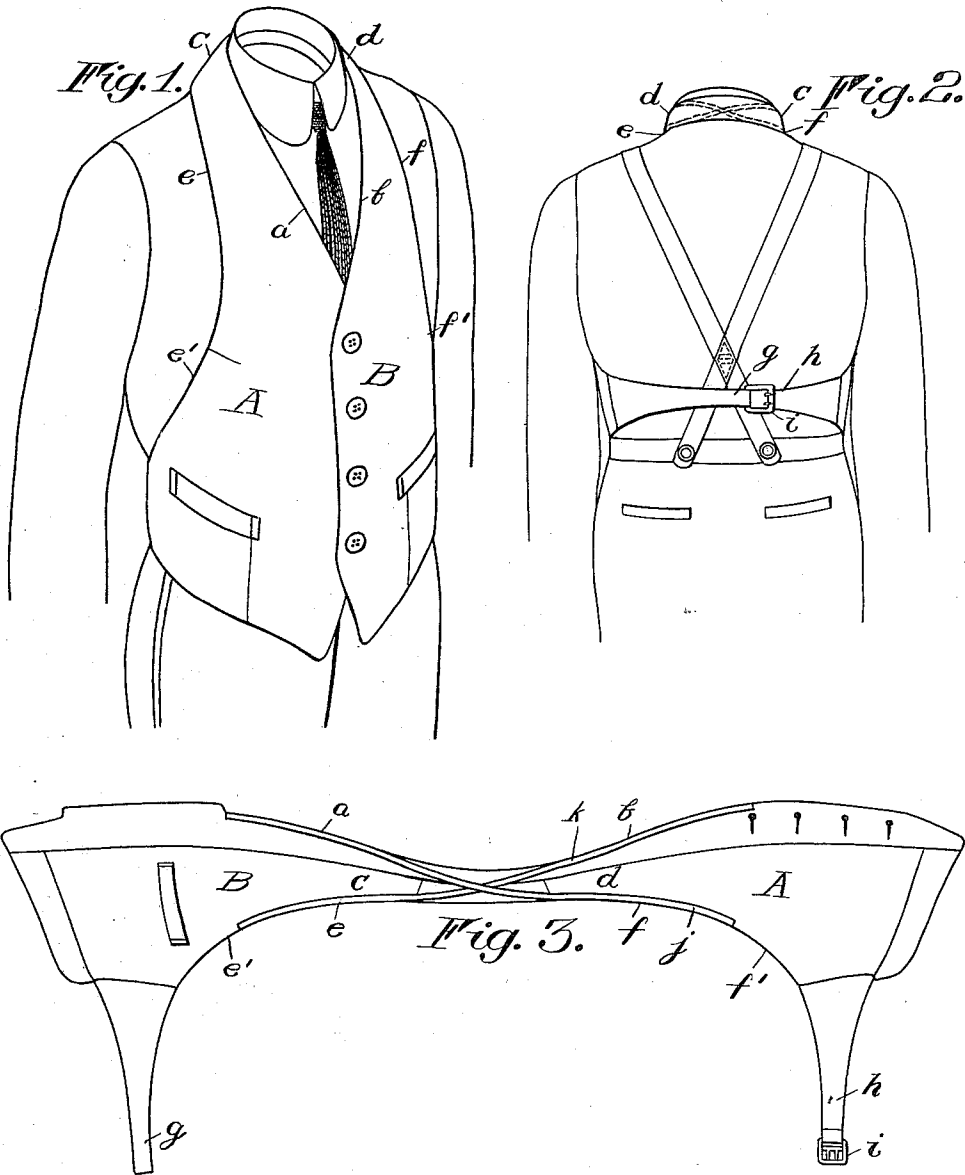


J. D. STEEFEL.
GARMENT.

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1,009,109.

Patented Nov. 21, 1911.



Witnesses

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GARMENT.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH D. STEEFEL, of Rochester, in the county of Monroe and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garments; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, and to the reference numerals marked thereon.

My present invention relates to garments and particularly to vests adapted for men's wear, and it has for its object to provide an article of this character comprising only the two front portions which are held in position by a neck band and back straps. In furtherance of my invention I have provided a novel means of connecting the two portions of vest at the neck bands whereby the garment may be made extremely light in weight and caused to fit the body of wearer and to retain its shape.

To these and other ends the invention consists in certain improvements and combinations of parts all as will be hereinafter more fully described, the novel features being pointed out in the claim at the end of the specification.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a perspective view illustrating the general appearance of a vest constructed in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2 is a rear view thereof, and Fig. 3 is an inside plan view showing the detail construction of the neck band.

Similar reference numerals in the several figures indicate similar parts.

A vest embodying my invention is adapted particularly to be worn during the summer or warm weather and comprises only the two parts A and B forming the fronts which meet at the center of the wearer's body where they are provided with cooperating buttons and button holes. The neck opening of the garment is formed by the two upper edges *a* and *b* which may meet at any desired point to form either a high or a low cut vest, as will be understood. The upper ends of each side portion are made narrow so as to spread out upon the wearer's shoulders only slightly, as indicated at *c* and *d*, and from these points the lateral edges *e* and *f* extend downwardly over the breasts, the total width of the garment along

these lines being just sufficient to position the rear edges within the lapels of the coat or outer garment, which is usually worn. These edges at their lower ends curve rearwardly as indicated at *e'* and *f'* and terminate in the straps *g* and *h*, one of which is provided with a buckle *i*, by means of which the waist portion of the garment may be adjusted.

In the construction of a garment of this character considerable difficulty has been experienced in obtaining a proper fit to the collar portion, both at its upper and lower edges, and along the lines forming the continuations of both of these edges. It is important that the edges *a* and *b* of the neck opening lie flat and be prevented from sagging. This is a particular essential in the making of the garment for if one or the other of the two edges bulge it is a constant annoyance to the wearer, and in his endeavor to pull the parts into place he twists the upper part of the garment on his body, and throws the line of the buttons out of the true vertical line they should assume. It is also essential that the lateral edges *e* and *f* of the side pieces hug the body of the wearer and since these edges, like the edges *a* and *b*, are curved they must also be stayed and prevented from sagging as their springing or bulging will affect the appearance and fit of the edges of the neck opening.

In practice I have found that in the manufacture of a skeleton garment such as described above, where the upper ends of the side pieces A and B are connected by a narrow neck band, it is desirable to interconnect the forward and rear edges of one of the side pieces with the rear and forward edges respectively with the other side piece.

In carrying out my invention I employ narrow tapes or stays *j* and *k* arranged as shown in Fig. 3, in which it will be seen that the rear ends of the stay pieces are stitched along the edges *e* and *f*, curved slightly across the neck band to overlap at the center thereof, and then continue along the edges *a* and *b* to which their forward ends are stitched. This arrangement of the parts gives the necessary support to the four edges and at the same time serves to maintain the neck band in proper position permitting it to lie flat against the collar. This is accomplished because no weight or strain is placed upon the band itself. This part of

the garment might be omitted but as it adds to the finished appearance of the garment it is preferably supplied.

5 A garment constructed in accordance with my invention affords a wearer a particularly dressy appearance in warm weather and during those seasons of the year when negligée costumes are in vogue, and by staying the edges of the garment in the manner described it may be made of very light weight
10 fabrics heretofore considered unserviceable for vests or other skeleton garments.

I claim as my invention:

In a skeleton body garment the combination with two front portions having 15 curved edges forming a neck opening and curved lateral edges, of two stays crossing at the back of the collar and each secured at its opposite ends to the lateral edge of one front portion of the garment and to the 20 edge of the neck opening of the other front portion.

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Witnesses:

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Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."
