

(No Model.)

J. C. ANDREWS.
UNDERWAIST.

No. 571,636.

Patented Nov. 17, 1896.

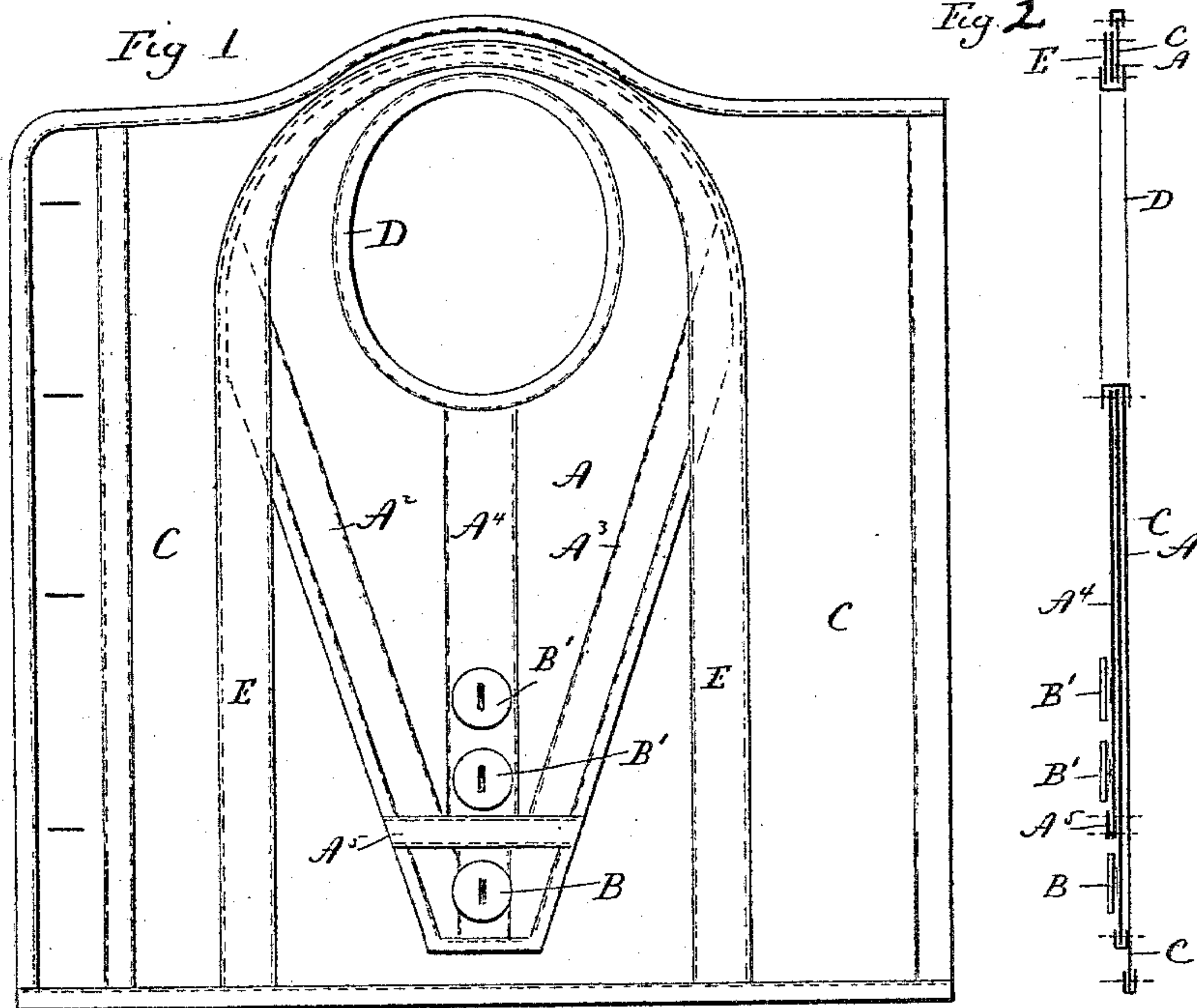
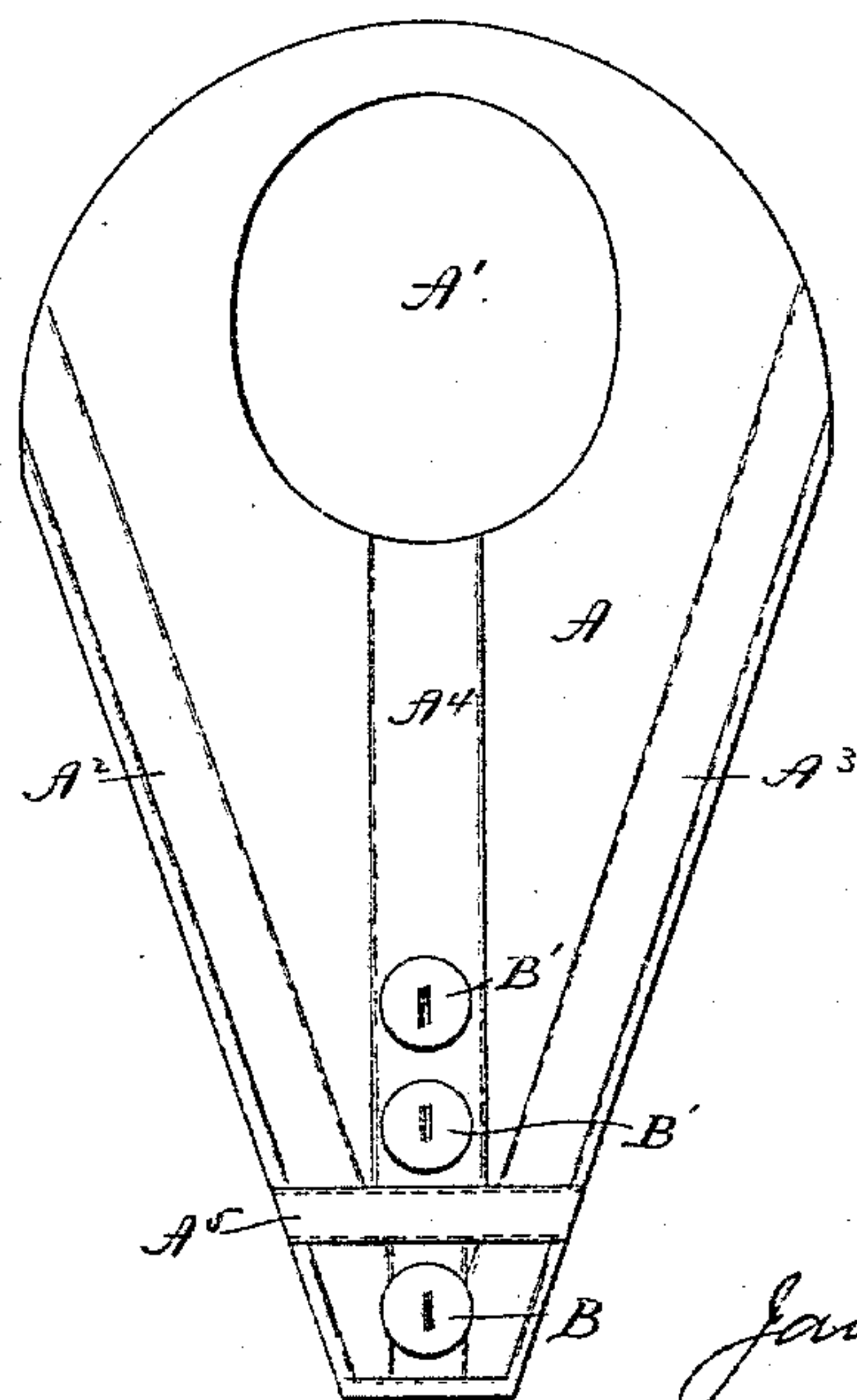


Fig 3.



Witnesses.
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JAMES C. ANDREWS, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

UNDERWAIST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 571,636, dated November 17, 1896.

Application filed June 8, 1895. Serial No. 552,102. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES C. ANDREWS, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new
5 Improvement in Underwaists; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the
10 same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a side view of a waist embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a vertical section on line *a b* of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a detached view, in
15 side elevation, of my improved garment-supporter as it appears when detached from the waist-body.

My invention relates to an improvement in underwaists, the object being to produce a
20 simple, comparatively-inexpensive, and comfortable waist, constructed with particular reference to its adaptation for the attachment of garments and garment-supporters to it in such a manner that the strain which
25 they impose upon it will fall upon the shoulders of the wearer rather than upon the body of the waist, the pulling and distortion of which is thus avoided.

With these ends in view my invention consists in an underwaist having certain details
30 of construction, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claim.

In carrying out my invention I employ a wedge-shaped supporting-flap *A*, coming
35 nearly to a point at its lower end and having its upper end made much wider and rounded and formed with an armhole *A'*. The converging edges of the flap are reinforced by bindings *A²* and *A³*. The flap is also reinforced in the line of the greatest strain upon
40 it by means of a central vertically-arranged strap *A⁴*, which extends upward to the lower edge of the armhole *A'* and downward to a horizontally-arranged cross-strap *A⁵*, which
45 reinforces and binds together the lower end of the strap. Below the cross-strap *A⁵*, I locate a garment-supporter button *B*, while above the said strap I locate two garment-buttons *B' B'*, but the number and arrangement of these buttons may be varied as re-
50 quired by the use of the waist. It will be understood that the garment-supporter but-

ton is designed for the application of the upper end of a garment-supporter, such as a stocking-supporter, while the garment-but- 55 tons *B' B'* are designed for the direct buttoning onto the flap of the bands of garments, whatever they may be. The supporting-flap thus constructed is applied to what may be termed the "hip-section" of the waist *C*, so
60 that its armhole *A'* coincides with the armhole thereof, the edge or the armhole *A'* and the edge of the armhole of the waist being bound together by a binding-strip *D*. The rounded upper edge of the flap itself is
65 stitched down under a long reinforcing shoulder-strap *E*, which extends upward over the armhole of the waist and supporting-flap and downward in parallel lines to the lower edge thereof, so as to include the entire support- 70 ing-flap within it. The upper portion of the flap is thus permanently attached to the waist, while its lower portion is left free from a point below but quite close to the lower edge of the armhole. 75

It will be readily understood that under this construction the strains imposed upon the flap will be almost entirely taken by the shoulder of the wearer and removed from the waist itself, which is neither distorted nor torn un- 80 der any strain, nor the wearer incommoded by weight about the hips.

It is apparent that in carrying out my invention some changes from the construction herein shown and described may be made, 85 and I would therefore have it understood that I do not limit myself to the exact form set forth, but hold myself at liberty to make such variations therefrom as fairly fall within the spirit and scope of my invention. 90

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

The combination with an underwaist, of a permanently-applied wedge-shaped support- 95 ing-flap arranged with its pointed end downward, and having its upper end formed with an armhole which is registered with the armhole in the waist, a binder binding the edges of the armhole of the waist and the edges of 100 the armhole of the supporting-flap together, and a reinforcing shoulder-strap extending over the upper portion or the supporting-flap and above the armholes of the waist and flap,

and extended downward in parallel lines to the lower edge of the waist so as to include the entire flap within it, the upper portion of the flap being therefore permanently attached to the waist, while its lower portion is left free, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this

specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES C. ANDREWS.

Witnesses:

PETER V. CRANE,
S. PERIT RAWLE.