes or slots, one opening into said slide-way from the inside of the garment and the other opening into said slide-way from the outside of the garment; said holes or slots enabling the free end portions of said belt to emerge from said slide-way and be extended either inside or outside of the garment, depending upon which of said flaps is outermost, when said flaps are overlapped; the free ends of said belt being provided with fastening members adapted to detachably engage said flaps and said belt, embracing means permitting the length of said belt to be varied.

5. A body-garment having two reversible flaps, said garment being provided at the waistband thereof with a tubular portion forming a slide-way, a belt located in said slide-way, said tubular portion being provided adjacent the lateral margins of each of said flaps with oppositely disposed holes or slots, one opening into said slide-way from the inside of the garment, and the other opening into said slide-way from the outside of the garment; said holes or slots enabling the free end portions of said belt to emerge from said slide-way and be extended either inside or outside of the garment, depending upon which of said flaps is outermost, when said flaps are overlapped, and the free ends of said belt adapted to detachably engage said flaps.

In testimony, that I, JAMES STONE claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses, this 2nd day of October, A. D. 1914.

JAMES STONE.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. GORDON,
MARION G. ANDERSON.