W. BUCKLER.

WEARING APPAREL.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 3, 1912.

1,068,976. Patented July 29, 1913.

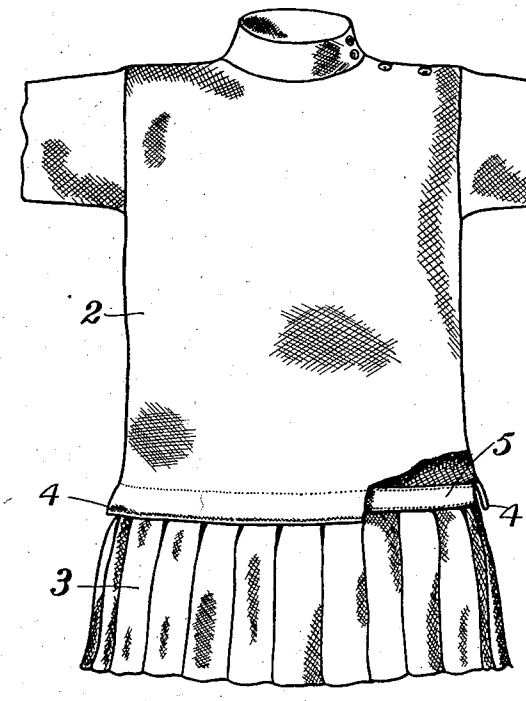


Fig: 1.

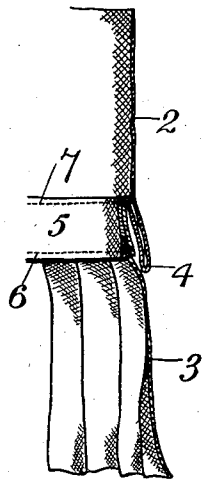


Fig: 2.

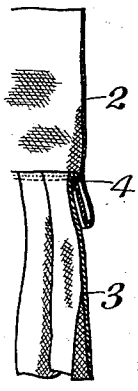


Fig: 3.

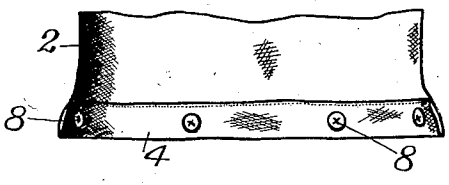


Fig: 4.

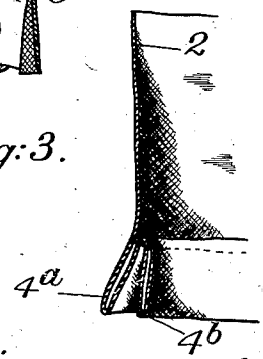


Fig: 6.

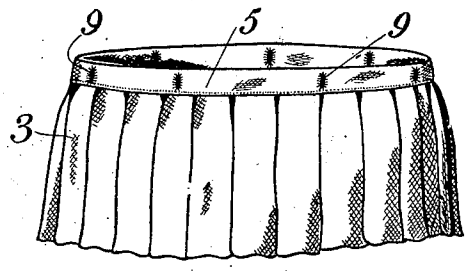


Fig: 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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WEARING-APPAREL.

1,068,976. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 29, 1913.

Application filed January 3, 1912. Serial No. 669,238.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM BUCKLER, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Leicester, in the county of Leicester, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Wearing-Apparel, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to wearing apparel, and has more particularly for its object to produce a single or combined garment which may be worn instead of two separate and distinct garments as at present in vogue.

The invention has reference more especially to the garments which are in common use among young children and which comprise a knitted jersey and a short skirt which is a separate garment and is generally "kilted." These are very popular garments among school girls and the present invention is designed to construct a single combination costume or garment comprising a knitted jersey and a short skirt, the latter being attached to the jersey either permanently so as to form an integral part thereof or detachably so that the skirt may be changed and another substituted when desired.

The term "jersey" herein used refers to and indicates a loose outer garment of knitted material, such as "jersey cloth," made in the form of a blouse which extends below the hips of the wearer and forms a complete covering for the body above the hips of the wearer.

The style of blouse which is illustrated in the drawing and to which the invention particularly relates is commonly known as a "middy blouse," that is a loose fitting garment which extends below the waist of the wearer and is provided with sleeves. Such a garment is as will be understood more easily donned and doffed and is moreover cheaper to manufacture than the two separate garments hereinbefore mentioned.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood and readily carried into effect reference is made in describing the same to the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 shows a combined jersey and skirt manufactured according to this invention part of the jersey being removed to reveal the attached upper part of the skirt. Fig. 2 is a part sectional view through the skirt and lower part of the jersey showing one method in which the two garments are combined and made integral. Fig. 3 shows an alternative method of attachment for the skirt. Fig. 4 represents an inside view of the bottom of the jersey provided with buttons or the like whereby the skirt may be detachably secured to the jersey. Fig. 5 represents the detachable skirt *per se*. Fig. 6 shows a further alternative method of attachment for the skirt suitable for either a permanent or detachable connection.

Throughout the drawings like parts are designated by similar reference characters and Figs. 2, 3 and 6 are drawn to a slightly larger scale than the other figures.

Referring to the drawings, 2 represents the jersey, and 3 the skirt which according to this invention is connected therewith to constitute a single combined garment.

The jersey 2 may be knitted or made out of knitted fabric according to any of the well known methods and the upper edge of the short kilted skirt 3 may be sewn or otherwise attached inside and near the bottom of the jersey so that the lower edge 4 of the latter overhangs the skirt in the same manner as when two separate garments are used as clearly shown in Fig. 1.

Conveniently, the skirt is made out of the same fabric as the jersey and kilted and attached to a band 5 of similar knitted fabric or otherwise by one or more rows of stitches 6 and the upper edge of said band is then attached to the jersey 2 on the inner side a short distance from the bottom edge by one or more rows of stitches 7 so that the lower edge of the jersey which is preferably turned back on itself to form a welt as shown in Fig. 2, overhangs the top of the skirt.

Alternatively, Fig. 3, the short skirt 3 may be attached at its upper edge direct to the bottom edge 4 of the jersey and the latter for a short distance may be turned up within the jersey to form the band to the skirt and may be attached to the jersey by sewing as hereinbefore described.

In each of the above described arrangements the jersey and skirt are permanently connected together but according to a modification of the invention, provision is made whereby the short skirt may be detachably connected to the jersey so that when desired it may be changed.

The skirt or lower portion of the garment

usually becomes soiled more quickly than the jersey, hence the desirability of changing it as circumstances require.

Conveniently and as shown in Fig. 4 the point of attachment is on the lower inside part of the jersey and the two garments may be separately united by means of buttons 8 on the inside of the jersey engaging button holes 9 on the upper edge or band 5 of the short skirt, see Fig. 5, or vice versa, or as is obvious other forms of detachable fastenings such as snap fasteners of the glove fastener type or lacings or other equivalent and readily releasable devices may be employed.

In the alternative arrangement shown in Fig. 6 and which is suitable either for a detachable or permanent connection between the skirt and jersey the lower edge of the jersey 2 is formed with a double welt the upper edge of the skirt being inserted between the two welts 4^a, 4^b and sewn thereto or detachably secured by buttons or the like. The double welt as will be seen is formed by doubling the lower part of the jersey back on itself three times. This detachability of the skirt considerably extends the adaptability of the garment and permits a greater variety of combination of jersey and skirts to be employed as well as to permit the skirt *per se* to be frequently changed for washing purposes.

The jersey may be open across one shoulder (as shown in Fig. 1) or each shoulder or down the back or front to facilitate putting on and taking off.

The skirt instead of being kilted as shown, may be gathered or flounced and may be made of other material than knitted fabric.

What I claim then is:—

An outer garment for children, comprising a knit jersey middy blouse, adapted to extend a substantial distance below the waist line and having a double welt at its lower edge, and a short skirt attached to the blouse at a point interior of the welts whereby the attaching means are concealed.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM BUCKLER.

Witnesses:
E. N. Lewis,
Walter W. Ball.