June 2, 1925. 1,540,557

J. J. McLOUGHLIN

NETHER GARMENT

Filed Nov. 24, 1924

Fig. 1.

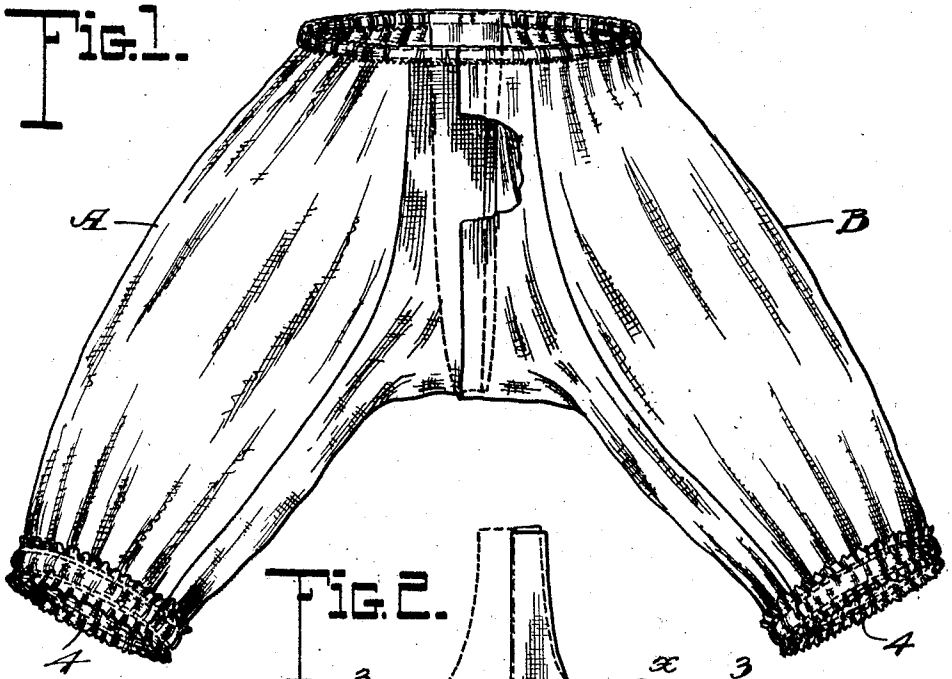


Fig. 2.

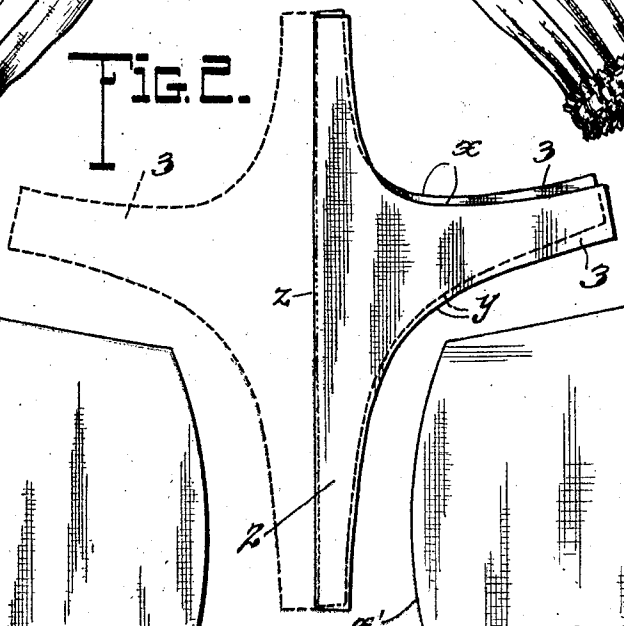


Fig. 4.

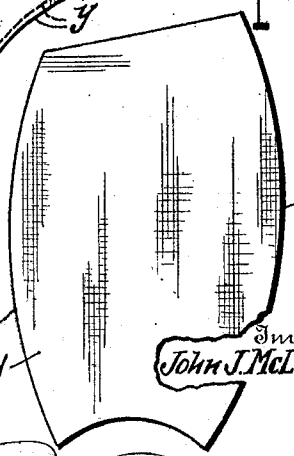
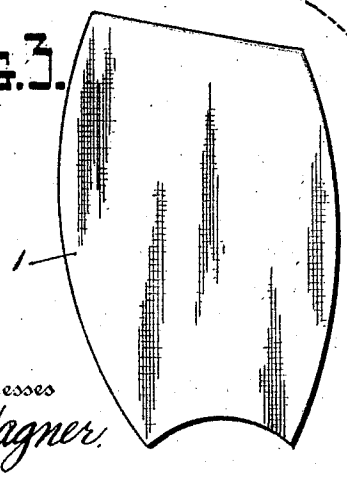


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. McLOUGHLIN, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

NETHER GARMENT.

Application filed November 24, 1924. Serial No. 751,950.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. McLOUGHLIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Nether Garments, of which the following is a specification.

The present invention appertains to improvements in bifurcate nether garments, and in particular to that type of apparel known as bloomers.

Bloomers are usually constructed with a closed crotch and generally embody an elastic waist band which latter is subjected to considerable stretching in wear when the bloomers are raised and lowered over the hips in use. This necessitates frequent renewal of the waist elastic. It has therefore been my object to provide an open type of bloomer which, however, is especially designed to avoid many of the disadvantages found in known garments of this class, particularly those which are made of delicate fabrics and which are more or less form fitting.

In the conventional open garment of this type it is customary for the material at the sides of the crotch opening to be provided with a seam which precludes these edges from yielding or stretching when the garment is opened. This prevents the edges from passing readily over the buttocks or a full and free opening of the garment, especially where the elastic leg bands are employed and prevent the leg portions from sliding up the legs. Furthermore where the goods or material from which the garment is made is a delicate fabric the tendency is to tear or break the seam or it frequently happens also that these edges roll up and not having weight enough to cause the crotch section to hang away from the body in the crotch region the garment is subject to quick soil.

Under these conditions my aim has been to provide a sanitary construction of garment which in the first place is simple in design and has a crotch section for each leg which extends from the top in the front to the top at the back and down the inside of the leg in a double ply, the connecting seams of which are spaced from the edge of the garment opening at the crotch.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be hereinafter set forth and the novel features thereof defined by the appended claims.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a garment constructed in accordance with my invention;

Figure 2 is a detail of a crotch section; and

Figures 3 and 4 are plan views of the opposite side sections.

Like reference numerals designate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawing.

The garment which forms the subject matter of this application is composed of two main parts A and B, each of which is identical in construction and form so that it is only necessary to connect the two parts as hereinafter described to produce the completed bloomer garment.

More specifically, each of these parts consists of a side section 1, shown in Figures 3 and 4 respectively, these being identical, and a crotch section 2, shown in Figure 2. The side sections make up the sides of the body and the major portion of the legs, while the two crotch sections form the intermediate part of the body at front and rear and the inner parts of the legs, following in the main the design of closed bloomer garment which is disclosed in my Patent No. 1,504,361 dated August 12, 1924, for improvements in pantalets and similar garments.

The important feature of this bloomer resides in the construction and arrangement of the crotch section of each leg which in the applied condition consists of a double ply piece of material formed by cutting of the fabric from a flat piece in a cross shape or from a tubular or folded strip in substantially T-shape. If cut from the flat, the piece is folded over as shown in Figure 2 so that the arms 3, 3 coincide. The two edges x are then stitched to the side x' of the side piece 1 and the two edges y to the opposite side y' of said side piece. This leaves a closed edge z which extends from the top at the front to the top at the back and provides a reinforced section of sufficient weight to hang down straight and full and when connected with the other corresponding leg or side will lie smoothly across the abdomen in such position as to close the garment naturally when in use. The arms 3, 3 of this crotch piece extend down the inside of the leg completely to the bottom,

and this is an important feature because all strains are transmitted the full length from the top of the garment to the bottom and not to the connecting seams. A crotch piece without seams along the median lines which would prevent elasticity of the material to relieve strains is thus provided. At the same time the double ply of material gives strength to that part of the garment where most needed, materially prolonging the life of the same.

I have hereinbefore indicated that this cross piece 2 may be cut from tubular material, in which event the two edges x and likewise the two edges y are cut at the same time and the end of the arm thus formed is opened or left closed depending upon the width of the goods and the length dimension of the leg of the garment.

I find it of considerable advantage in cutting out the crotch pieces from knitted goods or the like to lay the pattern upon such goods so that the wales or the warp threads extend longitudinally from top to bottom. This gives the maximum elasticity in a lateral direction of the goods employed in the crotch pieces.

When the parts A and B are assembled the contiguous edges of the crotch pieces are lapped about one half way at the top in front and preferably the full width at the back.

As a finish an elastic carrying band or cuff is applied to the bottom of each leg as indicated at 4.

While I have described my invention as applicable to a bloomer type of garment, it is not to be restricted thereto, as it may with equal advantage apply to garments of the union type.

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

1. A bifurcate nether garment of the open type composed of two corresponding units connected at the waist line to form the completed garment, each unit consisting of a side piece forming the side of the body and the major portion of the corresponding leg, and a crotch piece doubled upon itself and having its closed side constituting the edge of the crotch opening, the edges of said crotch piece being connected to the opposite edges of the side pieces to provide a two ply insert extending from the waist line to the lower portion of the leg.

2. A bifurcate garment of the class described composed of two corresponding units connected together at the waist only to form a separable crotch, each unit comprising a side piece forming the side of the body and the major portion of the corresponding leg, and a crotch piece cut substantially in the form of a cross and folded upon itself and having its edges connected to the opposite sides of the side piece with the fold line extending from the top at the front to the top at the back whereby to form a seamless edge for the crotch opening.

3. A bifurcate garment of the open bloomer type consisting of two corresponding units connected together at the waist only to form a separable crotch, each unit comprising a substantially oval shaped piece forming the side of the body and the major portion of the corresponding leg, and a substantially T-shaped crotch piece two sides of which are cut on curved lines and the respective curved line sides being connected to the opposite sides of the side piece whereby the crotch piece extends from the top at the front to the top at the back and down the leg and constitutes a completing part of the front and back of the body and inside of the leg.

4. The method of constructing a bifurcate nether garment of the open bloomer type which consists in cutting two identical side pieces of substantially oval configuration, then cutting from a folded piece of material a crotch piece for each side of substantially T-shape, attaching the respective cut edges to the opposite side edges of the side piece to dispose the fold at the center of the crotch, lapping the two crotch pieces at the top in front and back, and finally securing the overlaps at the waist line.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature.

JOHN J. McLOUGHLIN.