

(No Model.)

T. B. FITZPATRICK.
WAIST.

No. 549,351.

Patented Nov. 5, 1895.

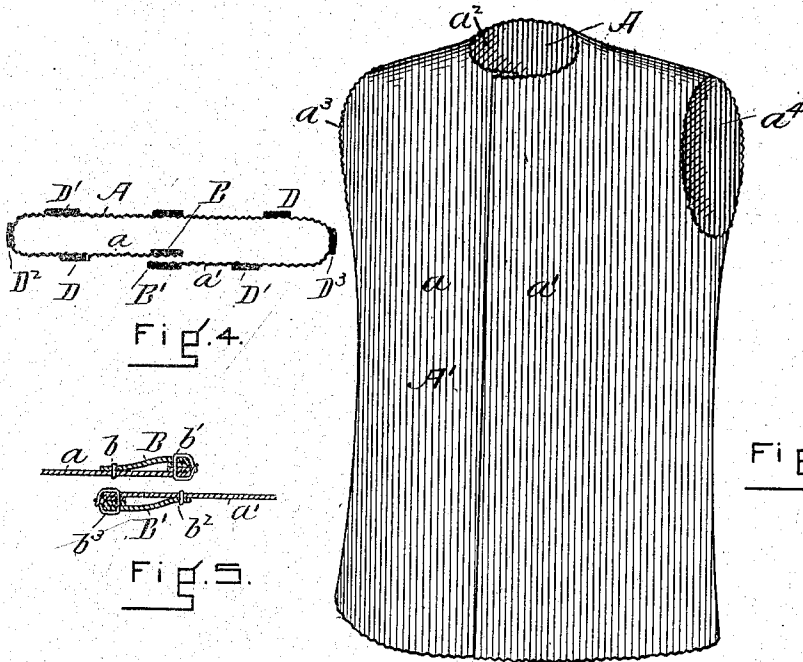


FIG. 1.

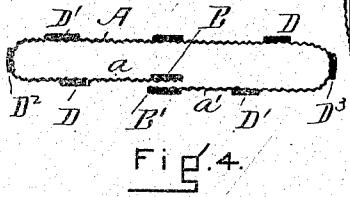


FIG. 4.

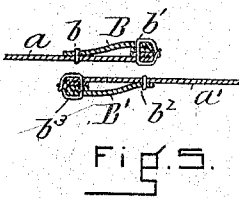


FIG. 5.

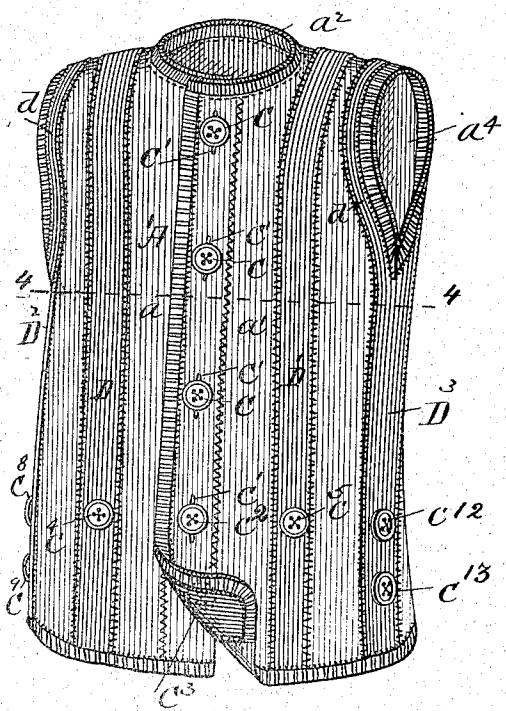


FIG. 2.

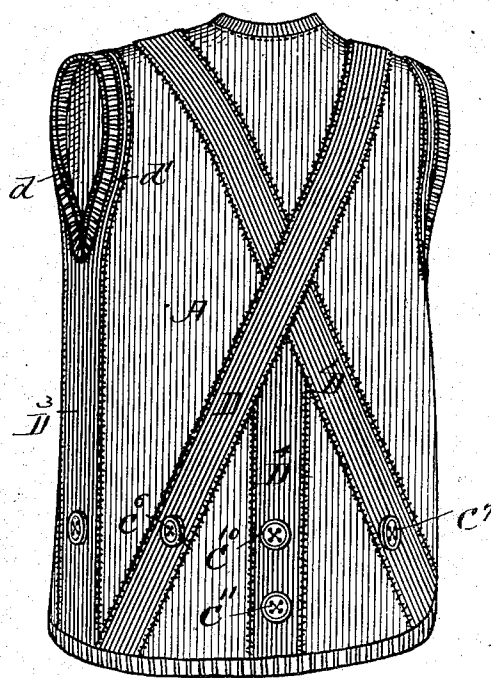


FIG. 3.

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WAIST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 549,351, dated November 5, 1895.

Application filed July 3, 1895. Serial No. 554,848. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS B. FITZPATRICK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newton, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Children's Waists, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in explaining its nature.

The invention relates to that class of children's waists which are used for supporting the drawers, pants, skirt, and other garments by means of buttons attached near the lower edge.

It is very desirable for a waist of this character to be entirely elastic or yielding throughout, in order that it may yield in any direction to the strain of the garments attached to it, which generally are of an inelastic or unyielding character.

In practicing my invention I first make, preferably by knitting, an elastic garment which has a back preferably in one piece, a neck-aperture, armholes, and a front in two parts, one of which is adapted to overlap the other and to be attached to it by buttons. This forms the "base" or "body," so to speak, of the garment; but when made of the requisite yarn and thinness it is too elastic and not strong enough to render it suitable for a garment-supporting waist; and it is desirable that it be stronger upon the lines of the strains, while yet yielding, and it is desirable, also, that the lapping sections of the front, which are secured together by buttons and buttonholes, be made of sufficient strength to properly hold the buttons and permit the formation of suitable buttonholes and without taking away from this section of the garment a sufficient or desirable elastic or yielding property, as it is essential that this section of the garment also yield to accommodate itself to strains. It is also desirable that the side of the garment be strengthened to and about the armholes without affecting its elasticity to any further extent than is desired, and the manner in which I obtain these results will be described in connection with the drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a view in perspective of the body

of the waist as it leaves the knitting-machine. Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of the front of the waist completed. Fig. 3 is a similar view of the back of the waist. Fig. 4 is a section upon the dotted line 4 4 of Fig. 2. Fig. 5 is a detail view in section.

In Fig. 1 I have represented the body of the garment as it comes from the knitting-machine. It has the back A in one piece, the divided front A' in the two parts a a' , a suitable aperture a^2 for the neck, and apertures a^3 a^4 for the armholes. This body is made of a relatively-light yarn, preferably by knitted stitch, in order that it may be elastic, light in weight, open in mesh, and healthful. It would be altogether too elastic and yielding, however, for the purpose of sustaining under and other garments, even if it were strong enough for holding the supporting-buttons, and I then complete the waist by applying to this light-weight elastic body strengthening-sections which are preferably heavier than the fabric of which the body is made and which when applied to the body reduce its elasticity and at the same time strengthen it, and these strengthening reducing-sections are arranged, also, where they can act to hold the various buttons with which the waist must be provided and upon the lines of the waist most subjected to strain and wear. Some of these strengthening-sections are best applied to the exterior of the body and some to the interior. There are two sections, namely: the section B, which extends along the edge of the part a of the divided front, and the section B', which extends along the edge of the part a' of the divided front. These sections are relatively narrow, extend, preferably, the full length of the garment at the edge, and are united by sewing to the body of the garment by the inner elastic seam b and by the outer elastic seam b' , the edge of the garment and the edge of the piece being preferably stitched in by the seam b' , as represented in Fig. 5. The section B' is similarly attached by elastic seams b^2 b^3 to the edge of the part a' of the front, these two added strengthening-sections B B' being in the nature of elastic facings, and to one of these the buttons C are secured by stitches which pass through both the edge of the body and

the strengthening-sections, and in the other the buttonholes C', extending through the edge and the strengthening-section, are made and upon a vertical line or line parallel with the edge of the part a', instead of crosswise it, as is common, as I have discovered that the ordinary buttonholes in these elastic edges when subject to strain open and become disengaged from the buttons, while the vertical buttonhole when subjected to strain in this yielding edge tends to hug the button and hold with even greater tenacity. It will be seen that with the edges of the two parts of the front thus formed when united by buttons and buttonholes there is elasticity between each pair and in all directions, combined at the same time with suitable strength and wearing properties, and this permits the use at the front of the garment of the two lower buttons, which I have lettered C² and C³, respectively, for use with the front buttonholes of the waistbands of drawers and pants or other garments, so that any strain which may be brought to bear upon this part of the waist by these garments does not act to drag the entire front of the garment downward, as it would were it inelastic, but yields and distributes the strain equally to other parts of the waist.

The reinforcing strips or sections which are applied to the outer sections of the body are lettered D, D', D², D³, and D⁴. Of these the sections D D' are preferably of a length to extend over the shoulders downward upon the front of the body and parallel with each of the edges of the part it is on and down the back of the body in a diagonal direction, crossing near or slightly above the center of the back. These sections are each made of one length or piece and are elastic, and are preferably thicker and heavier than the fabric of the waist, in order to strengthen it and somewhat limit its elasticity, and they are secured or attached to the body by an elastic over-stitching along each edge thereof from one end to the other, and they not only serve to strengthen the waist, but they also act in conjunction with the waist in receiving at the front the waist-buttons C¹ C⁵ and at the rear the waist-buttons C⁶ C⁷.

The sections D² D³ are preferably wider than the sections D D'. They are also elastic and preferably thicker and stronger than the material of the body and at the upper end are split or cut into the two parts d d', which extend about each armhole, respectively, and are secured to the body by elastic stitching about the armhole, the remainder of the section extending downwardly from the armhole to the bottom of the garment, and the whole serving to reinforce and strengthen the garment about the armholes with an elastic strengthening-section, and also the sides of the garment from the armholes down, and at the same time acting, in connection with the body of the waist, to support the waist-buttons C¹² C¹³ upon the one side and C⁸ C⁹

upon the other. The section D⁴ is also elastic and preferably of the width of the sections D D' and of a stronger and heavier make than the body of the waist, and it is secured to the back between the lower back portions of the sections D D' by elastic over-stitching, its upper end being under the sections D D' where they cross each other and being united therewith at that point to the body. This section, like the side sections D² D³ and the sections D D', limits the elasticity of the body and strengthens it and supports with the body the two rear buttons C¹⁰ C¹¹. The edge of the neck-opening and also the lower edge may be finished with an elastic binding of any character.

It will be seen that the waist as thus described has two lines of buttons for supporting garments, the lower of which supports the drawers or underskirt and the upper of which the pants or outer skirt. It will be also seen that the waist is yielding or elastic throughout and readily adapts itself to the strains of the lower garments occasioned by the change in the position of the body, arms, or legs, and that this saves both the waist and the lower garments from injury and prevents the buttons from being torn from the waist and buttonholes from being split out, and it also provides a garment that is easy to the wearer in that the strains are distributed and unequal drafts or pulls upon any section prevented. The strengthening-sections may be of one thickness, in which event the material of which they are made may be of a thicker and firmer and less elastic nature than the body, or they may be made of two or more thicknesses, in which case the said material may be thinner and more elastic.

It will be seen that the strengthening elastic sections D D' are parallel with each other upon the front of the waist, and that upon the back of the waist they extend from the shoulder downward diagonally, crossing each other, and that they thus strengthen and reinforce the relatively-light fabric of the body crosswise or horizontally upon the back, as well as vertically, and in that way distribute to the back the strains and pulls upon the buttons.

I would not be understood as limiting the invention to the structure in which the elastic strips or sections are heavier than the material of the body of the garment.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. A waist of the character specified having a body portion elastic throughout, elastic strips or sections connected therewith to make a part thereof extending lengthwise the waist, the whole forming a reinforced or strengthened structure elastic or yielding throughout, and buttons or other attaching devices at or near the lower ends of said strips or sections, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a waist of the character specified, the

body portion comprising the back A and the divided front A' both elastic throughout, the elastic strips or sections B, B' applied to the edges of the divided front, the elastic strips
5 or sections D, D' applied to the said front and back as specified the elastic strip or section D⁴ applied to the back, and the elastic

strips or sections D², D³ applied to the sides of the waist, all as and for the purposes set forth.

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Witnesses:

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