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A. L. GARFORD & J. A. HUNT.

BELT.

(Application filed Dec. 17, 1900.)

(No Model.)

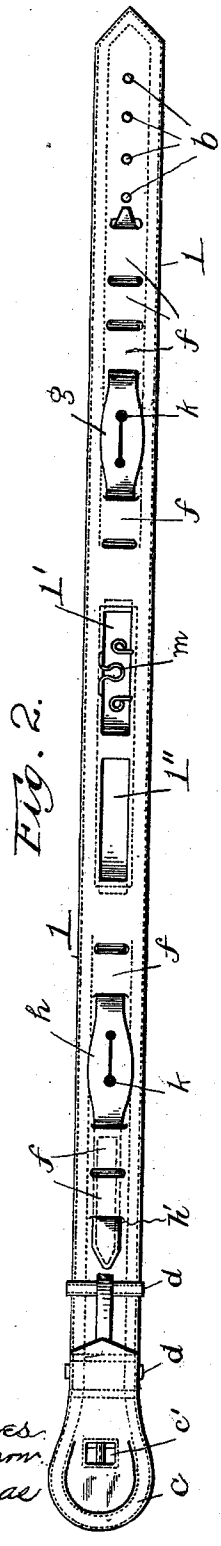


Fig. 2.

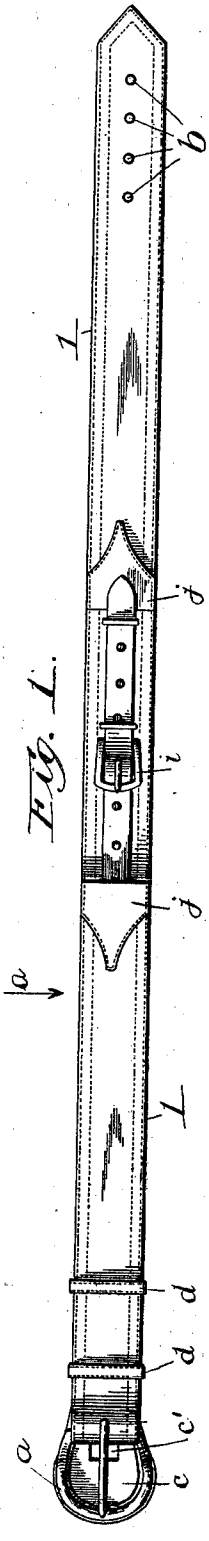


Fig. 1.

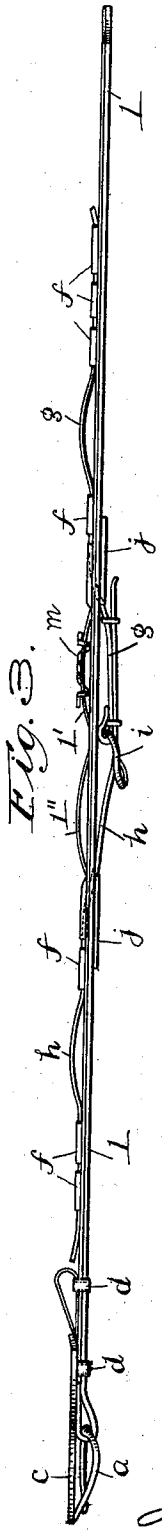


Fig. 3.

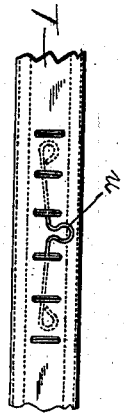


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BELT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 670,708, dated March 26, 1901.

Application filed December 17, 1900. Serial No. 40,135. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ARTHUR L. GARFORD, residing at Elyria, in the county of Lorain and State of Ohio, and JONATHAN A. HUNT, residing at Westboro, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, citizens of the United States, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Belts, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to belts for men's use, which may be termed "outing-belts," and are designed to be used with trousers which are not provided with supporting-bands at the waistband through which the belt passes and is held in place in the usual way, but only have the ordinary buttons for the shoulder braces or suspenders.

With ordinary belts used with trousers without bands for the belt there is nothing to hold the belt in place on the waistband and the trousers are liable to slip down within the belt. They are also liable to bunch or have a fullness at the front, which is uncomfortable and objectionable in appearance.

The object of our invention is to make an improved belt to be used with trousers which have buttons on the outside of the waistband and which can be readily attached to or detached from the trousers and will be held in position on the waistband of the trousers and can be adjusted to draw the waistband of the trousers backward to take any fullness at the front of the waistband and put it into the rear part of the waistband.

Our invention consists in certain novel features of construction of our belt, as will be hereinafter fully described.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is an outside view of a belt embodying our improvements extended. Fig. 2 is an inside view of the belt shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the belt looking in the direction of the arrow *a*, Fig. 1; and Fig. 4 is a detached detail showing a modified construction of the button-attaching device on the inside of the belt at the middle portion thereof.

In the accompanying drawings, *l* is the belt proper, made of leather or other suitable material of fixed length when extended and having the appearance of an ordinary belt upon its outer surface, as shown in Fig. 1, except at the central portion to be hereinafter described.

At one end of the belt *l* is secured a buckle *a*, which may be of any usual construction, and at the other end there are a series of holes *b*, one of which is engaged by the tongue of the buckle *a* when the end with the holes *b* is inserted through the buckle to adjustably connect the two ends of the belt in the usual way.

In connection with the buckle *a* is preferably used a shield or flap *c*, secured at one end upon the inside of the belt and extending back of the buckle, as shown. The flap *c* has a hole *c'* therein to engage the button on the front of the waistband and hold the belt in place at the front of the waistband. Loops *d d* are also provided, as is usual, for the free end of the belt to pass through and be held in place on the outside of the belt.

The attaching means for adjustably connecting the two ends of the belt may be of any well-known construction, as the same form no part of our present invention.

We will now describe our improvements, combined with the belt *l* above described, by means of which the belt is attached to the buttons on the outside of the waistband of the trousers to be held in place thereon and by means of which the waistband may be positively drawn backward to take away any fullness at the front of the waistband when the belt is in position.

Extending upon the inside of the belt *l* and supported in loops *f*, formed in this instance by cutting slits in the inside lining or thickness of the belt *l*, are two straps or bands *g* and *h*, preferably of non-elastic material. One end of each strap *g* and *h* extends through a slit or opening in the outer thickness of the belt at the central portion thereof, which will be the rear part of the belt when it is in use, and means are provided for adjustably connecting said ends to regulate the length of the straps as desired. In this instance one strap *g* has a buckle *i* thereon to engage and secure in adjusted position as desired the end of the other strap *h*, which has holes therein for the tongue of the buckle to pass through, as shown in Fig. 1. Cap or covering pieces *j* are preferably stitched upon the

outside of the belt to conceal the openings through which the straps *g* and *h* pass, as shown in Fig. 1. Each inner end of the straps *g* and *h* has in this instance a buttonhole *k* therein, which is in a position relatively to the belt *l* to button onto a button at the hip portion on each side of the waistband of the trousers when the belt is in use. The buttonholes *k* furnish means for detachably connecting the straps *g* and *h* with the waistband-buttons. Instead of the buttonholes *k* in the straps *g* and *h* supplemental attaching devices, secured to the straps or to the belt proper, may be used.

In order to hold the parts of the straps *g* and *h* in which the buttonholes *k* are made and prevent them from getting out of position upon the inside of the belt when the belt is in use, the inner end of each strap beyond the buttonhole part, which is preferably provided with a stiffener consisting of a flat strip of metal inserted between the two thicknesses of leather, as indicated by dotted lines *h'* at the left in Fig. 2, is inserted through the loops *f* on the inside of the belt, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3, which loops, in connection with the loops *f* nearer the middle portion of the belt, serve to hold the straps *g* and *h* on each side of the attaching part having the buttonhole *k* therein or other attaching device and prevent the attaching part from being drawn out of its position relative to the main part of the belt when the belt is in use.

In addition to the buttonholes *k* in the two straps *g* and *h* to attach said straps to the two hip-buttons on the waistband of the trousers we may use one or more attaching devices for the belt proper, as shown at *m*, Figs. 2 and 3, which device is not connected with either strap *g* or *h*, but is attached to the inner side of the belt *l* and in this instance to a strip *l'*, attached at each end to the inner side of the belt, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. The device *m* is detachable from the strip *l'* and may be applied to the strip *l''*, if preferred, or to some other part of the belt proper. It is preferably made of wire, with the central loop portion to engage one of the buttons on the rear part of the waistband and the ends bent up to engage the edge of the strip, as shown.

Instead of the attaching device *m* (shown in Figs. 2 and 3) we may use any other attaching device—for instance, the form of the device *n*, (shown in Fig. 4,) in which the ends extend out straight from the loop and are inserted through vertical slits in the lining, as shown.

From the above description, in connection with the drawings, the manner of using our belt will be readily understood by those skilled in the art, and is as follows: The attaching device *m* may be secured in position on the strip *l'* or strip *l''* upon the inside of the belt at the central part thereof, to be attached to either of the rear buttons on the waistband of the trousers, as desired, and is first attached to one of the rear buttons, and then the buttonholes *k* in the straps *g* and *h* are attached to the two hip-buttons on the waistband and the hole *c'* in the flap *c* connected with the button or hook at the front of the waistband. The end of the belt is then inserted through the loop of the buckle and drawn up for the desired adjustment in the usual way. The attaching device *m*, buttonholes *k*, and hole *c'* in the flap *c* hold the belt in proper position on the waistband of the trousers. After the belt has been applied to the waistband of the trousers as above described, in order to positively draw the waistband of the garment backward to take out any fullness at the front the strap *h* is drawn through the loop of the buckle *i* on the strap *g* at the back of the belt on the outside, causing the straps *g* and *h* to be positively drawn toward each other upon the inner side of the belt, and each strap, through the buttonhole *k*, being attached to a button on the waistband of the trousers, the waistband at the back will be drawn together and the waistband at the front will be drawn backward. The adjustment of the straps *g* and *h* upon the outside of the belt at the rear part thereof will regulate the drawing backward of the waistband at the front of the trousers, as desired.

The advantages of our improved belt will be readily appreciated by those skilled in the art. It is of simple construction, not liable to get out of order, and upon the outside, except at the rear portion, has the appearance of an ordinary one-piece belt, or fixed-length belt. The straps *g* and *h* are of non-elastic material, and therefore act to positively draw back the waistband from the front of the trousers. In case of the buttons being pulled off or there being no buttons at the waistband of the trousers the belt will still be held on the trousers by the ordinary buckle attachment on the belt.

It will be understood that the details of construction of our belt may be varied, if desired.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A belt, comprising the belt proper of fixed length, and provided with means for adjustably connecting the ends, and two straps connected with the belt proper, and adapted to be attached to the buttons on the waistband of the trousers, and having means for adjustably connecting their ends, to positively regulate the length of the straps independently of the belt proper, substantially as shown and described.

2. A belt, adapted to be detachably secured to the buttons on the waistband of trousers, comprising a band of fixed length, having means for adjustably connecting the ends, and two non-elastic straps or bands connected with said band, having means for attaching them to the waistband-buttons, and means

for adjusting the length of said straps independently of the length of said band, substantially as shown and described.

3. A belt, adapted to be detachably secured to the buttons, on the waistband of trousers, comprising a band of fixed length, having means for attaching it to the waistband-buttons, and means for adjustably connecting the ends, and two straps or bands connected with said band, having means for attaching them to the waistband-buttons, and means for adjusting the length of said straps independently of the length of said band, substantially as shown and described.

4. In a belt, the combination with the band of fixed length in its extended position, and having means for adjustably connecting the ends, of two straps or bands, having one end of each upon the inside of said band and connected therewith, and attachable to a button on the waistband, and the other end of each strap or band upon the outside of said band, and means for adjustably connecting said ends, substantially as shown and described.

5. In a belt, the combination with the band of fixed length in its extended position, and adapted to be detachably secured to the buttons on the waistband of trousers, and having means for adjustably connecting its ends, of two straps or bands connected with said band upon its inner side by loops, which serve to hold the attaching parts of said straps or bands in place upon the inner side of the main band, said straps or bands having stiffeners in their ends, and means for attaching said straps to the waistband-buttons, and means for adjusting the length of said straps upon the outside of said band independently of the length thereof, substantially as shown and described.

6. In a belt, the combination with the band of fixed length in its extended position, and adapted to be detachably secured to the buttons on the waistband of trousers, and having means for adjustably connecting its ends, of two straps or bands connected with said band upon its inner side, and having means for attaching said straps to the waistband-buttons, and means for adjusting the length of said straps upon the outside of said band independently of the length thereof, substantially as shown and described.

7. In a belt, the combination with the band of fixed length in its extended position, and adapted to be detachably secured to the buttons on the waistband of trousers, and having means for adjustably connecting its ends, of two straps or bands connected with said band upon its inner side by loops, which serve to hold the attaching parts of said straps or bands in place upon the inner side of the main band, said straps or bands having means for attaching said straps to the waistband-buttons, and means for adjusting the length of said straps upon the outside of said band independently of the length thereof, substantially as shown and described.

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