

J. CORN.
 SELF FITTING SKIRT.
 APPLICATION FILED JUNE 15, 1912.

1,058,039.

Patented Apr. 8, 1913.

Fig. 1.

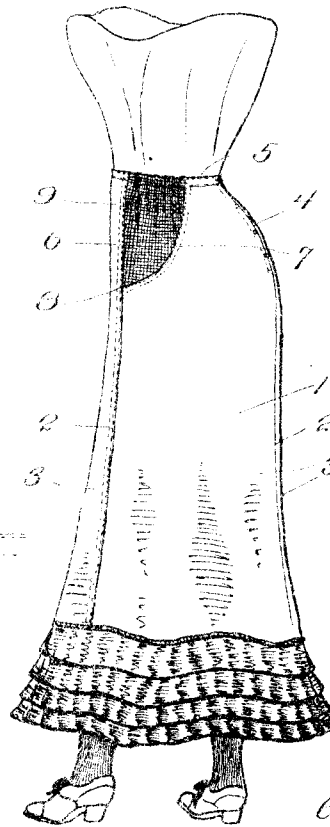


Fig. 2.

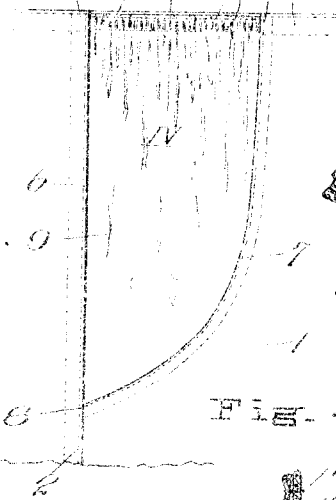


Fig. 3.

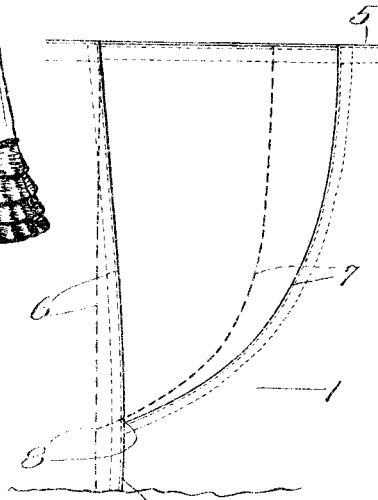


Fig. 4.

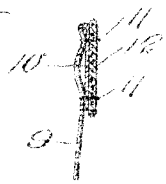


Fig. 5.



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SELF-FITTING SKIRT.

1,058,039.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 8, 1913.

Application filed June 15, 1912. Serial No. 703,325.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH CORN, residing in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Self-Fitting Skirts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a self-adjusting skirt, and the particular object sought to be attained is to provide a skirt with means formed adjacent the hip and waist portions whereby it will fit snugly and smoothly to a variety of sizes of figures, and further, to so shape and form certain parts at the hips, that when the skirt is applied, it will assume a graceful and stylish curve or dip in its forward portion.

A further object is to give such character to the hip parts mentioned, that the curve or dip at the front will be automatically increased to an appropriate degree, and without tendency to wrinkle, in cases where a skirt of a given size is applied to a relatively larger figure, whereby to improve the stylish appearance and set of the skirt on such larger figure.

Other objects and aims of the invention, more or less broad than those stated above, together with the advantages inherent, will be in part obvious and in part specifically referred to in the course of the following description; and the scope of protection contemplated appear in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing, wherein is illustrated a merely preferred form of the invention: Figure 1 is a side elevational view of a portion of a figure having a skirt, constructed in accordance with this invention, fitted thereto; Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of one of the side gussets employed, illustrating the same in its non-extended, or normal condition; Fig. 3 is a diagrammatic view, developed from Fig. 2, illustrating, in heavy dotted lines, the normal position of the parts as in Fig. 2, and illustrating, in full lines, the position of the parts when applied to a figure, the illustrated relative movement of parts being further aggravated when the skirt is applied

to a relatively larger figure; Fig. 4 is a vertical, detail, sectional view taken on the plane of line IV—IV of Fig. 2; and Fig. 5 is a top edge view of that portion of the skirt to which the gusset is applied.

Referring to the drawings by numerals, 1 indicates a skirt of ordinary form having relatively straight vertical seams 2 for joining together its various gores 3, and having preferably a back placket 4 for the usual purpose. The waist-band 5 has portions cut therefrom at opposite sides, and the skirt has cut out portions coincident with the cut-away portions of the waist-band. The openings thus formed in the skirt may be outlined, along the front side, by the relatively normally straight edge 6 of one of the seams 2, and, at the back and bottom, by an increasingly curved line 7 extending downwardly from the waist-band and merging into the straight edge 6 of the seam 2 at a point well down over the hips as at 8. The greater portion of the line or edge 7 is substantially parallel, under normal conditions, with the straight edge 6 of the seam, though it may, without interfering materially with the usefulness of the skirt, have its upper end brought nearer to or farther from the straight edge 6. No portion of the edge 7 assumes a relatively horizontal position, that is to say, that from the point 8 it gradually curves upwardly. In this cut-away portion, thus outlined, and attached to the material bounding the same, is a section or gusset of jersey or other soft pliable material 9. The upper edge of the gusset is cut straight with the waist-band and is preferably turned back upon itself as at 10 and stitched by a double row of stitching 11 to a severed length of elastic tape 12. The opposite ends of the elastic are fixedly connected to the adjacent end portions of the waist-band as at 13. The lapping portion 10 of the gusset serves to reinforce the elastic 12. It is preferably stitched to the elastic while said elastic is in an extended condition so that in use, it is quite full, except when the skirt is applied

to an exceptionally large figure. This fullness being soft, however, does not interfere with the set and appearance of the skirt in any way, the pliable material merely serving to fill, or close, the otherwise open space.

Assuming the skirt to be applied to a figure of a size requiring no distention of the elastic 12, (a condition which is not intended shall occur in practice); the parts 10 will stand in the position shown in Fig. 2, wherein the straight edge 6 of the side seam 2 is substantially vertical. The front portion of the skirt, under this condition, would hang straight down without any dip or inward curve whatever. An important feature 15 of this invention, however, is that no special provision need be made in the design of the pattern of the skirt for producing a properly proportioned curve, or dip, when 20 the skirt is draped upon the body of the wearer.

Suppose now the skirt be applied to a figure requiring a slight distention of the elastic 12; the upper portions of the edge 25 6, and of the edge 7 will be separated, the edge 6 will be bowed backwardly into a graceful curve by the connection at point 8 and the gradually diminishing pull occasioned by the upward curvature of the edge 30 7 upon said point and adjacent material. The intermediate portion of the edge 7 will be drawn backwardly to permit a backward movement of the hip portion of the rear of the skirt for accommodating the increased 35 size of the figure. All positive and fixed points of pull are eliminated by the cooperation of the curved edge 7, and the expansion of the skirt is accomplished without producing any unsightly wrinkles in the material of the skirt. The rearward movement 40 of the point 8, with the diminishing pull from the curved edge 7, and consequent curvature of the edge 6, will draw back the front section of the skirt, below the waistline, into a desirable sweep or curvature 45 such as lends style and distinction to the garment.

It will be here noted that the upward inclination of the edge 7 from the point 8 50 along a curved line, produces a slight upward pull combined with the rearward pull, for avoiding wrinkles by distributing the pull downwardly along the seam 2 below the point 8 and thus increases the gracefulness 55 of the curve in the front of the skirt.

It will, of course, be understood, that there is a section of material 9 preferably at each side of the skirt and that these sections of pliable material exercise little or no office 60 in effecting the set of the skirt.

If the skirt be applied to an unusually large figure, then obviously the curves will be more pronounced, but none the less graceful. By reference to Fig. 3, it will be seen

that the point 8 and edge 6 will move farther rearwardly and increase to a desirable 65 extent, the sweep of the front of the skirt. The intermediate portion of the edge 7, and also the upper end of said edge, will be drawn farther rearwardly and the whole skirt 70 will assume a position upon the figure with the same degree of attractiveness as is present in the relatively smaller figure. The sweep of the front of the skirt will be increased only to a degree appropriate to the 75 increased size of the figure. If the hip measurement of the figure be increased without a proportioned increase in the waist measurement, then the edge 7 will be bowed deeper, and this deeper bowing will draw 80 the point 8 farther backward, but the point will not be appreciably lifted because of the fact that the material of the skirt, below the point 8, is sufficient to maintain the edge 6 substantially straight, and this edge being 85 practically vertical, the point 8 will swing upwardly only a very little. The backward movement of the rear of the skirt drawing with relatively greater force at substantially the middle portion of the curved edge 7, 90 (note that the lower end of the gusset, that is, the point 8, is well down over the hips,) tends to straighten out the lower half, and this tendency is satisfied to the extent of smoothing out any wrinkles which would 95 otherwise appear radiating from the point 8. The result is a smoothly setting skirt notwithstanding the fact that the figure upon which it is draped may be abnormal in proportions. 100

As changes in the details of construction could be made without departing from the scope of this invention, it is intended that all matter contained in the above description or shown in the accompanying drawings 105 shall be interpreted as illustrative and not in a limiting sense. It is also to be understood that the language used in the following claims is intended to cover all of the generic and specific features of the invention 110 herein described and all statements of the scope of the invention, which as a matter of language, might be said to fall therebetween.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is: 115

A self-adjusting skirt having an opening extending from the waist-band downwardly well over the hips, the material of the skirt forming the sides of said opening being 120 spaced apart at the top and connected by an elastic tape, the material of the skirt forming the front side of the opening extending normally substantially straight downwardly from the waist-band, and the 125 material of the skirt forming the rear side of the opening being normally substantially parallel with the material of the skirt form-

ing the forward side of the opening for approximately half its length downwardly from the waist line, and the remaining portion of the material forming said rear side
5 being curved downwardly and forwardly, and being connected to the material of the skirt forming the front side at its lower end, and an extensible gusset of a shape to fill said opening fixed to the material of the

skirt forming the sides thereof, and to said elastic tape, all for the purposes set forth.

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

JOSEPH CORN.

Witnesses:

NATHALIE THOMPSON,
MORRIS BLAU.