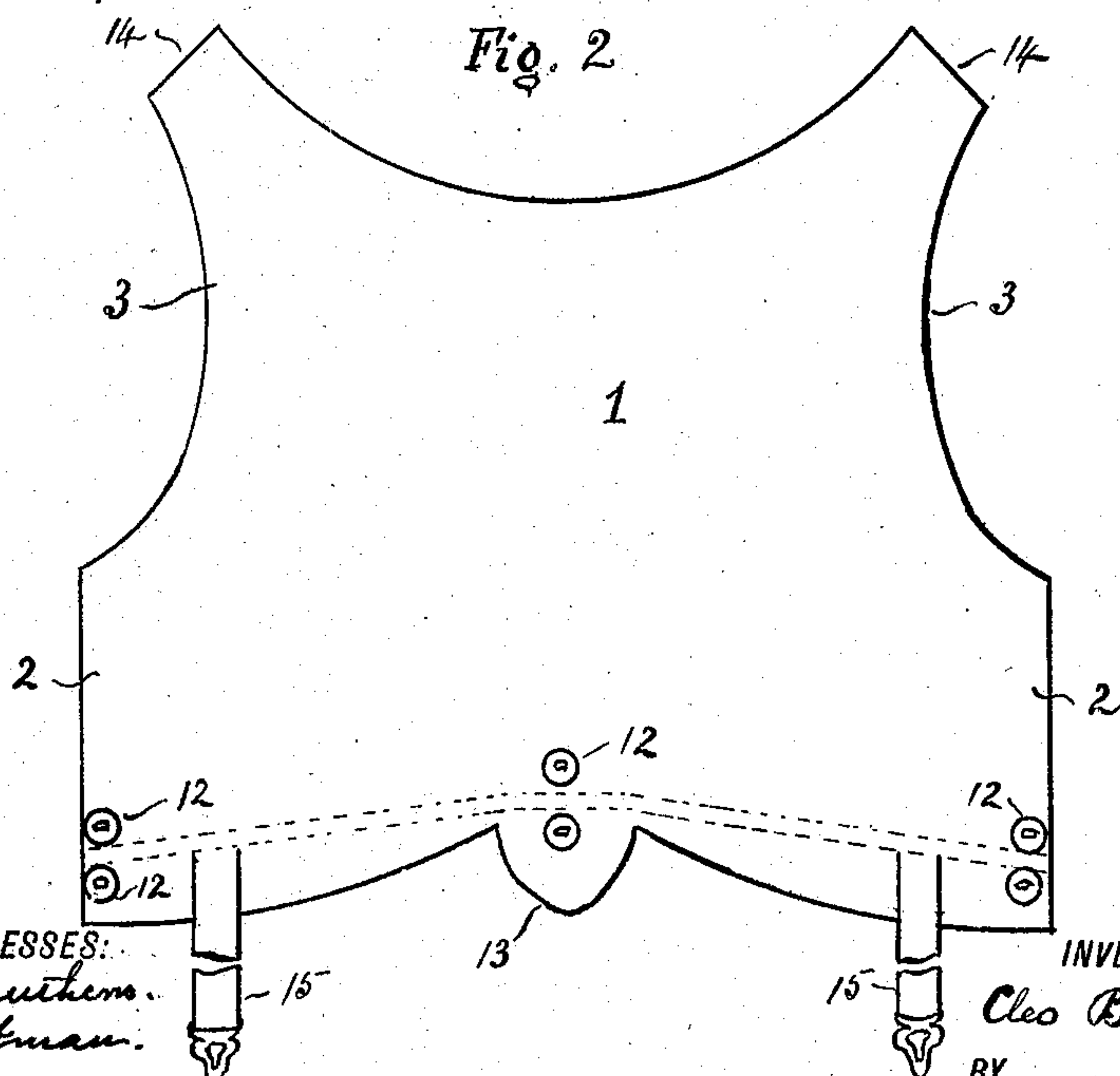
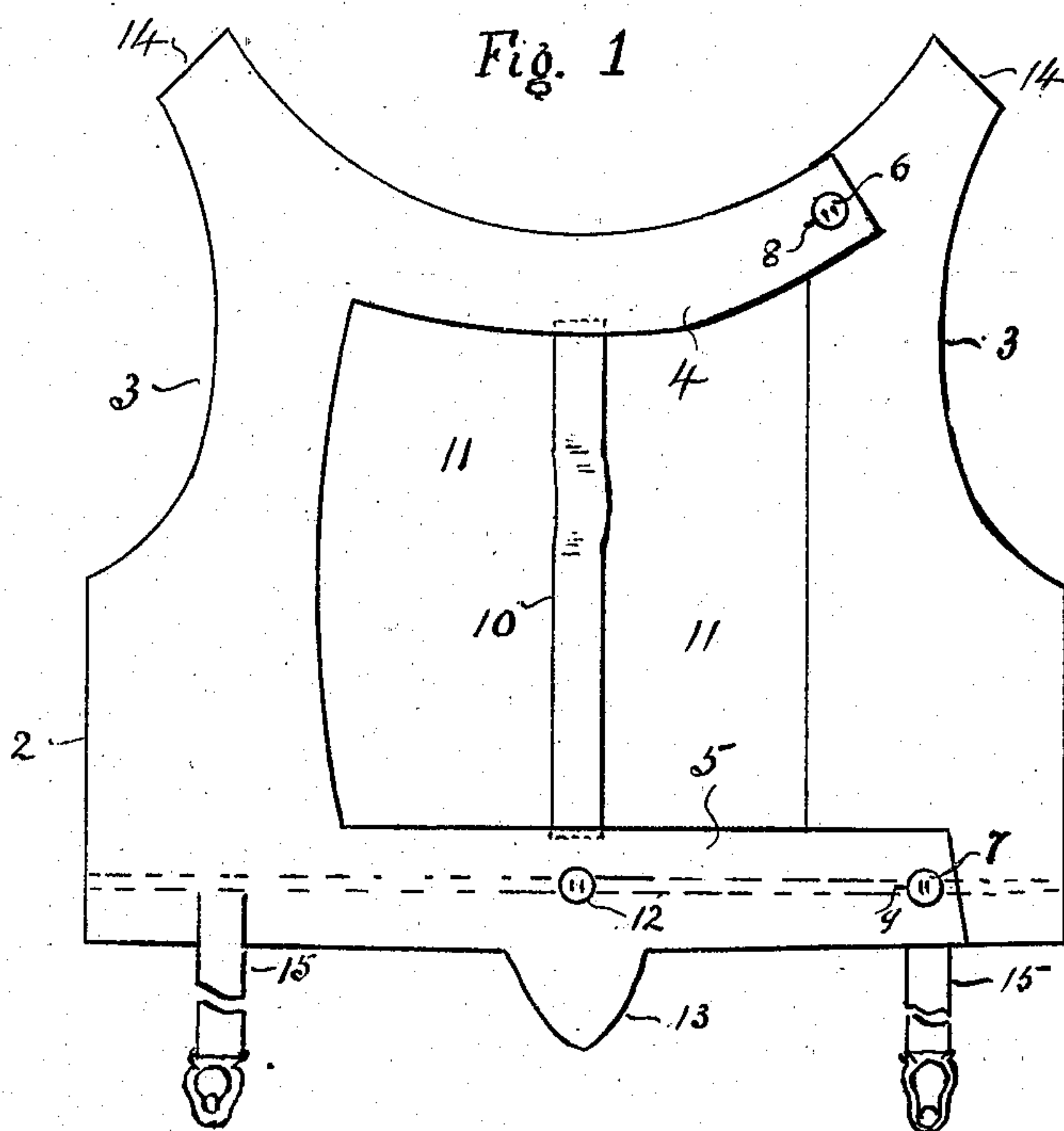


C. B. HARRIS.
GARMENT SUPPORTER.
APPLICATION FILED JULY 24, 1907.

900,728.

Patented Oct. 13, 1908.



WITNESSES:
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GARMENT-SUPPORTER.

No. 900,728.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 13, 1908.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLEO B. HARRIS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Minneapolis, in the State of Minnesota, have invented new and useful Improvements in Garment-Supporters; and in order that others may understand, make, and use my invention I give the following specification.

My invention relates to underwaists or undergarments adapted to give more or less support to the figure and at the same time to form a support for other garments, such as stockings, underskirts and the like; and my invention has for its object to provide such a garment-supporter which shall be comfortable and convenient to wear, shall not interfere with nor obstruct free movements of the body or limbs, shall support the weight of the garments from the shoulders, and be simple and inexpensive in construction.

In the accompanying drawing I have illustrated a waist or garment embodying my invention.

Figure 1 of said drawing illustrates a front view of the garment. Fig. 2 illustrates a rear view of the same.

Referring to the drawings, 1 indicates the back portion which is continuous over the back. The back portion continues around the sides, above and below the arms forming side portions 2, 2, with arm openings 3, 3. From one of the side portions 2, (the left, in Fig. 1 of the drawing), extend two straps or bands, one, 4, at the neck, and the other, 5, at the waist. On the other side portion, 2, at points corresponding to the bands 4 and 5 respectively, are fastening devices, such for instance as buttons, 6, 7, to which the neck and waist straps are to be secured by buttonholes 8 and 9 therein, when the garment is worn. Joining the neck strap with the waist strap is a band 10 of elastic or yielding material, somewhat greater in length than the distance between the neck and waist straps when the garment is in wearing position. In this position the band 10 is vertical and central in front of the body of the wearer, and crosses the substantially square opening 11, which is formed between the two side portions 2, 2, and the neck and waist straps 4 and 5, bisecting said opening longitudinally.

The garment-supporter is provided at suitable points around the waist with garment attaching devices, such as buttons 12,

which may be arranged in a double row, as shown, or in any manner and at any suitable points as may be desired. To these buttons are attached, as will be understood, the skirts, drawers or other garments, which are to be supported. In the central back and front portions the waist is formed or provided with extensions or tabs 13, 13, to which the napkin may be pinned or secured. At points vertically below the shoulder portions 14, 14, hose supporters 15 are secured, (permanently or detachably as desired,) to the waist in the back and in the front.

The manner of using and wearing the garment-supporter will be apparent from the above description. To put on or remove the garment it is necessary only to fasten or unfasten the two fastening devices 6 and 7, and these being in front are readily accessible to the wearer. When the garment is worn the back and sides of the wearer are supported. The neck strap 4, when fastened, forms with the shoulders 14 and back a continuous yoke over the shoulders and about the neck. From this yoke is supported the weight of the skirts, drawers, napkin, stockings, &c., the weight of which is thus distributed and carried by the shoulders as is generally approved by physicians. Any pull or strain coming on the front of the waist, as for instance from the napkin, or from the other garments attached thereto, is transferred by the medium of the vertical band 10 to this yoke and is thus borne by the shoulders. The band 10 also prevents the shoulder portions from becoming displaced and assists in keeping them in position. The neck band 4 also prevents shifting or displacement of the shoulder portions. The vertical band 10 is preferably somewhat longer than the distance between the neck band and the waist band to allow for curvature of the chest and to accommodate different sized wearers or varying depths of the chest, and also provide that in normal positions of the wearer there will be no pressure on the chest. The square shaped opening allows free and full play for the chest and lungs in respiration. As will be readily perceived the hose supporters carry the weight and pull of the hose in a direct line from the shoulders, and being arranged in the back and front support the hose in the best manner.

It will thus be seen that by the construction described my invention provides a gar-

ment-supporter which supports the garments in the most approved manner and without in any way interfering with any of the movements of the wearer, and is therefore adapted not only for ordinary wear but also for gymnastic or athletic purposes.

Having described my invention, what I desire to protect and secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A garment-supporter having neck and shoulder portions forming a yoke, side portions continuous with the shoulder portions, a waist-encircling portion continuous with the side portions, said yoke, side and waist portions surrounding an opening or cut-away portion over the chest of the wearer, means for attaching garments to the waist-encircling portion and a band connecting said waist-encircling portion with the yoke.
2. A garment-supporter characterized by a body-portion extending over the back, shoulders, and sides of the wearer, the side portions of said garment-supporter being separated in front to form an opening over the chest, a neck strap and a waist strap joining said side portions at the neck and waist respectively, means for attaching garments to said waist strap, and a yielding connection between said neck and waist straps.
3. A garment-supporter having a neck-encircling portion or yoke, a waist-encircling portion, side portions extending over the shoulders and connecting the waist-encircling portion and yoke, said side portions separated in front to form an opening

over the chest of the wearer, a yielding connection between the yoke and waist-encircling portion, and means to attach garments to the waist-encircling portion.

4. A garment-supporter having a neck-encircling portion or yoke, a waist encircling portion, side portions connecting the yoke with the waist-encircling portion and extending over the shoulders, said side portions separated in front to form an opening over the chest of the wearer, a yielding connection between the said neck and waist portions and extending across said opening, hose-supporting devices attached to said waist portion at points vertically below the shoulders and garment-supporting devices attached to said waist portion in line with said yielding connection.

5. A garment-supporter having a body portion extending around the back, sides and shoulders of the wearer, the sides of said body portion being separated at the front to leave an opening or space over the chest of the wearer, a neck strap and a waist strap for connecting said sides at the neck and waist respectively, a yielding connection between said neck and waist straps and extending centrally across said opening, and means for securing garments about the waist of said body portion, said means situated at points vertically below the shoulders and also in line with said yielding connection.

CLEO B. HARRIS.

Witnesses:

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