(No Model.)

L. WEIL.

BATHING GARMENT.

No. 286,660. Patented Oct. 16, 1883.

Fig. 2.

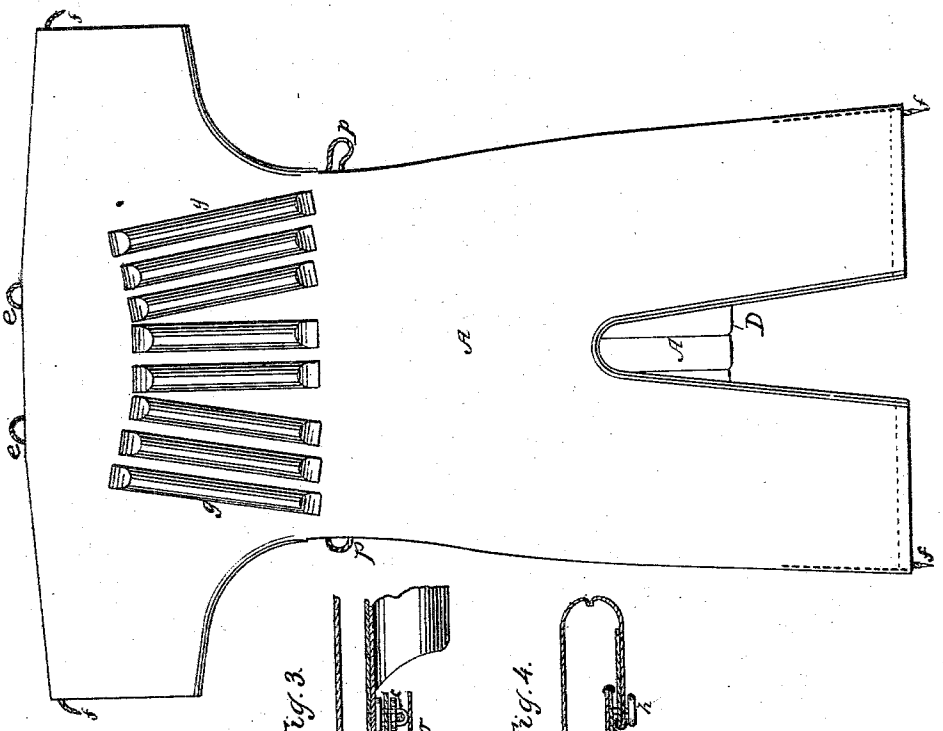
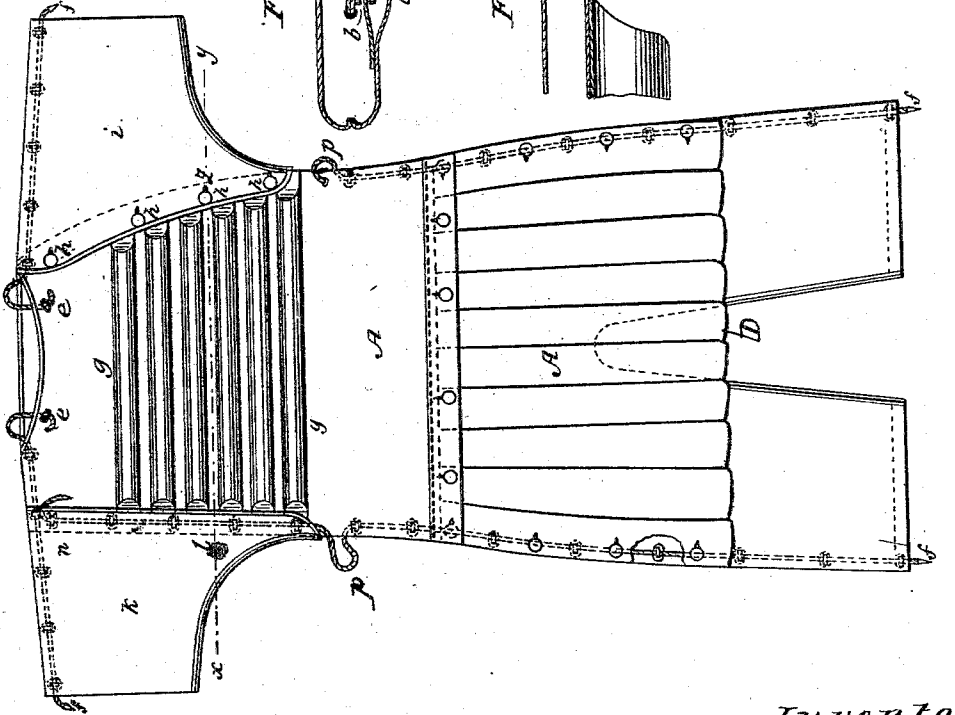


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses:

James L. Wright

W. Dickerson

Inventor:

Lehman Weil

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEHMAN WEIL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

BATHING-GARMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,660, dated October 16, 1883.

Application filed January 8, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEHMAN WEIL, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bathing-Garments, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a front view, showing the connecting-strips in dotted lines, and a life-preserving device; Fig. 2, a back view of the garment, showing a life-preserving device; Fig. 3, a section of a part of the garment, taken on the line *x y* in Fig. 1, at *l* and *z*; Fig. 4, a section of a part of the garment, taken also on the line *x y* in Fig. 1, at *z*.

In the bathing garments heretofore used, the devices for opening and fastening or closing them have been similar to those in common use on ordinary clothing, and they have been made in many ways.

The object of my invention is to produce a garment which will be, first, practically in one piece, capable of being used by both sexes by arrangements for attaching and detaching a skirt from the waist, as desired; second, provided with a life-saving device which shall assist the novice in learning to swim; and, third, so constructed as to be readily put on and, what is of more consequence, easily taken off. The necessity, from a hygienic standpoint, of a speedy removal of wet bathing-garments has been generally recognized, and the difficulty in removing wet and clinging garments as heretofore made is a common experience.

The nature of my invention consists, first, in so constructing the parts of the garment, with or without a detachable skirt, that when ready for use it will be practically in one piece; second, in attaching to or quilting on breast or back, or both, of the garment cork, wood, rubber-pipe, or similar floats; and, third, in dispensing with most of the ordinary seams of such a garment and substituting eyelets or staples and cords or tapes for such seams.

In the drawings, A represents the garment, composed, with greater or less fullness, to be obtained by any usual means, of the two parts, front and back. To the back, by ordinary sewed seams under the arm, the front of the sleeves and shoulders I and K are attached. No sewed seams are employed on the garment from the armpits down the outside to the bottom of the legs, nor on the top of the sleeves or shoulders. In fact, except as stated, there are no sewed seams except on the inside of the legs. Instead thereof, I have attached to the outside edges of the back of said garment a device, *b*, similar to a staple, made of metal, with the loop extending toward the front, which is arranged to pass through a button-hole guarded by a metal eye, *c*, in the edge of the front part of the garment, as shown in Fig. 3. These staples, holes, and eyes are made at frequent intervals, as may be necessary. Through said staples, when passed through the eyes, a cord, lace, or tape is drawn, as shown in Fig. 1. A single cord, lace, or tape will suffice from the shoulder at *n* to the bottom of the leg at *f*, and for convenience a small loop may be left at *p*, at the waist. From a similar point on the opposite seam, commencing at the waist, a cord should run to the bottom of the outside of the leg. From opposite points on the sides of the neck similar cords, laces, or tapes should run over the shoulders and the upper sides of the arms to the ends of the sleeves. These cords, laces, or tapes are all extended to be drawn at the points *p* and the ends at *e*. The middle of the loop at *p* may, if desired, be fastened to the edge of the front part of the garment. The opposite ends, *f f*, may, if necessary, be stopped by a hitch bow or loop in the cord, or any other device which will prevent their withdrawal through the staples. The sleeve is buttoned to the front of the garment at *h h h h*, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4.

In operation the wearer, on the return from the bath, has but to pull the cords, laces, or tapes at *e* and *p*, when the garment must fall, without assistance, instantaneously from the body.

At and around the waist I have placed buttons to receive a skirt, D, if desired. Upon the breast and back I have arranged to be attached temporarily or permanently, as by quilting, a life-preserving device, serviceable either to preserve life or assist in efforts to swim, consisting, preferably, of longitudinal loops in the cloth, to be filled with cork, wood, rubber air-tight piping, or similar materials. Over the corded or laced seam, to give the garment a finished appearance, I extend a flap, O.

Having described my invention, what I claim

to be new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A bathing-garment the outer seams of which consist of staples and eyes laced with cords, laces, or tapes, all arranged substantially in the manner shown and described.

2. In a bathing-garment the outer seams of which are made by lacing staples and eyes, a life-saving and swimming device, substantially as described, attached or quilted to the breast and back, or both, of said garment.

LEHMAN WEIL.

Witnesses:
JAMES DEMAREST,
WILLIAM H. BARR.