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2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



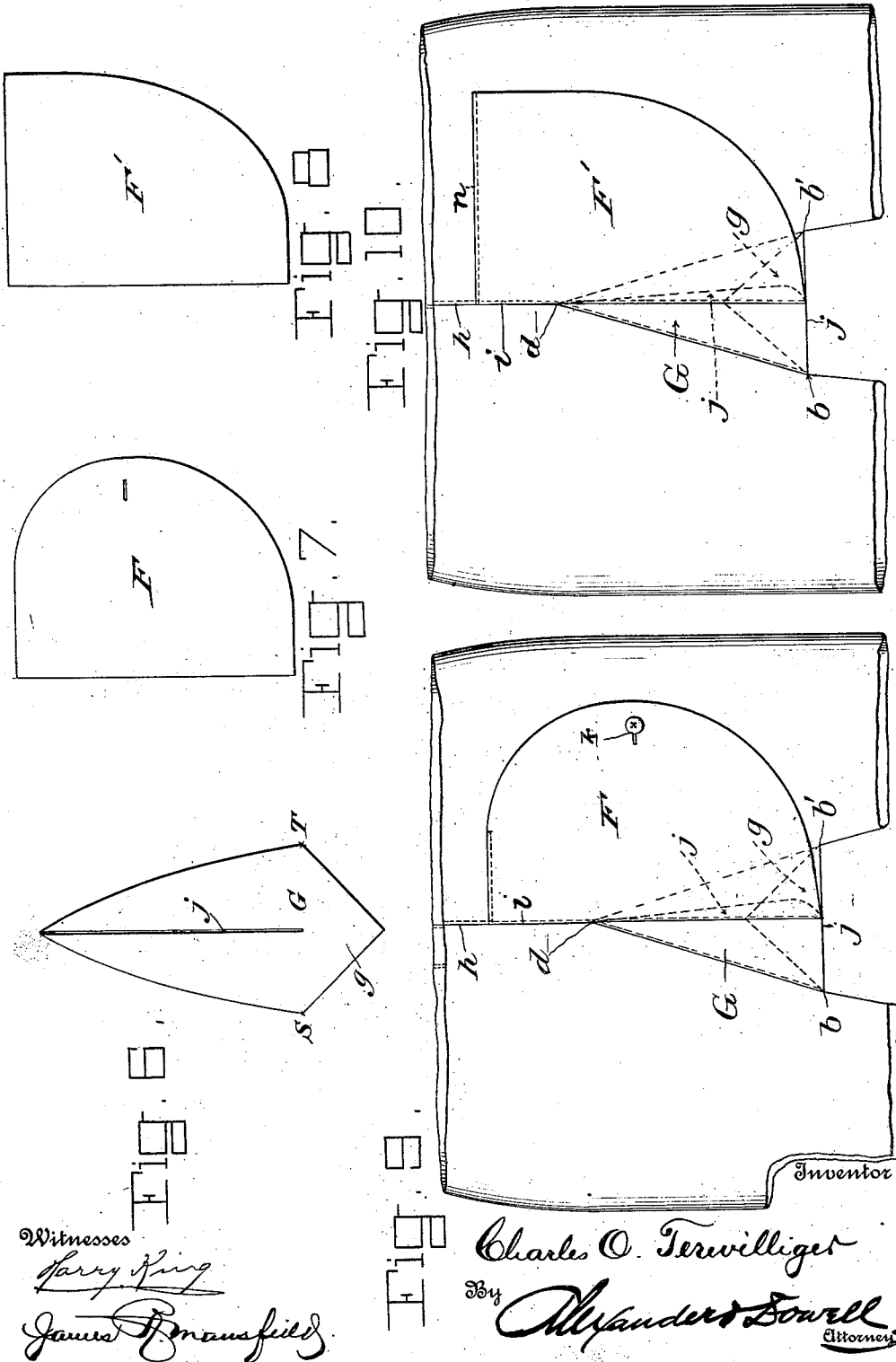
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992,291.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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UNION GARMENT.

992,291.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 16, 1911.

Application filed April 9, 1910. Serial No. 554,494.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES O. TERWILLIGER, of Mohawk, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Union Garments; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

This invention is an improvement in so-called union suits or under garments.

My union suit is constructed to embody substantially the ordinary separate shirt and drawers; it opens up the front to admit the body like a shirt; it also opens in front like ordinary drawers to permit the functions of nature. It also has a single opening in the back, but not connected with the opening in front, which posterior opening is covered with a single cloth flap extending from a point at about the middle of the back to the bottom of the opening in the back. It has a closed or uncut space at the crotch between the front and rear openings, and this closure renders the garment more comfortable to the wearer, and also holds the garment together at the crotch without the use of buttons.

I will now describe my union under garment and the mode of making same referring to the accompanying drawings as part of this specification.

In said drawings:—Figure 1 indicates the mode of cutting a piece of fabric, preferably tubular, preparatory to making one of my union under garments therefrom. Fig. 2 is a front view of the garment partially finished. Fig. 3 is a rear view of Fig. 2. Figs. 4 and 5 are detail front and rear views of the garment indicating the fullness provided therein by the gusset. Fig. 6 is an enlarged view of the gusset detached. Fig. 7 is a view of one form of posterior flap. Fig. 8 is a detail view of another form of posterior flap. Fig. 9 is an enlarged rear view of the posterior portion of the garment with the preferred form of flap closure and partly broken away. Fig. 10 is a similar view showing a modified form of flap.

The garment can be made out of sheet fabric, but is most economically made out of tubular fabric as indicated in Fig. 1; and such fabric is preferably knitted, like that commonly employed in the manufacture of underwear. When made of such material

the width of the folded tube should equal half the desired diameter at the chest (O—P, Fig. 2), after the triangular shaped portion *e—b—f* has been taken away. The fabric is flattened out as indicated in Fig. 1 and both plies of fabric are cut on the lines *a—b* and *b—c* to form the leg portions, the point *b* determining the hip and posterior portions of the garment, and the resulting triangular portion *a—b—c* being removed. Then both plies are cut on the tapering lines *b—e* and *b—f*, as shown in Fig. 1, the triangular section bounded by the lines *b—e—f* being removed. The adjacent leg portions are sewed together along the lines *a—b*, and *b—c*, to form the legs of the garment; and the rear of the body portion of the garment is closed by sewing together the opposite edges of the incision (lines *b—f* and *b—e*) thereby forming a vertical seam *h* in the back of the garment which extends from the neck portion about to the waist line or the point *d* (Fig. 3) at the rear of the garment.

The front of the body portion is finished by hemming and facing each edge of the incision along the line *m—e* and the line *m—f* respectively (Fig. 1), and is also sewed together between the points *d—m* (Fig. 1) and as indicated in Fig. 2; and one edge of the front portion between the points *d—e* (Fig. 1) is lined and button-holed as usual, and the other edge between the points *d—f* (Fig. 1) is provided with buttons as indicated in Fig. 2, so that the front opening in the body portion of the garment can be buttoned up.

The neck and arm portions of the garment may be cut and finished in the usual manner; and the sleeves (not shown) may be attached to the body if desired in the usual way.

At the crotch portion of the garment between the front and rear openings and below the closure *m* is inserted a gusset *G*, which is preferably formed of one piece or material, of practically the diamond-shaped form indicated in Fig. 6. Said gusset has a short triangular front portion *g* (below the points *S—T* Fig. 6) which is bent upwardly and appears at the front of the garment (Figs. 2 and 4); the sides of this portion *g* being sewn to the opposite edges of the slit or cut in the front layer of the tube below the closure *m* and between the points *m—b* so that the points *S—T* will be at the point *b*. The gusset may be inserted

when the seams in the leg portions of the garment are being sewn. The rear portion of this gusset (*i. e.* the part above points S—T Fig. 6) is also triangular but much longer than the front portion, and is also bent upwardly, and its opposite outer edges are sewn to the opposite edges of the cut in the rear portion of the garment above the line or point *b—b'* and beneath seam *h* (Figs. 3, 9 and 10); the rear triangular portion of the gusset extends considerably above the front triangular portion thereof, as indicated in Figs. 3 and 5, so as to provide a large opening in the posterior portion of the garment extending from the line of the point *b* to the point *d*, Figs. 3, 9 and 10.

The rear portion of the gusset is divided by a slit *j* in line with the seam *h*, and the edges of this slit *j* form the boundaries of the posterior opening in the garment. The gusset *G* it will be observed gives fullness to the posterior portion of the garment, but does not extend down into the leg portions and is not used to give increased width to the leg portions; but simply to supply the desired fullness to the posterior portion of the garment above the crotch and at the crotch, (see Figs. 4 and 5), and to make a closure at the crotch between the front closure and the rear opening.

The rear opening formed by slit *j* is covered by means of a single flap. The flap *F* (see Figs. 3, 5, 7 and 9), has one edge sewn to the rear portion of the gusset *G* along one edge of the slit *j* and to the seam *h* above this slit (as at *i* Figs. 5, 9 and 10), so that said flap can be closed over the slit and buttoned to the body of the garment as indicated at *k* in Figs. 3, 5 and 7, making a complete simple and neat closure. Instead of buttoning the flap the upper edge of the flap *F'* (Fig. 6) may be sewn to the garment above the slit *j*, as shown at *n* in Fig. 10. Preferably the flap, *F* or *F'*, extends above the gusset *G* and its upper part is stitched to the garment along the back seam *h* as shown at *i* in Figs. 3, 5, 9 and 10.

It will be seen that my union garment

practically combines a close well fitting shirt and well fitting drawers with a full opening in the front of the body portion separated from a sufficient posterior opening, and closed at the crotch and below the front opening and intermediate said opening; and that only a single gore is used to give the desired extra fullness to the posterior portion of the garment.

Another important feature is the closing or closure of the crotch portion of the garment between the front opening and the rear opening *j*, which greatly increases the comfort of the wearer. I also avoid the use of uncomfortable overlapping flaps in the crotch; one gusset alone is required and this provides both the desired fullness at the posterior portion of the garment and the rear opening; and prevents any undue strain or stretch upon the fabric of the main body of the garment.

Having described my invention what I claim is:

A union under-garment having an opening in the body portion extending from the neck to near the crotch, and closed below the front seam at the crotch, a single diamond-shaped gusset having a short triangular front part secured at its edges to the front of the garment below the front opening therein, and having a long triangular rear part extending upwardly in the rear of the garment, and inserted in the posterior portion thereof, said rear part of the gusset being vertically slitted to form the posterior opening in the garment, and a rear flap having one edge secured to one edge of the slit in the rear part of the gusset and adapted to close said opening, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES OSTRANDER TERWILLIGER.

Witnesses:

JOHN J. COOK,
H. M. YOCUM.