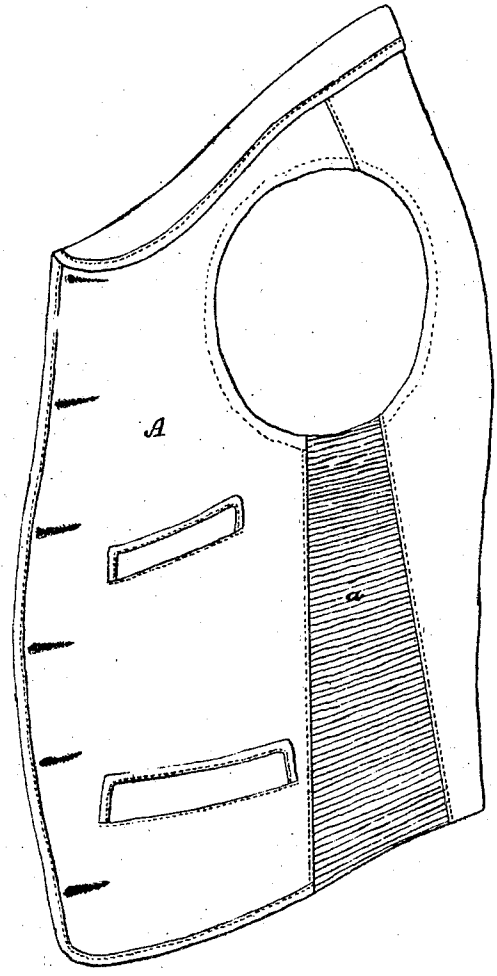
S. W. Huntington,
Vest.

No. 69,216. Patented. Sept 24. 1867.



Witnesses.
Chas. H. Griffin.
C. W. Baldwin

S. W. Huntington
by his Attorney
Frederick Curtis

United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL W. HUNTINGTON, OF AUGUSTA, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 69,216, *dated September* 24, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN VESTS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL W. HUNTINGTON, of Augusta, in the county of Kennebec, and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Men's Vests; and do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing illustrating my invention, the object of which is to provide a substitute for the strap and buckle now universally employed in men's vests for contracting or tightening them, the invention doing away with the objections incident to their use.

In the employment of the ordinary strap and buckle, owing to its inelastic, unyielding properties, the buttons are frequently torn from their fastenings when the body of the wearer is in an unnatural or strained position, the strap itself being frequently subject to fracture, and requiring a new one to be substituted.

My present invention consists in applying an elastic "goring" or strip to each side of the vest, and in such manner that it shall partially encircle each arm-hole, the application of such elastic strip being shown in the accompanying drawing, in which A denotes the garment and *a* the strip, composed of the well-known "shirred goods," it being properly stitched into the vest in any well-known manner, and below the arm-holes.

The object of putting the elastic goring in the sides of the vest is to admit of its being conveniently and readily used in conjunction with the ordinary strap and buckle, which may be attached to the back of the vest in the usual manner. Thus the wearer can tighten the vest, or adjust it to suit his size and general conformation, while the elastic goring allows the vest to yield to any unusual strain, when, for instance, the body is bent or twisted, preventing the material from being torn or ripped, and at the same time holding the vest snugly about the person. This could not be done with any convenience or comfort if the goring were in the back, as this would necessitate placing both the buckle and strap on one side or the other of the vest. Again, by arranging the elastic goring so that it forms part of the material which surrounds the arm-hole, the latter is capable of being enlarged or contracted, so as to conform and yield to every motion of the arm and shoulder. In ordinary vests it often happens, from lack of this necessary expansibility of the substance around the arm-hole, that a sudden or violent movement of the arm or shoulder will tear such substance, and to prevent this contingency I have formed the sides of the vest of "shirring," or other suitable elastic material, which, as shown in the drawing, extends from the lower part of the vest up as far as the arm-holes.

A vest having an elastic goring or gorings applied to it as above described will fit closely to the person of the wearer, and accommodate itself to the motions of his body in all positions, adding greatly to the appearance and fit of the garment as well as to its comfort. The elastic, yielding properties of the goring prevent strain upon and tearing away of the buttons of the garment, and is very durable, it being found in practice to outwear the garment itself.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A vest, provided on one or both sides with an elastic goring or strip, which partially encircles or surrounds the arm-holes of said vest, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

S. W. HUNTINGTON.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. GRIFFIN,

C. LLOYD TURNER.