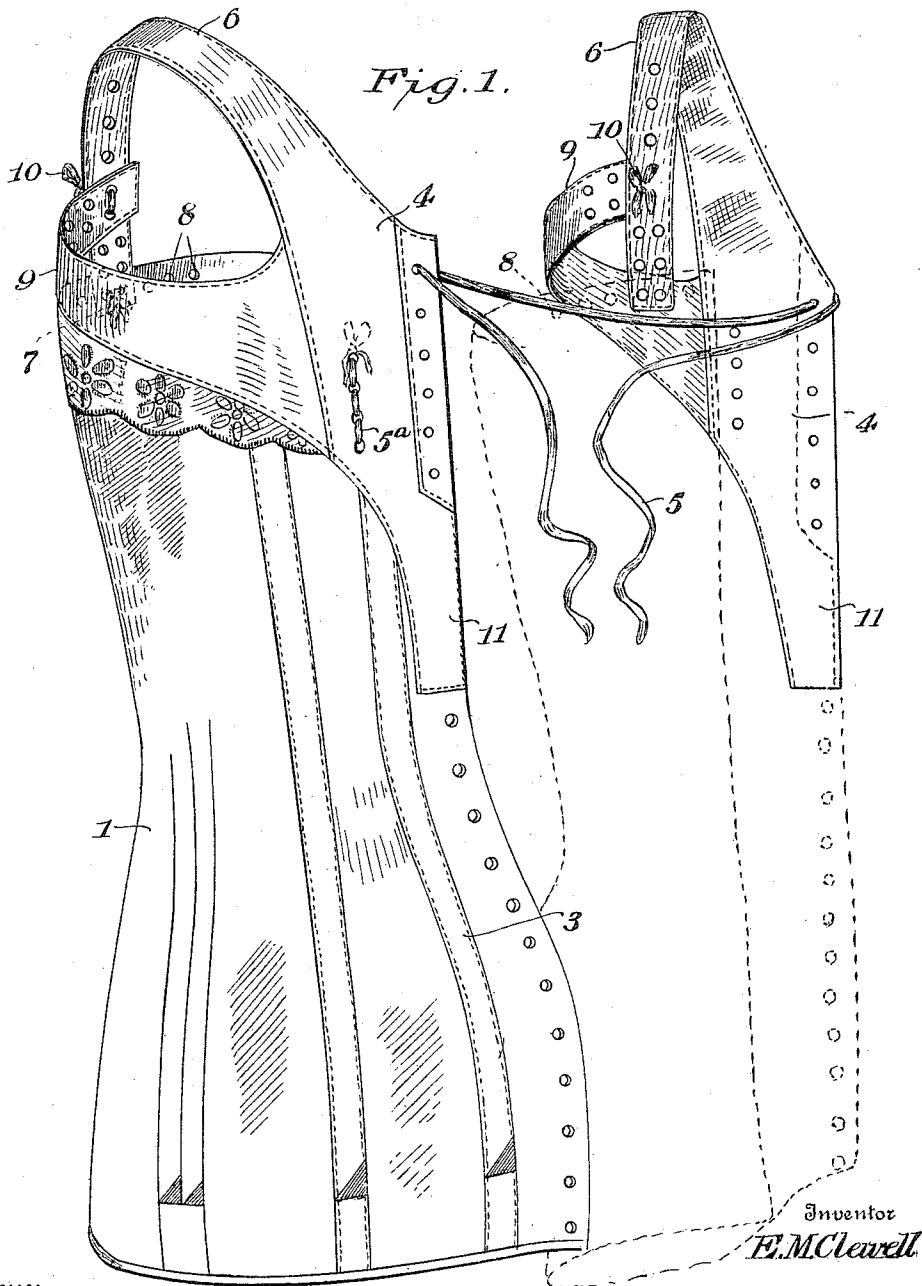


E. M. CLEWELL.
COMBINATION BRACE WAIST.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 9, 1909.

971,524.

Patented Oct. 4, 1910.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



Witnesses
W. P. Woodson,
Juana M. Tallin,

By

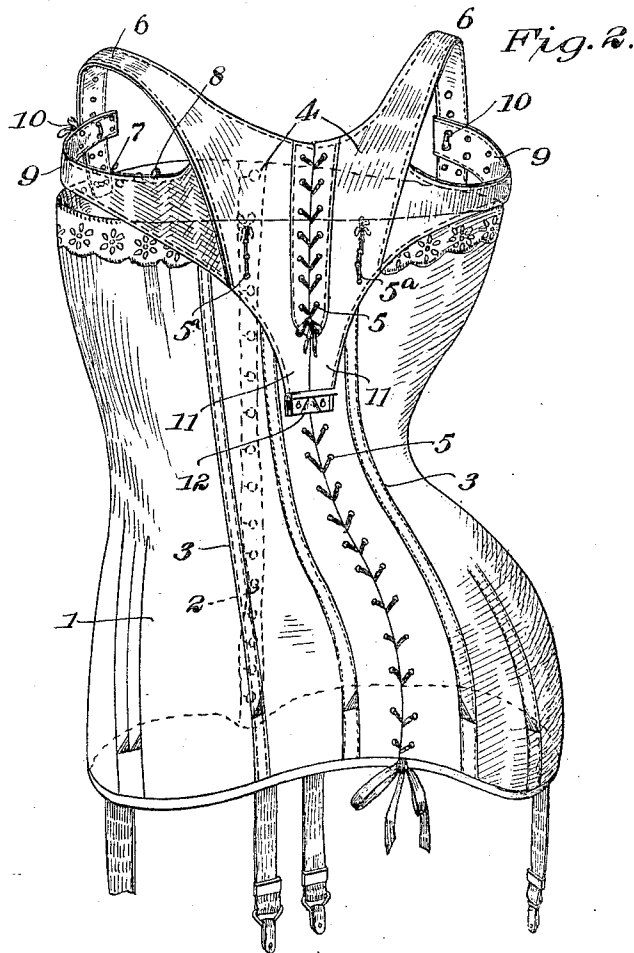
W. A. M. Macy, Attorneys.

E. M. CLEWELL.
COMBINATION BRACE WAIST.
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 9, 1909.

971,524.

Patented Oct. 4, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses
W. N. Anderson,
J. M. Fallon,

Inventor
E. M. Clewell,

By *W. A. R. Lacy*, Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EVA M. CLEWELL, OF CANTON, OHIO.

COMBINATION BRACE-WAIST.

971,524.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 4, 1910.

Application filed June 9, 1909. Serial No. 501,078.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EVA M. CLEWELL, citizen of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Stark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combination Brace-Waists, of which the following is a specification.

This invention comprehends certain new and useful improvements in wearing apparel and relates particularly to a combination waist and shoulder brace.

The invention has for its primary object a waist of this type which will possess the characteristics of simplicity and comfort, which will induce deep breathing so as to develop the chest and which will sustain the weight of the skirts and undergarments from the shoulders and at the same time properly distribute the tension over the body and maintain the desired or proper figure without any abdominal belt or the like.

With these and other objects in view as will more fully appear as the description proceeds, the invention consists in certain constructions, arrangements and combinations of the parts that I shall hereinafter fully describe and claim.

For a full understanding of the invention, reference is to be had to the following description and accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a combination brace waist constructed in accordance with my invention, one side of the body portion being shown in full lines, and the other side in dotted lines, and one of the brace pieces being shown as secured to its corresponding section of the body portion, while the other brace piece is set off from the first named brace piece, indicating the detachable character of brace piece in the present embodiment of the waist; and Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the entire device.

Corresponding and like parts are referred to in the following description and indicated in all the views of the accompanying drawings by the same reference characters.

Referring to the drawings the numeral 1 designates the body portion of my improved waist, the same in the present instance being buttoned in front as indicated at 2 and being provided with stays 3, preferably of featherbone at the back, sides and front.

4 designates brace pieces which are either permanently or detachably secured to the

body portion at the back thereof, being laced or sewed thereto and which are designed to extend up between the shoulder blades, over the shoulders and down to a point in front of the arm pits where they are again attached to the waist.

In the present embodiment of the invention, which illustrates the preferred arrangement of parts, the back of the waist and brace all fasten by means of a lacing 5 and the brace pieces 4 are secured at their side edges to the body portion by tabs or lacings 5^a passing through corresponding and registering eyelets, as shown. In the present instance, the brace pieces are continued to form preferably tapering shoulder straps 6 that are designed to be secured by lacings to the upper edge of the body portion of the waist at the front of the arm pits. Any desired means may be employed for securing the ends of the shoulder straps to the body portion of the waist, but as the preferred means for this purpose I have shown tabs 7 laced through eyelets in the shoulder straps and through corresponding eyelets 8 in the body portion of the waist near the upper edge thereof. These eyelets 8 are arranged in laterally extending series as shown and are provided for the attachment of the shoulder straps at different points laterally considered according to the requirements of the wearer. At the side edges of the brace piece 4 and near the lower ends thereof are secured preferably tapering arm pit straps 9 which extend around underneath the arms and which are detachably attached to the shoulder straps 6 by eyelets and lacings 10 or by any other suitable means.

One of the principal features of my invention resides in the skirt supporting straps 11. These may be continuations of the brace pieces 4 or may be separate parts suitably attached, preferably by stitching to the upper portion of the waist. It is evident that the skirts or other garments will then be supported by the shoulders of the wearer and will at the same time assist in bracing the shoulders and compelling deep breathing.

From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings it is manifest that I have provided a very simple and efficient construction of combination brace waist by the use of which the skirts and undergarments may be supported from the shoulders of the wearer. It is also evi-

dent that to straighten round shoulders, it is only necessary to tighten up the arm pit straps 9 and secure the tapering shoulder straps 6 to the top of the waist underneath the arm pits at the points shown. This obviously pulls on the side and toward the back of the waist which eases up the tension on the arms and brings up the chest. The brace piece being secured to the top of the waist at the back diffuses the tension over the trunk of the body and easily maintains the desired figure without any abdominal belt or the like.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is:—

1. A waist of the character described, comprising a body portion, brace pieces connected to the upper edge of the body portion at the back thereof, and formed with shoulder straps, means for detachably connecting the ends of the shoulder straps to the body portion at the front of the latter, and arm pit straps connected at one end to the side

edges of the body portion and arranged for adjustable and detachable connection at their opposite ends to the shoulder straps, the arm pit straps being free from connection with the body portion.

2. A waist of the character described, comprising a body portion, brace pieces secured to the body portion at the back thereof, said brace pieces being provided with shoulder straps secured to the body portion at the front thereof, lacings connecting the edges of the brace pieces and terminating short of the lower end thereof, the lower ends of the brace pieces being extended below the lacing and free from attachment to the body portion, whereby to form skirt supporting straps.

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

EVA M. CLEWELL. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

THOS. H. ST. JOHN,
LILLIAN L. HUFFLER.