Nov. 8, 1932. A. E. CASTLE 1,886,642

CATAMENIAL GARMENT

Filed April 9, 1930

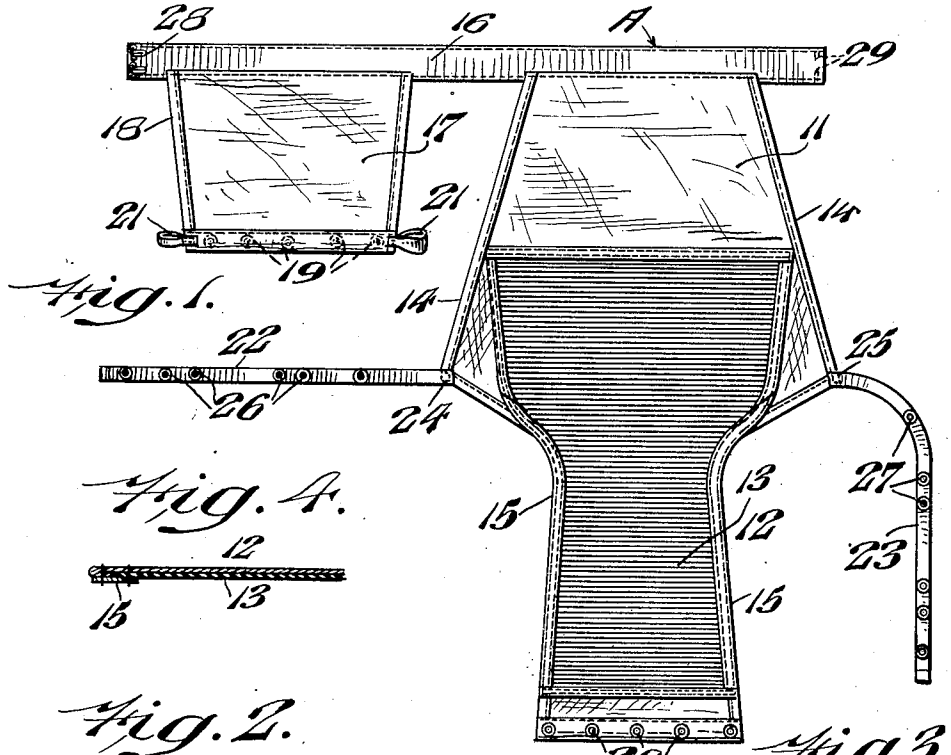


Fig. 1.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 2.

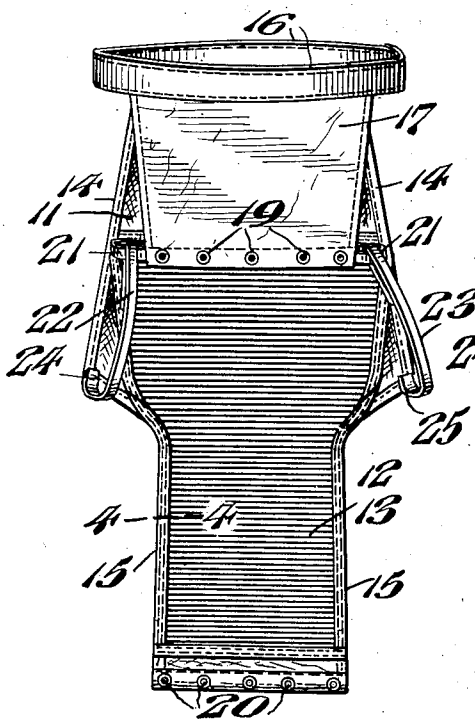
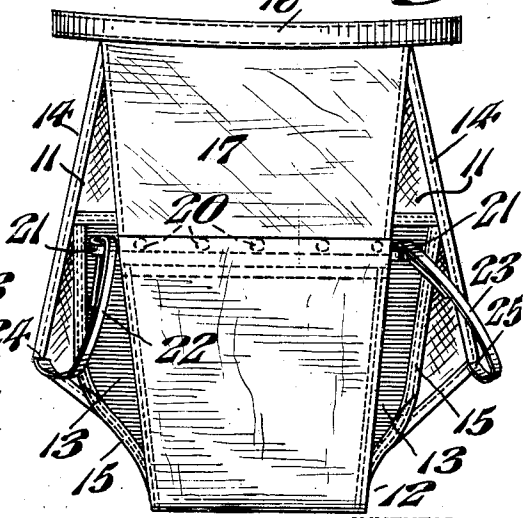


Fig. 3.



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Patented Nov. 8, 1932 1,886,642

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

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CATAMENIAL GARMENT

Application filed April 9, 1930. Serial No. 442,736.

This invention relates to catamenial garments having for its general object the provision of an improved sanitary or catamenial garment affording the utmost in the way of a comfortable dress protecting, durable catamenial garment, especially designed and adopted for the personal convenience of the wearer.

Another object is the provision of an adjustable, light-weight, non-binding sanitary garment adapted to be worn next to the napkin and which can be conveniently opened for the removal or adjustment of the napkin.

A further object is to provide a snug fitting catamenial garment conforming to the modern style of dress, adding no material over the hips and with adjustable features assuring against the soiling of one's clothes at all times.

Additional objects and advantages of the construction employed will appear hereinafter and will be best understood when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing in which:—

Figure 1 is a elevational view of the inside of my catamenial garment in flat open position.

Figure 2 is a front perspective view of the device showing the crotch flap dropped for adjustment of the napkin, calls of nature, etc.

Figure 3 is a front perspective view of the device as it appears in closed or normal position on the wearer, and

Figure 4 is a fragmentary transverse section taken on the line 4—4 of Figure 2.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawing one form thereof which is at present preferred by me, since the same has been found in practice to give satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of the instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Referring more particularly to the drawing wherein similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures of the preferred form of the invention A designates my sanitary garment which is mainly composed of any suitable material preferably lined with rubberized silk or other water-proof material, and which comprises a front or body portion 11 of a somewhat polygonal shape having an integrally formed depending crotch flap 12 the inner side of which latter is lined with a sheet of impermeable material 13, or rubberized silk. The body portion 11 at the border is provided with a hem or selvage 14 which is prolonged about the border of the flap 12 while the sheet of impermeable material 13 is secured by a border strip 15 which, as shown in Figures 1 and 2 underlies and is coincident with the hem 14 on the flap 12. Secured to the upper part of the body portion 11 is a waist band or belt 16 to which is attached a depending flap 17 provided with a hem or selvage 18 whereon is stitched or otherwise secured snap fasteners including a plurality of socket clasps 19, which are adapted when the flap 17 is brought into position shown in Figure 2 to receive the coacting ball joints 20 of the flap 12. At the outer edges of the flap 17 I provide a pair of closed loops 21 which may be of tape etc., for the reception of a pair of adjustable tapes or straps 22—23 fastened to apices 24—25 of the polygonal shaped body portion 11. The straps 22—23 are likewise provided with coacting snap fasteners 26—27. The band or belt 16, as best shown in Figure 1 is provided with hook and eye fastening elements 28—29 by means of which the band and consequently the flap 17 may be connected into the operative position shown in Figures 2 and 3.

In Figure 1 the device is shown in a spread out or flat position with a view to a better illustration of the device, while in Figure 2 the depending flap 12 is illustrated in a dropped position for personal convenience, it being assumed that the device is upon the wearer. In Figure 3 the device is shown in the normal position as it appears upon the body. Attention is directed to the adjustable straps 22—23 through which the limbs of the wearer are inserted, the plurality of

coacting fastening elements 26 and 27 serving to fasten the straps 22—23 snugly on the limbs at the desired degree of tension. It will be particularly observed that no material is added over the hip line which as is well known causes a very undesirable bulkiness. If desired the addition of any trimmings such as lace, etc. to the garment will give the device the modish effect of a step-in requiring then only a silk slip under the dress.

In the present illustration I have not added tabs to the front and back of the garment for fastening the napkin, as I have found they have a tendency to pull down the garment which is undesirable. If desired however, a separate conventional band may be employed for pinning the napkin.

It is an important feature of the present invention to provide a garment, providing a maximum of comfort for the wearer with a positive assurance against the soiling of the clothes. The present garment illustrated is of a very durable type in that it will stand the wear and tear of laundering.

I am aware of kindred devices for the purpose of providing a sanitary or catamenial garment but I have found that all these entail a considerable degree of personal discomfort and actual pain in binding the limbs or waist, stopping the circulation and in general proving an exceedingly uncomfortable garment to wear. The present device on the contrary not only fits snugly under the usual street costume without adding in the slightest degree to the bulkiness of the hip line, but by reason of its comfort may be worn as long as desired or necessary, without the wearer being made cognizant of its presence by any discomfort. The straps 22—23 which are adjusted according to thigh measurement assist in holding the body portion and back of my garment firm, a desirable feature since it assures the covering of the napkin thus making soiling of the clothes impossible.

The crotch flap 12 not only prevents soiling of the other garments worn over my device but permits the removal or adjustment of the napkin and answering calls of nature by dropping the crotch flap 12.

I am aware that the invention may be embodied in other specific forms without departing from the spirit or essential attributes thereof, and I therefore desire the present embodiment to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

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

A garment of the character stated, comprising a relatively wide and substantially trapezoidal upper body portion merging into a relatively narrow and substantially rectangular lower body portion, a waist band at the upper narrow end of said upper body portion, a flap carried by the front portion of said waist band, detachable fastening devices on the bottom edges of said flap and said lower body portion, a water-proof sheet covering said lower body portion and the adjacent part of said upper body portion, loops carried by the lower corners of said flap, leg straps extending from the lower vertices of said upper body portion and adapted detachably to engage said loops whereby the vertices of said upper body portion will co-act with the adjacent portions of said lower body portion completely to encase the thighs of the wearer when the bottom edge of said lower portion is fastened to the bottom edge of said flap.

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