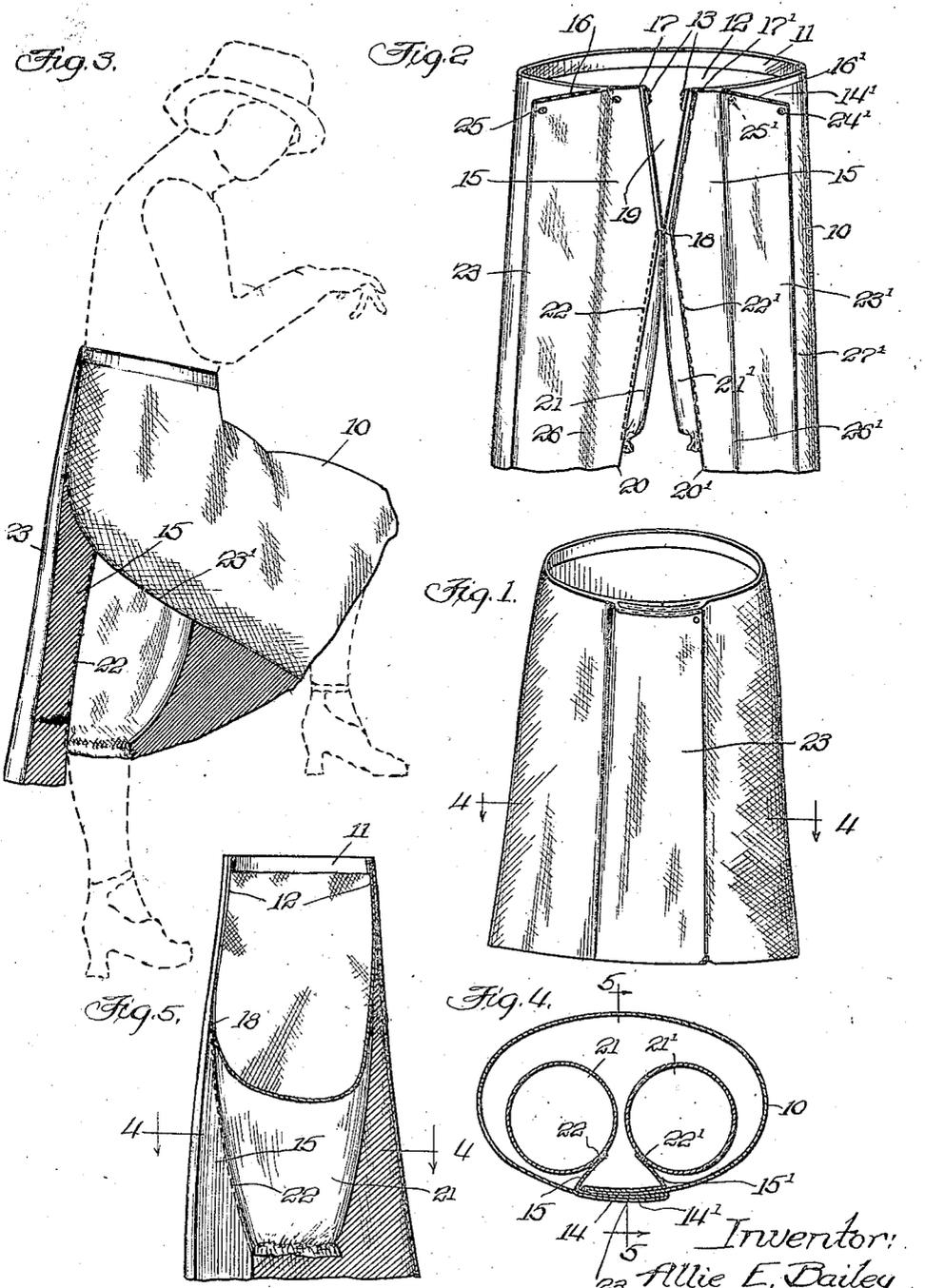


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A. E. BAILEY.
GARMENT.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLIE E. BAILEY, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

GARMENT.

Application filed February 7, 1921. Serial No. 443,020.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLIE E. BAILEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garments, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in garments and has especial reference to a combination dress garment for women.

One of the objects of the invention is to provide a garment in which an overskirt and knickerbocker garments are interdependently associated to provide a new, comfortable, utility and stylish article of wearing apparel.

Another object is to provide a garment in which the overskirt will have the outward appearance of being closed and fashionably narrow and yet allow perfect freedom of movement of the limbs of the wearer, to the extent that the stride is not restricted in the slightest degree.

Another object is to provide a skirt divided in the back from the waist line down to its lowest limit; the material of which the skirt is composed being folded inwardly and back upon itself on each side of the overlapping folds at the dividing line and the lower part of the vertical edge of each fold being sewed to a rear seam of each leg of the knickerbockers and the doubled portion of one side of the skirt being folded over the similar part of the opposite side, whereby to conceal the dividing line in the skirt.

Other, further and more specific objects of the invention will become readily apparent to persons skilled in the art, from a consideration of the following description, when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawing, wherein:—

Fig. 1 is a rear elevation showing the skirt only, as it appears on the wearer when viewed from the rear.

Fig. 2 shows the garment open as it appears before being closed on the wearer as in Fig. 1.

Fig. 3 shows the garment, in side elevation, illustrating extreme separation of the limbs of the wearer and the readiness with which the garment conforms to the changes of position.

Fig. 4 is a diagrammatic transverse sec-

tion of Fig. 5, taken on line 4—4 of Fig. 5 1 and Fig. 5.

Fig. 5 is a vertical section taken on line 5—5 of Fig. 4.

In all of the views the same reference characters are employed to indicate similar parts.

Some parts of the structure as shown herein are exaggerated or deformed for the purpose of clear disclosure. No attempt is here made to preserve that high artistic merit and elegance of design and proportion that are concomitant parts of the physical embodiment of this creation of adornment, comfort and utility.

In the drawings 10 is a skirt or overdress having the usual appearance of such garments, as shown in Fig. 1. To the waist band 11 the skirt and the upper body part of the knickerbockers 12 are stitched so that when the band is closed about the waist of the wearer, as by hooks and eyes, as at 13, both parts of the garment are thus supported on the wearer.

The fabric or material of the skirt is folded on each side, as at 14—14' and the inner flaps 15—15' of folds are joined together with the outer portions at 16—16' and from the top upper edges 17—17' they converge to the crotch of the knickerbockers, as at 18, thus forming a placket 19 in the skirt and in the knickerbockers. The lower edges of the flaps 15—15' converge upwardly to the point 18 from 20—20' and along these free edges of the flaps are joined to the respective legs 21—21' of the knickerbockers, as at 22—22'.

The folds 23—23' are shown opened back in Fig. 2 and closed in Fig. 1. The fold 23' has a snap fastening member 24' that engages a snap fastening member 24 on the flap 15 and the fold 23 has a similar fastening member 25 that engages the member 25' secured to the outer fold member 14'. The fold 23' is folded on the vertical line 26', its front edge 27', when folded, extends to the folding line 26 of the fold 23 and covers the placket 19 and the space between the dividing lines 22—22'. The fold 23, when in folded position, overlies the fold 23', as clearly shown in Fig. 4. The interfolded parts 23—23' under normal conditions of use fall into graceful lines and completely disguise the fact that the skirt is

divided and the inner flaps 15—15' permit free movement of the legs 21—21' without disturbing the interfolded parts. Under abnormal conditions, as shown in Fig. 3, the folds 23—23' will separate to permit unobstructed use of the lower limbs of the wearer, but normally the folds are maintained in interfolded positions by the snaps 24 and 25.

10 In a physical embodiment of the garment the knickerbockers are preferably made of a more sheer material or fabric than that of which the overlying skirt is formed, the latter preferably comprising a relatively heavier soft cloth that will hang in graceful folds.

While I have herein shown, somewhat crudely, a single embodiment of my invention in a more or less diagrammatic presentation for purposes of a clear disclosure it will be understood that changes may be made in the configuration and proportions of the parts within the scope of the appended claims.

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

1. A garment comprising a one piece skirt open in the back and having overlying folds to normally cover the opening, the inner flaps of the folds being free, means for maintaining the folds in overlapped relation and knickerbockers within the skirt connected to the respective flaps from the bottom of each leg to the crotch and a waist band to which the skirt and the knickerbockers are attached, said skirt and knicker-

bockers being open from the crotch to the waist and fastening means on the folds to close the openings.

2. A garment comprising a skirt open in the back having integral vertically extending folds one arranged to overlie the other when connected together at the waist; means for maintaining the folds in overlapped relation, a knickerbocker within the skirt having a body portion open in the back as a placket, the inner edges of the skirt flap connected at the waist line to the body part of the knickerbockers and converging downwardly to the crotch of the knickerbockers where they are connected, said edges diverging from the crotch downwardly, said downwardly diverging edges being connected to the rear of the respective legs of the knickerbockers from the crotch to the bottom thereof.

3. A garment comprising a one piece skirt with two overlapping folds, the inner edges of the flaps of the folds being downwardly diverging; a pair of rearwardly open knickerbockers inside of the skirt, the rear portions of the legs thereof connected to the diverging edges of the skirt from the crotch of the knickerbockers to the bottom of the respective legs, the rear opening in knickerbockers connected to the upwardly diverging edges of the respective flaps above the crotch of the knickerbockers and means for maintaining the folds in overlapped relation.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name.

ALLIE E. BAILEY.