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A. J. BATES, JR
INFANT'S RETAINING GARMENT
Filed April 4, 1925

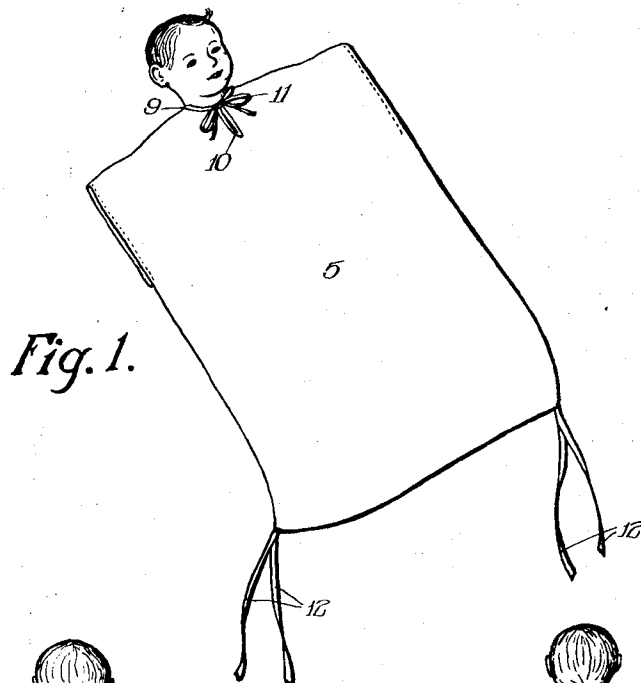


Fig. 1.

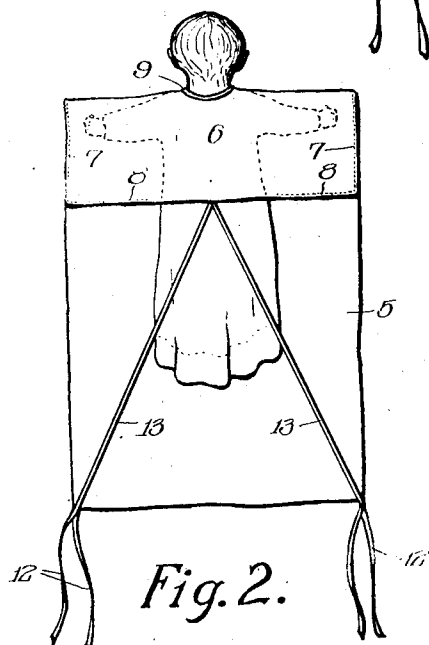


Fig. 2.

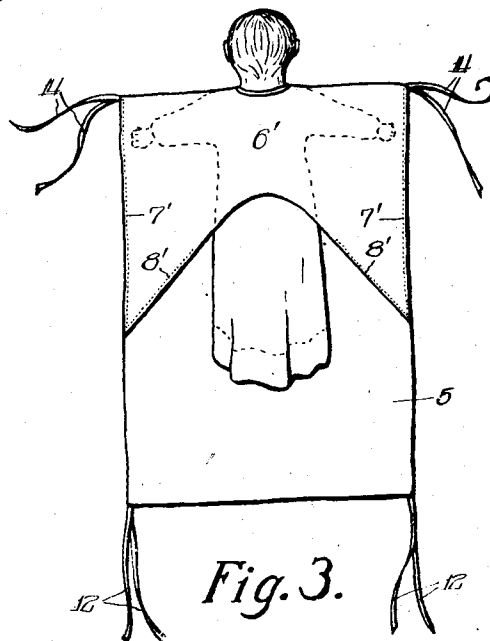


Fig. 3.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT J. BATES, JR., OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

INFANT'S RETAINING GARMENT.

Application filed April 4, 1925. Serial No. 20,615.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT J. BATES, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Infants' Retaining Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an article designed to be worn by infants or small children in the bed, crib or buggy. The article of my invention is not a night-gown or sleeping garment in the ordinary sense of those terms, but is more in the general nature of a covering to limit and restrain the bodily movements of the infant to such an extent that the latter cannot kick or throw off the bed coverings or wriggle out from beneath them. The main purpose of the invention is to provide a comfortable article of the nature indicated above which will serve to keep the infant under the bed covers by preventing it from wriggling or pushing itself up and out from under the blankets or covers and from kicking the latter down and off, and by both of these means protecting the infant against the cold. Another object of the invention is to provide an article of the character indicated of such a form and structure as to permit maximum freedom of movement and comfort while preventing exposure in both of the ways indicated, or in any other way. A further object is to provide an article of the character specified which cannot become wet and soiled in use, and hence will be attractive on sanitary grounds.

Other objects and attendant advantages of the invention will be apparent to persons acquainted with the art of infants' wear from the following detailed description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing in which I have illustrated two slightly differing practical forms or embodiments of the invention, and wherein—

Fig. 1 is a perspective front view of my improved infant's retaining garment showing its manner of use on a child;

Fig. 2 is a rear view of Fig. 1; and

Fig. 3 is a rear view of a slightly different structure.

The bed, crib or buggy garment of my invention is essentially an envelope within which the child is contained and restrained, and the envelope is equipped with means,

preferably tapes or cords at some or all of the corners thereof, for fastening the same to the bed, crib or buggy so that it cannot be dislodged or to any great extent rolled or wrinkled by the movements of the child.

The structural features of the article will be quite apparent from the drawing; but briefly describing the same, 5 designates the front piece of the garment which is preferably substantially rectangular in form and made long enough to extend from the neck considerably below the feet of the child. 6 designates in Fig. 2 the back piece which, as herein shown, is the same width as the front piece 5 and preferably consists simply of a rear fold of the latter. This back piece is stitched at its side edges to the side edges of the front piece, as indicated at 7; and preferably also approximately the outer third portions of the lower edge of the back piece are also stitched to the front piece by lines of stitching indicated at 8. This construction provides a pair of spacious pockets closed on their upper, lower and outer edges which receive and accommodate the shoulders, arms and hands of the child with entire freedom of movement. In the upper edge of the envelope is a neck opening 9 from which a slit 10 opens; the neck and slit being adapted to be closed around the neck of the child by an ordinary draw cord or ribbon 11, or any suitable fastening. To the two lower corners of the front piece 5 are secured tapes 12, by which the lower end of the front piece 5 may be tied or otherwise secured to the bed, crib or buggy to prevent the front piece from being pulled upwardly. In Fig. 2 I have also shown a pair of tapes 13 connecting the lower edge of the back piece 6 at substantially its central point with the lower corners of the front piece 5. These tapes are not necessary, but when used they assist in keeping the back piece flat and without wrinkles or rolls.

In Fig. 3 I have illustrated a slightly different form or shape of back piece 6', wherein the lower edge, instead of being straight as in Fig. 2, is cut on a curve or somewhat in the shape of an inverted V, thereby providing somewhat longer stitched seams 7' with the side edges of the front piece 5, while maintaining the same short length of the back piece at the central portion, as the construction shown in Fig. 2.

The purpose of the longer sides and stitched seams 7' of the back piece 6' is to hold the central portion flat without wrinkle or roll thereby performing the same function as the tapes 13 of Figure 2.

By extending the central portion of the back piece 6 and 6' from the neck down only to the waist region, the back piece manifestly is kept from becoming wet or soiled in use, so that the article does not require as frequent laundering as it otherwise would. In the construction shown in Fig. 3 the inner oblique edges of the back piece 6' may be stitched to the front piece from their lower ends inwardly by stitching indicated at 8', such stitching terminating at points such as to provide an ample opening for the body of the child between the central portion of the back piece and the front piece. If desired, additional fastening tapes 14 may be attached to the upper corners or the edges of the garment, as shown in Fig. 3.

The manner in which the stated purposes and objects of the invention are attained in the article shown and described will be readily apparent from the foregoing description. The article has no sleeves, but the spacious pockets formed between the front and back piece in the manner described are such as to allow great freedom of movement of the infant's arms and shoulders, permitting the child to readily roll over and lie either prone, supine or sidewise. The short back piece prevents soiling and gives it a sanitary character; while, with the fastening tapes attached to the bed, crib or buggy, it is manifest that the child is effectually restrained from either kicking off the covers or crawling out from beneath the covers, and hence, in its broad aspect, the invention is a protective device to prevent the child from catching cold through accidental exposure from lack of proper covering.

While I have herein shown and described practical structural embodiments of the principle of the invention, the specific structural details may manifestly be varied without altering its substantial character or sacrificing any of the benefits and advantages secured thereby. Hence, I reserve all such variations and modifications as fall

within the spirit and purview of the appended claims.

I claim—

1. An infant's retaining garment of the character and for the purposes described, comprising an envelope formed with a long front piece of substantially uniform width extending from the neck below the feet and a short back piece extending at its transverse center from the neck substantially to the waist region and joined at its top and side edges to the top and side edges of said front piece, thereby forming with the latter spacious arm and shoulder pockets; said envelope having a neck opening formed in its upper edge, and fastening tapes attached to said front piece.

2. An infant's retaining garment of the character and for the purposes described, comprising an envelope formed with a long front piece extending from the neck below the feet and a short back piece extending at its transverse center from the neck substantially to the waist region and joined at its top and side edges to the top and side edges of said front piece, thereby forming with the latter spacious arm and shoulder pockets; said envelope having a neck opening in its upper edge, fastening means attached to said front piece, and tapes connecting the lower edge of said back piece with the lower corners of said front piece.

3. An infant's retaining garment of the character and for the purpose described, comprising an envelope like garment having a long front piece extending from the neck beyond the feet and a back piece extending at its transverse center substantially to the waist region, said back piece being longer on its side edges than at its transverse central portion and having said side edges stitched or otherwise secured to the side edges of said front piece, thereby forming with the latter a spacious arm and shoulder envelope closed on its upper and outer edges; said envelope having a neck opening in its upper central portion and a slit into said opening with means for closing said slit or opening, and fastening tapes on the sides of said front piece.

ALBERT J. BATES, JR.