B. R. & P. E. CHARLES.

GARMENT.

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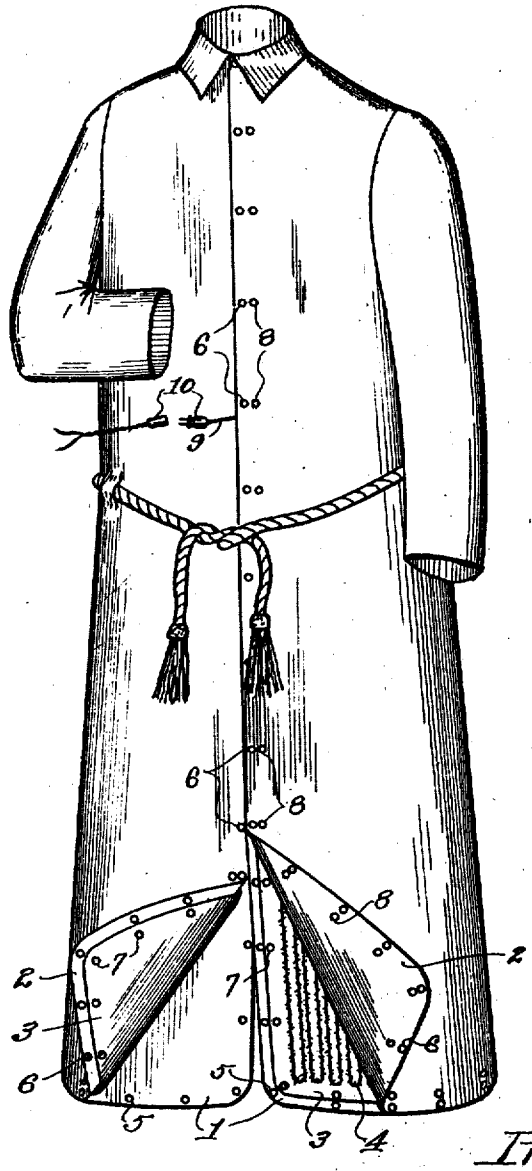
1,272,332.

Patented July 9, 1918



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BURTON R. CHARLES AND PHYLLIS E. CHARLES, OF VICTORVILLE, CALIFORNIA.

GARMENT.

1,272,332. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented July 9, 1918.

Application filed May 29, 1917. Serial No. 171,694.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, BURTON R. CHARLES and PHYLLIS E. CHARLES, both citizens of the United States, residing at Victorville, in the county of San Bernardino and State of California, have invented new and useful Improvements in Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a garment which employs a fabric having electrothermal means secured thereto. Such a garment is useful for the treatment of disease.

Electrothermal garments and robes have been constructed of fabric which is flexible. These garments are adapted to envelop the body. In the treatment of the body by means of such a garment, perspiration is induced and impurities are thrown from the body, which, added to the usual soiling, causes the garment to become unclean. The garment of the character described is constructed by securing to the fabric convolutions of wire or cable through which the electric current may be passed. Due to the presence of the wire or cable, it is difficult to clean the garment, dry-cleaning not proving satisfactory. For this reason the garment becomes soiled in time, and therefore becomes unsanitary.

It is an object of this invention to provide a fabric of which a garment may be constructed, which may easily be cleaned, thereby enhancing its value by making it more sanitary.

We accomplish the above object by means of the embodiment of our invention illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:

A perspective view of a bathrobe is shown.

Although the invention is shown embodied in a bathrobe, it is not limited to any particular garment, as the invention resides particularly in the fabric of which the garment is constructed.

Referring particularly to the drawing, the bathrobe is shown as provided with sleeves and the body of the garment is open in the front and adapted to hang over the shoulders. The body of the garment is constructed of three plies. There is an inner ply 1 which is adapted to come in contact with the body and may be formed of any suitable fabric.

Disposed over the inner ply 1 is the outer ply 2 which is provided with sleeves. Disposed intermediate of the plies is an intermediate ply 3. Ply 3 is the electrothermal ply, as it carries the electrical conductors which are preferably secured to one surface of the ply, and are in the shape of convolutions sewed in place on the ply. The conductors 4 are preferably formed of flexible cable and are secured to the fabric by a staggered stitching. A cord 9 is provided for connecting the cables to a source of electrical energy, and a suitable socket 10 is provided for conveniently making the connection.

Ply 1 is provided with snap clasp members indicated by 5. Ply 2 is similarly provided with the complementary members 6 of the snap clasps, so that plies 1 and 2 may be detachably secured to each other. The electrothermal ply is also provided with snap clasp members 7 which are adapted to engage corresponding members upon ply 2 and indicated by 8. In this manner the three plies may be secured in position and form a unitary garment or robe.

The soiling of the garment will be confined to the inner ply 1 and the outer ply 2. When it is desired to clean the garment, ply 2 may be detached from ply 1 and ply 3 removed from ply 1, thereby separating the plies one from another. Plies 1 and 2 may then be cleaned, and after the cleaning has been performed, the plies may again be assembled in the unitary garment.

If it is desired, the sleeves of the garment may be equipped with an electrothermal ply. Various mechanical expedients may be resorted to to permit the separation of the plies when the sleeves have an electrothermal ply. However, as the invention relates to the fabric rather than the design of the garment, such expedients are not described herein.

What we claim is:

An electrothermal garment, comprising a

flexible electrothermal ply, electrical conductors stitched to the outer face of said ply, an outer ply adjustably secured along its edge to the electrothermal ply, said outer ply carrying and supporting said electrothermal ply, and an inner ply or lining detachably secured to said outer ply, whereby the various plies may be detached from one another for cleansing purposes.

In witness that we claim the foregoing we have hereunto subscribed our names this 2nd day of May, 1917.

BURTON R. CHARLES.
PHYLLIS E. CHARLES.