

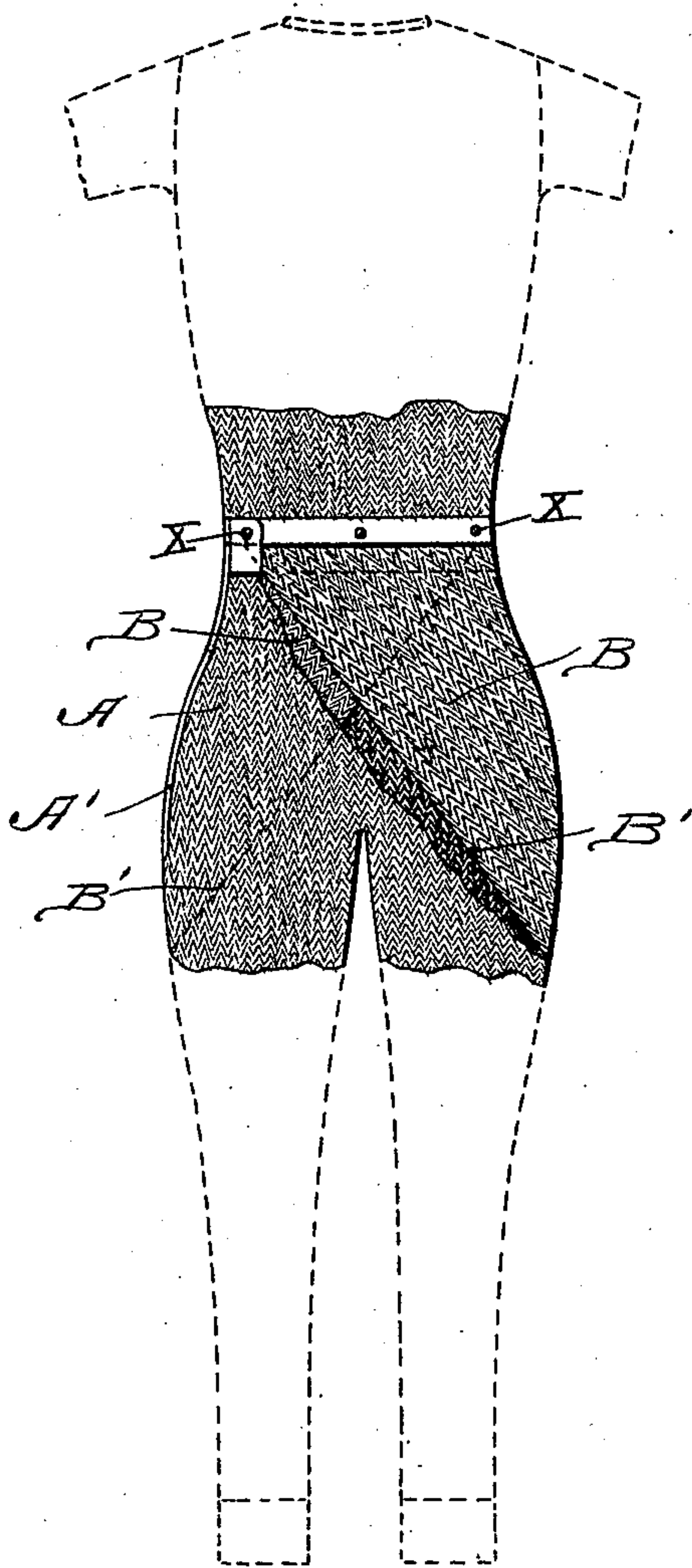
(No Model.)

D. I. DEVOE.  
UNDERGARMENT.

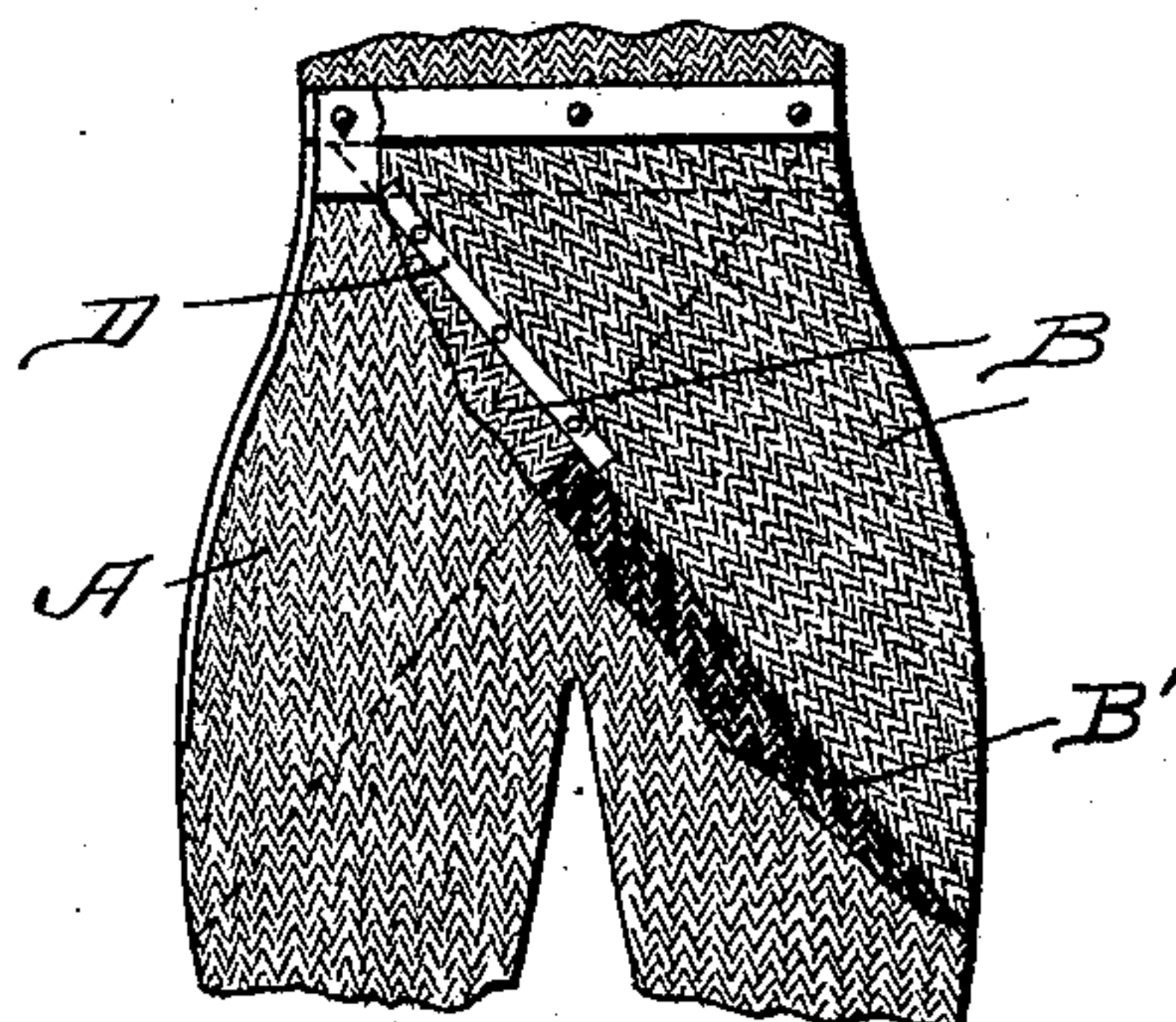
No. 562,287.

Patented June 16, 1896.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

*Mary E. Rohrer*  
*L. D. Hennrichs*

INVENTOR

*Daniel I. Devoe*

BY

*Wileo E. Gumer*

ATTORNEY



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL I. DEVOE, OF FORT PLAIN, NEW YORK.

## UNDERGARMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 562,287, dated June 16, 1896.

Application filed April 3, 1896. Serial No. 586,098. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DANIEL I. DEVOE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fort Plain, in the county of Montgomery and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Garments, of which the following is a specification.

The invention pertains to nether garments and especially to knit undergarments for women and children. The novelty lies in the form or construction rather than in the fabric itself, and the general object of the invention is to produce garments that combine protection, comfort and convenience in certain ways that will be obvious when the peculiarities of the garments have been explained.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows the back of a "union" or combination suit involving the invention, certain parts being cut away to show the construction more clearly. Fig. 2 illustrates an additional feature.

The back of the garment is provided with a fall or flap A, whose upper margin normally lies a little below the belt or waist line, and whose lateral margins A' lie approximately in the position of the usual outer-seam line of seamed garments of this general class. The upper side of the fall is detachably secured by buttons X or other suitable devices, and below the fall is continuous with the lower portion of the garment. Were no other devices provided, the fall would form the only closure for an opening of approximately its own size, and at the sides or plackets, the closure would ordinarily be very imperfect. To lessen the size of this opening and to obtain, practically, a more perfect closure without sacrificing convenience, I have heretofore knit the back of the garment down so far as was practicable beneath the fall and have made the lateral margins of this extra portion continuous with the body of the garment; but since the extra portion thus added will not lie smooth but in use forms folds, particularly near the middle and just below the upper margin of the fall, this device is vexatious and of little value.

In accordance with this invention, in the upper corners, respectively, of the opening left by the fall, I set two triangular pieces B B, each having its upper and outer margins per-

manently secured at all points to the body of the garment in such manner that the pieces form a continuation of the latter. The size of each triangular piece is such that its upper margin reaches more than half-way across the back of the garment, and its outer lateral margin extends down to some distance below the lowest part of the closed fall to a point approximately in line with the outer margin of the latter. The third margin B' of the piece runs then from a point well down below the side of the fall obliquely upward across the opening to a point upon the opposite half of the garment near the belt-line. The two pieces thus overlap each other but the overlapping surfaces are not united. The triangular pieces are so cut or so knit that the wales of the goods are parallel to this oblique free margin B', in order that there may be no material permanent stretching. When the two pieces are thus symmetrically inserted, it is evident that the original opening has been permanently closed except in the lower central part, and that the plackets are at all points far from this remaining opening, and hence it is not material whether they be closed or not. If, accidentally or otherwise, the sides B' of the pieces be pushed aside, they are again drawn straight and smooth and kept so by the natural movements of the wearer, because the lower point of attachment is far below the hip-joint.

In forming the pieces B, the angle opposite the side B' may be varied to give the side B' a little fullness, if desired. The margin B' may be provided with an elastic tape D, Fig. 2, to offer additional resistance to permanent extension, and this tape may extend along all or a portion of this edge. The garment formed as set forth may be worn with a corset without inconvenience, for the fall may be secured to the exterior of the corset so that its fastenings may be readily accessible.

Although I have thus far used this construction principally with knit combination-suits, it is evident that it may be used with nether garments distinct from coverings for the upper portion of the body.

What I claim is—

1. A garment of the class described provided with a fall extending across the back and having beneath or within the fall two tri-

angular pieces, each with its outer side in approximately the outer-seam line of the garment and extending below the lowest point of the fall, and with its upper side extending  
5 transversely from said seam beyond the middle point of the back, whereby the upper portions of the two pieces overlap, both said sides being united throughout to the body of the garment, while the third longer side is  
10 left free.

2. A garment of the class described provided with a fall extending across the back and having beneath the fall two similar pieces in outline approximating a right triangle, each

having one shorter side united with the body 15 of the garment along an outer-seam line and extending below the lower limit of the fall's margin, and having the second shorter side united with the body of the garment and extending from said seam-line along the upper 20 margin of the fall to a point beyond the middle of the back, the longer free margins of said pieces being provided with elastic tapes arranged to yieldingly resist their extension.

DANIEL I. DEVOE.

Witnesses:

CHAS. G. ZIELLEY,  
B. FRANK MILLER.