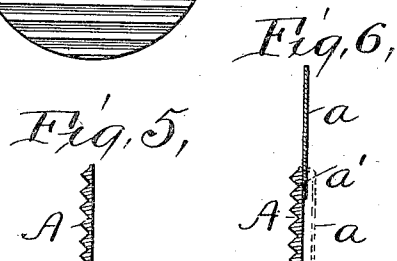
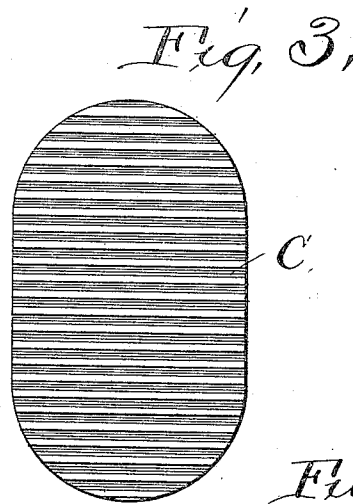
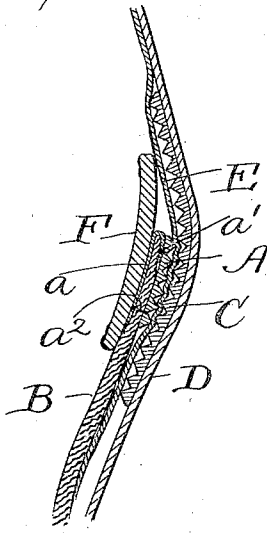
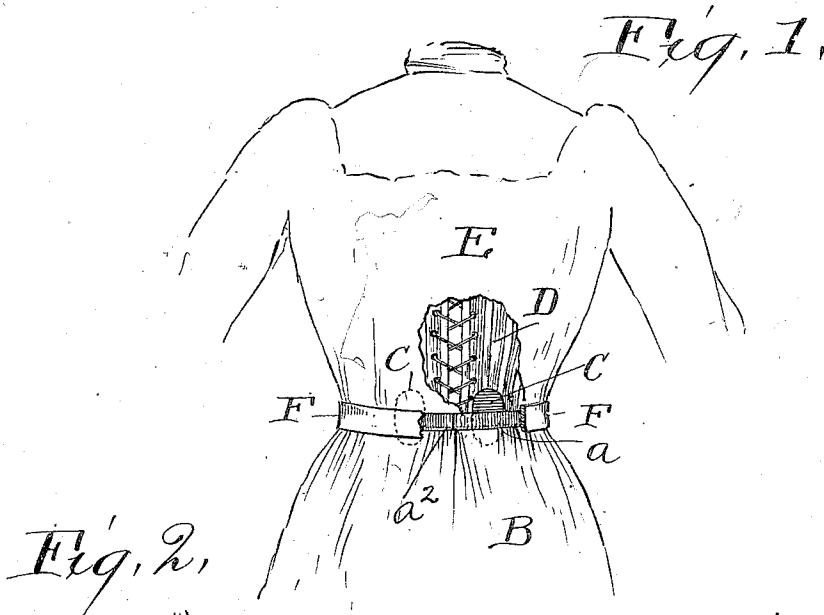


(No Model.)



Witnesses
E. B. Gilchrist
H. M. Kiss

Inventor,
Louis N. Gross,
By his Attorneys,
Thurston & Bates

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LOUIS N. GROSS, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

WAISTBAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 701,333, dated June 3, 1902.

Application filed October 5, 1901. Serial No. 77,653. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LOUIS N. GROSS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Waistbands for Ladies' Skirts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention is designed to hold a lady's shirt-waist and skirt in position at the waist of the wearer, preventing the shirt-waist working up above the belt or the skirt sagging below the belt.

As shirt-waists are ordinarily worn the upper portion of the skirt overlaps the waist and either the waist is pinned to the skirt, which frequently results in tearing the waist, or the tightness of the waistband of the skirt is relied upon to hold the lower end of the shirt-waist in place; but even though the waist be pinned at the back or the skirt-band be worn uncomfortably tight there is still trouble in the waist gradually working up above the belt and the skirt sagging in the back, giving an ungraceful appearance. My invention remedies this difficulty by providing a waistband on the inner side of the skirt having a surface of soft rubber grooved longitudinally. The surface is compressed when the band is in place against the shirt-waist, which is thus gripped between the waistband and the corset. As an additional feature to prevent slippage—as, for example, at the back side, where the tendency to separate is greatest—I provide pads which are horizontally grooved corresponding to the band, and these pads are secured by sewing or pinning to the corset or corset-cover. In this case the ribs of the waistband interlock with the grooves on the pad, clamping the interposed waist between them and effectually preventing the waist rising or the skirt sagging. My invention comprehends the waistband with or without this retaining device.

To make the waistband more ready for use, I prefer to market it with a strip of cloth or a ribbon projecting from one edge thereof and adapted to be bent over the upper end of the skirt and form the outside of the waistband. This is also included within my invention.

The drawings clearly disclose the invention.

Figure 1 is a rear view of the same in place on the wearer, a portion of the ordinary belt and shirt-waist being broken away. Fig. 2 is a vertical section through the band and the adjacent parts of apparel. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the pad detached. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of a portion of the waistband. Fig. 5 is a cross-section of the waistband shown in Fig. 4; and Fig. 6 is a cross-section showing the waistband having attached thereto the ribbon for use on the outer side of the skirt, the dotted lines showing the position of the ribbon in use.

The same letters of reference designate the same part of each figure.

Referring to the parts by letters, A represents the waist-band, made of soft rubber on a thin canvas backing and grooved longitudinally, as shown. The ribbon *a* is secured to the back side of this band by stitches *a'*, which preferably extend along the groove in the band nearest that edge. The ribbon extends inward beyond such stitches, preferably only enough to allow the stitches to hold well. It extends outward beyond the edge of the band a distance about equal to the width of the band. In use it laps over the upper end of the skirt B and is held in place by another row of stitches *a''*, which pass through the ribbon, the skirt, and the band A, preferably into the outermost groove thereof. The band is thus as conveniently applied to the skirt as an ordinary waistband, while the yielding, elastic, and somewhat adhesive character of the rubber face enables it to grip the shirt-waist between it and the unyielding corset.

C represents the corrugated or grooved pad, which may be used in conjunction with my band. A pair of these are shown as secured on the back side of the corset D. The shirt-waist is clamped between the interacting grooves and projections of the pad and band when the latter is in place. Fig. 2 illustrates the operation with a shirt-waist E of the maximum stiffness. With the more flimsy goods which is frequently worn the interacting projections and grooves will more nearly seat within each other. The vertical measure-

ment of the pad is greater than that of the band, preferably several times greater, so that there is plenty of latitude allowed for placing the band as most convenient.

- 5 F represents any belt, which is worn as usual and is totally independent of this invention.

Having described my invention, I claim—

- 10 1. As a new article of manufacture, a strip of rubber having a surface grooved longitudinally and a ribbon or strip of goods secured thereto and projecting from one edge thereof, the said parts adapted to form the inner and outer portions of a waistband, substantially
15 as described.

2. A waistband for a lady's skirt consisting of a narrow strip of yielding material having longitudinal grooves on one face and being smooth on the other face, combined with a
20 ribbon parallel with the band, and having one edge overlapping the edge of the band on the smooth face, said ribbon being sewed to the band by stitches lying within one of the grooves of the band, substantially as de-
25 scribed.

3. A lady's skirt having at the upper end a waistband on both the inner and outer sides of the skirt, the band on the inner side being

a longitudinally-grooved piece of rubber, the band on the outer side being a ribbon secured 30 to the back side of the rubber and bending over the upper edge of the skirt and downward along its outer side, substantially as described.

4. A waistband for a lady's skirt consisting 35 of a strip of yielding and flexible material having its inner surface grooved longitudinally, combined with one or more retaining-pieces having a corresponding surface adapted to interact with the band, whereby mate- 40 rial as a shirt-waist may be clamped between them, substantially as described.

5. A waistband having its inner surface composed of longitudinal projections and grooves, combined with a pad having corre- 45 sponding projections and grooves, said pad being considerably wider than the band whereby it presents a choice of positions for the band, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto affix my 50 signature in the presence of two witnesses.

LOUIS N. GROSS.

Witnesses:

NORA BRESNAN,
ALBERT H. BATES.