

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN THE MODE OF CONSTRUCTING GARMENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 34,464, dated February 18, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS S. LAMBERT, of Peekskill, Westchester county, New York State, have invented a new and Improved Garment; and I do declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The nature of my invention consists in making and retaining the front of a vest and a pair of pantaloons in such a manner that they can be easily slipped on or off in part or in whole or retained in their appropriate place easily and smoothly without buttons, buckles, or other such inconvenient means, admirably adapting dress or undress garments, overalls, and dusters, children's clothing, and underdrawers to the use of men and boys, and in the latter case to the use of both sexes, and being particularly well adapted to military life, either in case of officials or privates.

To enable those properly skilled to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

I construct my garments of any materials that can be used for pantaloons or vests. The parts below the line E may be made in the same manner as in case of ordinary pants and with or without elastic or inelastic straps F E S at the bottom. The front between A and the line E may be cut straight, or that part may be in some cases advantageously sprung out. From A to C the garment should be cut with a spring proportioned to the measurement of the body at that point. B to D should be cut to fit the form of the body corresponding. From D to O the size and form follows the conditions of the neck. The point *o* may be extended at pleasure till it meets behind the neck the corresponding point of the other side, and may thus form any desirable-shaped collar. In the drawing the point *o* is represented as midway of the neck, which is the proper point for the attachment of one end of an elastic band, the other end being attached to the corresponding point on the other side. This band should be sufficiently strong to retain the vest-front in its place and sufficiently long and elastic to pass readily over the head—never less elastic than when it will stretch double its length, in which case its length should be half the neck-measure. It is better to have a more elastic and shorter band. If

the vest is open at the top in front, a less elastic band will suffice. If the point *o* is carried up so as to form a collar, the elastic band should extend under it down to its point of attachment.

Above the line E the back part of the pants should be cut at the side and back seams with springs from A to *a* equaling about one-eighth, and from *x* to *y* about one-sixth the waist-measure, which will allow the back point of the waistband when extended and carried down to sweep around the seat of the body, as necessary when attending to the fecal call of nature, and will allow also the garment to be easily put on or off. If these springs are not made, an opening must be allowed at the back or sides for the same purpose. Above A'' the space between the dotted lines shows the position of an elastic band, which, unextended, should measure half an inch less than one-fourth the waist-measure. It should be strong enough to retain the pants in place and sufficiently elastic to stretch twice its length. One end should be secured near the point A'' and the other at the opposite corresponding point A'' and the intermediate parts secured in place by a facing that allows its elasticity free action. To equally distribute the fullness, it may be fastened to the goods at different points when extended. An opening may be made just above the fork and furnished with two perpendicular elastic cords at each edge, as shown at E c and E c, and with a fly, as shown by F, beneath the outer fold, and also by *f*.

These garments may be made to imitate the appearance of ordinary pants and vest, or may be plain and continuous, or they may be open in front and buttoned together. Thus by the elasticity of the bands at the waist and at the neck, combined with the appropriate proportions of the inelastic parts of the garment, it is retained in its appropriate position, conforms to the actions of the body, and is put on and off quickly, either in whole or in part, with the least possible inconvenience to the wearer.

What therefore I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The application of the elastic band to retain the garment in its proper position at the waist, in the manner set forth.

2. The application of the elastic band to retain the garment in its proper position at the neck, in the manner set forth.

3. The making the garment of such proportions at the waist and neck as are set forth.

4. The application of the elastic cords in front, in combination with the fly, as set forth.

5. The combination of the elastic bands at

the neck and waist and the combination of the elastic bands at the neck, waist, and bottom of the garment, as set forth.

THOS. S. LAMBERT.

Witnesses:

EDW. F. BROWN,

J. S. WRIGHT.