

(No Model.)

E. STEARNS.

GARMENT MEASURING DEVICE AND CUTTING GUIDE.

No. 405,614.

Patented June 18, 1889.

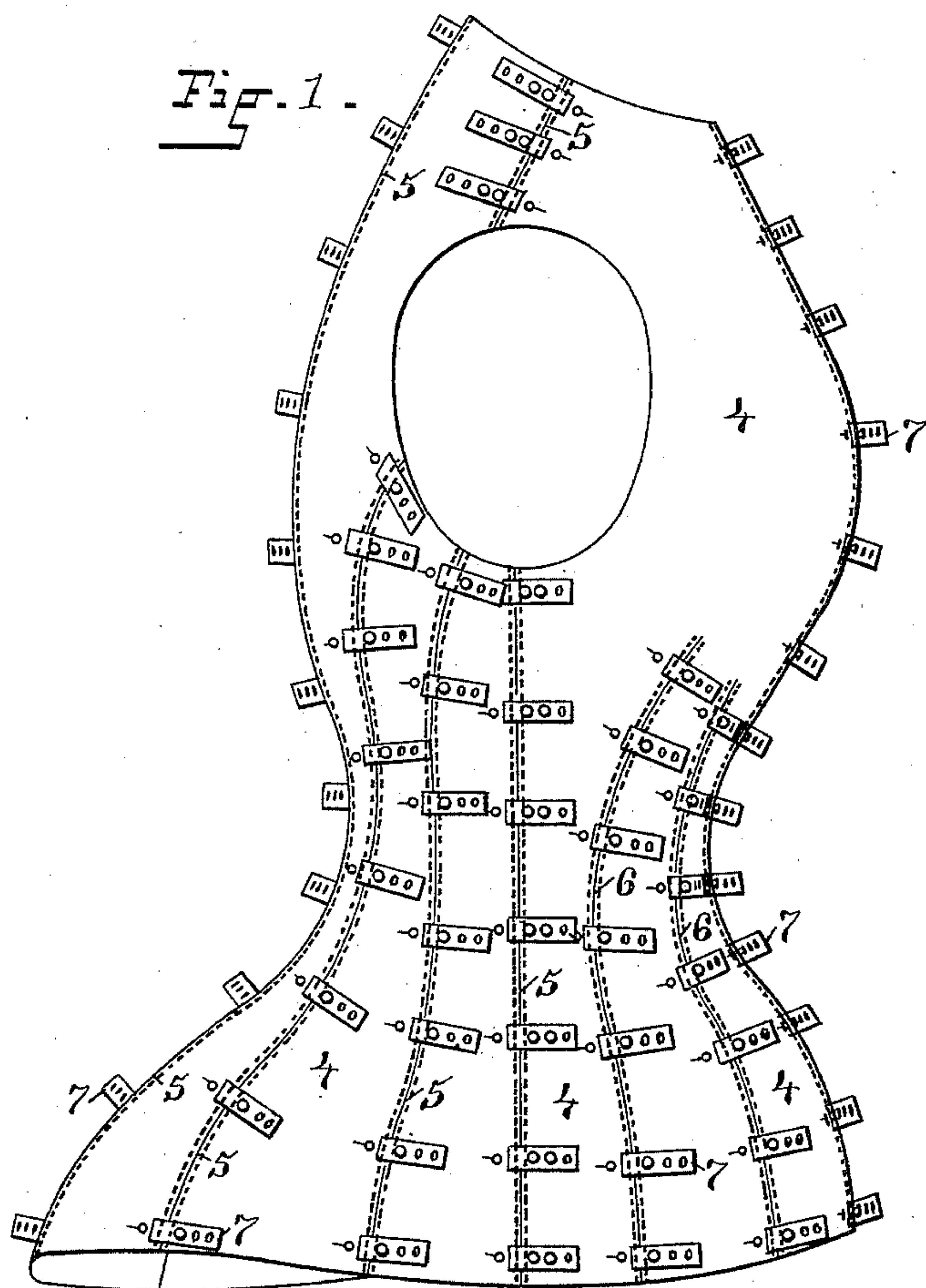
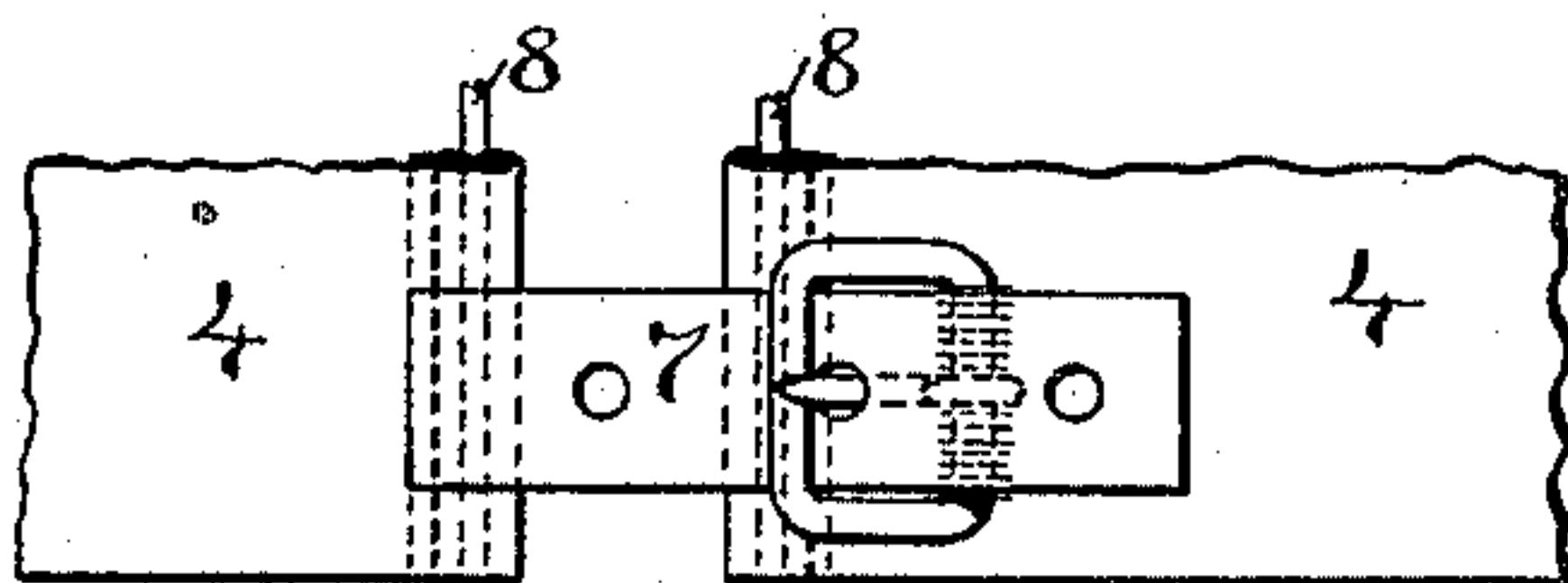


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

Chas. H. Luther Jr.
M. F. Bligh

INVENTOR:

Elvira Stearns
by Joseph A. Miller & Co. Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELVIRA STEARNS, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO ELIZABETH A. SAYLES, OF SAME PLACE.

GARMENT-MEASURING DEVICE AND CUTTING-GUIDE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 405,614, dated June 18, 1889.

Application filed May 22, 1888. Serial No. 274,698. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELVIRA STEARNS, residing at Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Garment-Measuring Device and Cutting-Guide, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to the class of garment measuring and fitting devices composed of separable sections or pieces, with means for uniting the sections, which, after the measurements of the person are taken, are separated and laid out flat upon the fabric from which the lining of the garment is to be cut, and the lining then cut from the reading taken at the time of measurement or the adjustment of the device.

The object of my invention is to produce a simple garment-fitting device which will give the proper fit of every seam and dart, and from which the lining can be readily cut and a perfect fit secured, without the annoyance and delay incidental to the trying on and re-fitting of garments cut by other methods.

My invention consists in the peculiar and novel construction of the garment-measuring device and cutting-guide, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of my improved garment-measuring device and cutting-guide adapted for measuring and cutting the waists of women's dresses. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of part of the device shown in Fig. 1, showing the adjusting-strap and a buckle, also the edge-wires.

In the drawings similar numbers of reference designate corresponding parts throughout.

Referring to the drawings, the number 4 indicates sections of material which is sufficiently flexible to readily yield to the form, and is non-elastic, so that when laid flat it will form a cutting-guide. These sections 4 are made of such forms that their edges will be on the lines on which, in the kind of garment to be fitted and cut, the seams are most advantageously located, and some of the sec-

tions 4 are provided with seams cut extending through parts of the section. For the purpose of clearly illustrating this feature the marginal edges of the sections 4 are numbered 5 and the fitting-seams in the sections are numbered 6.

The number 7 indicates the adjusting-straps. One end of each of these straps is permanently secured at one edge of the sections 4, as well as at one edge of the fitting-seams 6 in the sections, and on the opposite edges a buckle, button, or other fastening device is secured. The holes in the straps may be numbered, so that in fitting a memorandum may be made of these numbers, and in cutting the indicated holes will show the deviations from the pattern. Along the edges of the sections and along the fitting-seams the flexible wires 8 are secured, for the purpose of increasing the rigidity of the edges and forming better guides for cutting.

The device can be constructed to be used for measuring and cutting all kinds of garments. It is made of durable material. The sections are shaped to snugly fit a reasonably perfect form of the smallest size of the persons to be measured when the edges are in contact. Any deviation from this normal size is indicated by the holes on the adjusting-straps. In practice several sizes of these measuring and cutting forms are used, so that the deviations from the sections is slight, and varies most at such places where the form of the person to be fitted is abnormally developed.

The operation of the device is as follows: All the parts or sections of the device are fastened together in their relative positions by means of the fastening devices and the adjusting-straps, the fastening devices being entered in the first holes of the adjusting-straps, excepting one of the shoulder-seams and one of the side seams, which are left open. The person to be fitted now passes one arm through the closed armhole, and the operator begins to take up the looseness of the fitting device with the straps on the open shoulder-seam, and having finished with the shoulder-seam begins on the side seam and takes up all the looseness with the adjusting-straps

until all are fastened. For the sake of convenient illustration we will say that to fit the person to whom the device is being adjusted the straps on the open shoulder and side seams could only be taken up to the third hole, it would therefore be apparent to the operator that to bring the central lines of the front and back of the garment-fitting device into proper position the originally-closed shoulder and side seams—being the ones in which the fastening devices are entered in the first holes of the adjusting-straps—should be let out one hole of each of the adjusting-straps, and the shoulder and side seams which were originally unfastened when the garment-fitting device was put on and the fastening devices of which are now entered in the third holes of the adjusting-straps, are to be taken up one hole on each strap, or, in other words, the two holes of difference between the corresponding shoulder and side seams should be equally divided between the said seams. To again explain the operation, should it be necessary to enlarge the device, the adjusting-straps on any of the seams should not be let out an unequal number of holes on the corresponding seams, as that would throw the central line of the back of the device off from the central of the back of the person being fitted; but the space on the adjusting-straps to take up or to let out should be equally divided between the similar seams.

It is apparent that any or all of the seams may be let out or taken up, more or less, by means of the adjusting-straps to obtain the desired fit, corresponding seams being let out or taken up corresponding distances, and when the adjusting-straps are marked a record may be kept of the seam and the holes on the

straps into which the fastening devices are entered, so that after the device has been fitted, and when the operator is using the device for cutting out the lining or garment, all that will be necessary will be to refer to the record to see on which line to cut the goods. Sufficient allowance must be made for seams beyond the lines of adjustment when cutting a pattern or garment from the device. It is also apparent that the seams forming the darts may be opened more or less, as may be necessary. This same method may be adopted for the measuring and fitting of men's, youth's, and children's garments of any kind, the sections or parts of the fitting device being made to follow the general outline of the sections of the garment to be fitted, and provided with adjusting-straps and fastening devices to be used in the same manner and for the same purpose as herein shown and described for a lady's tight-fitting garment. It is obvious that any loose-fitting garment may also be cut from the same method of measuring and adjustment.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A garment measuring and cutting device consisting of sections of inelastic material, the edges of each section strengthened by flexible wires secured to the edges of the inelastic material, and provided with adjusting-straps constructed to form an accurately-fitting garment when secured, and accurate patterns and guides for cutting the material when the sections are separated, as described.

ELVIRA STEARNS.

Witnesses:

J. A. MILLER, Jr.,
M. F. BLIGH.