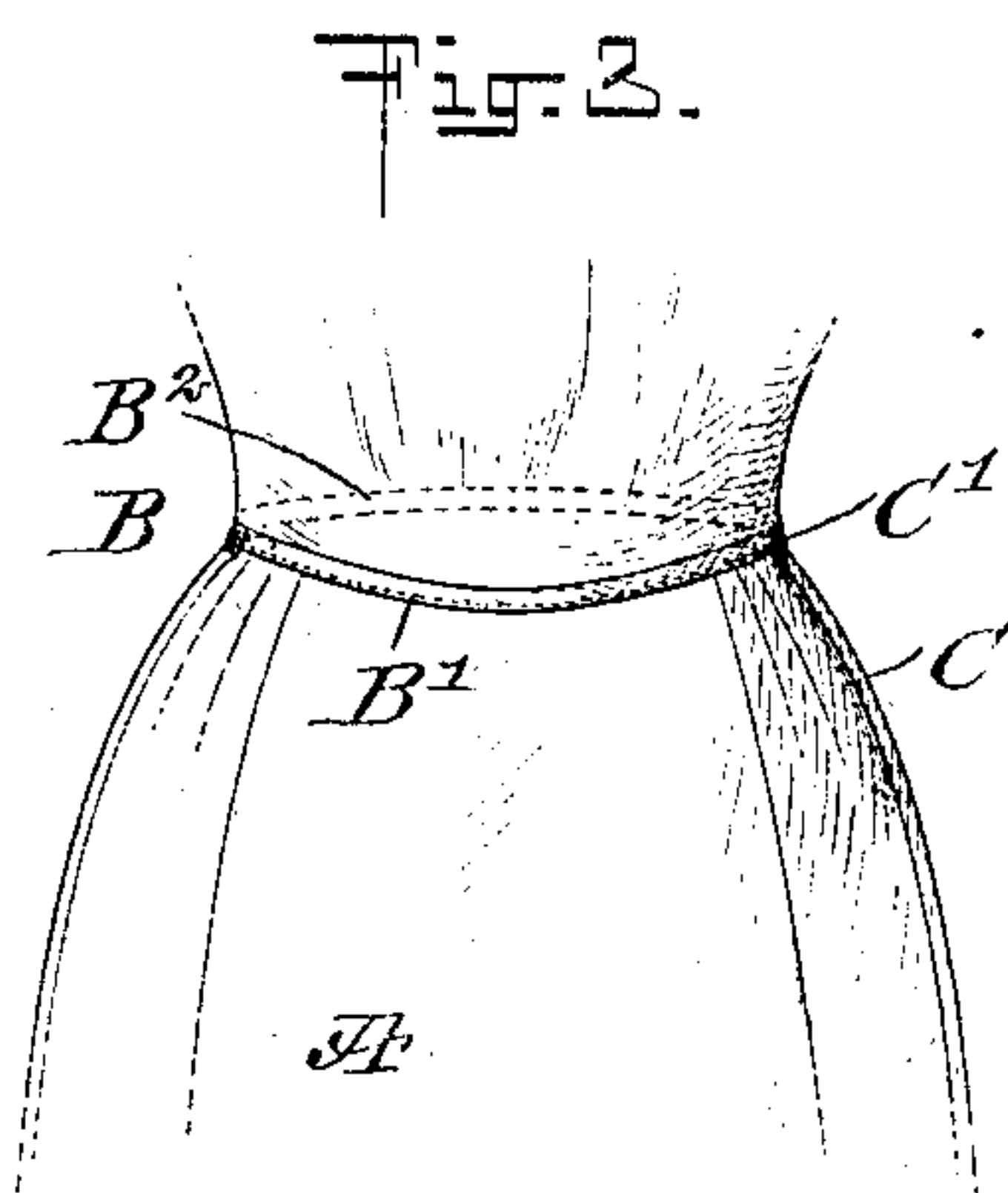
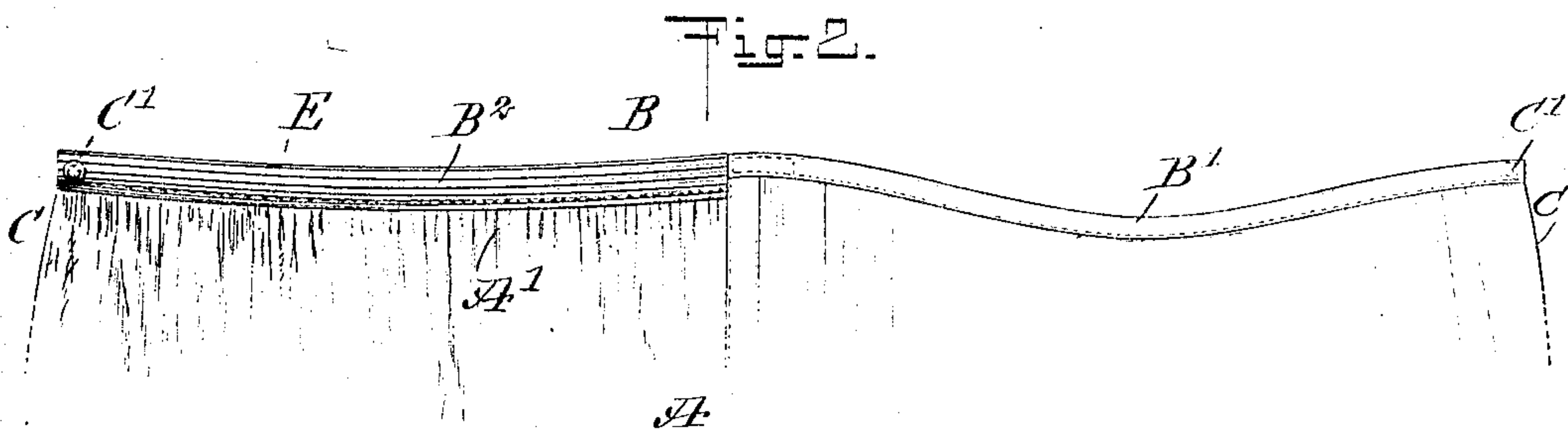
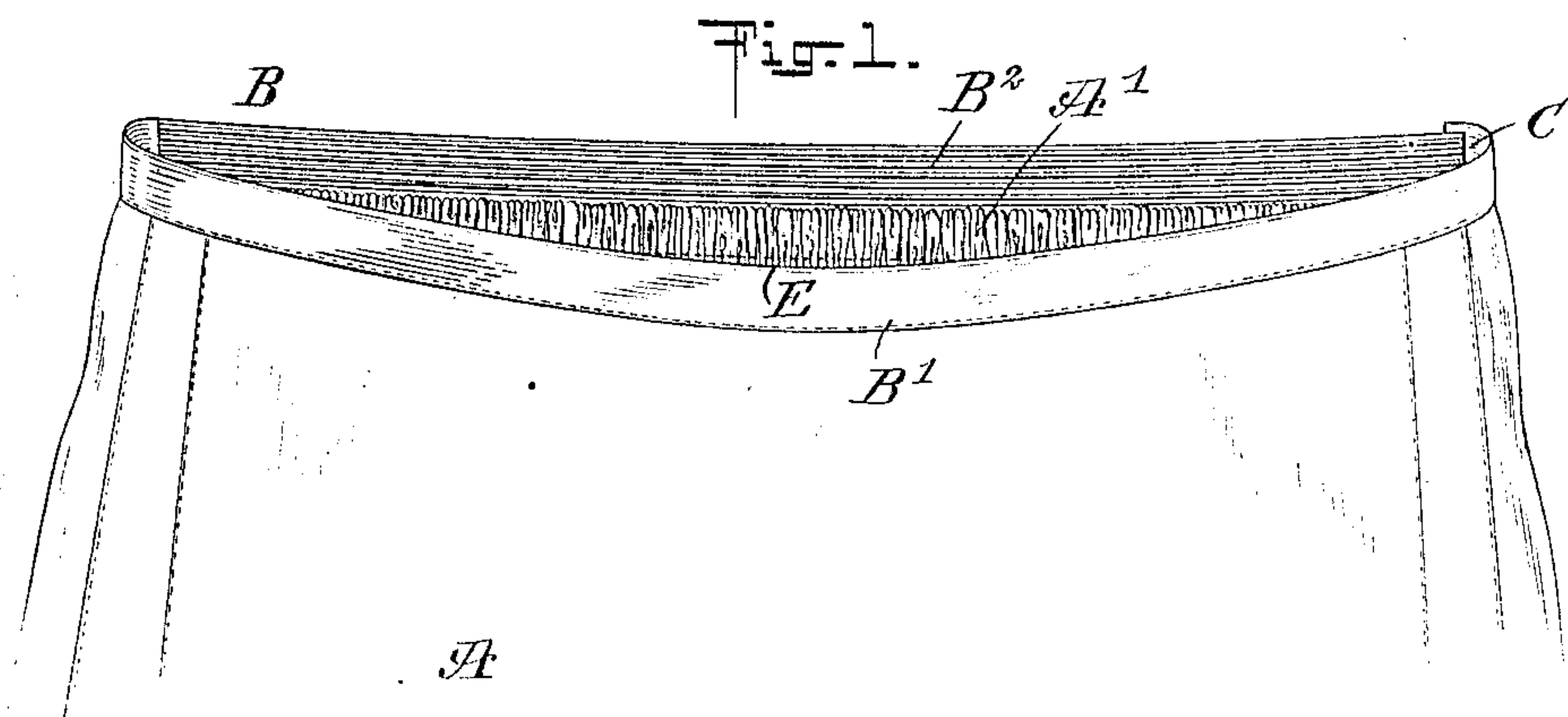


W. & S. EPSTEIN.  
SKIRT.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 20, 1907.

912,834.

Patented Feb. 16, 1909.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM EPSTEIN AND SAMUEL EPSTEIN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## SKIRT.

No. 912,834.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 16, 1909.

Application filed July 20, 1907. Serial No. 384,691.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, WILLIAM EPSTEIN, a citizen of the United States, and SAMUEL EPSTEIN, a subject of the Czar of Russia, and both residents of the city of New York, borough of Manhattan, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Skirt, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to wearing apparel, and its object is to provide a new and improved skirt or petticoat provided with an expansible and contractible waistband for fitting different sized waists, and arranged to form the desirable dip at the front and to dispense with the undesirable slit or placket at the back.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, which will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claim.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved skirt or petticoat; Fig. 2 is a reduced side elevation of the same and showing the waistband opened up, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the improvement as applied.

In skirts or petticoats as now manufactured, it is necessary for the manufacturer to provide and the dealer to keep in stock a large number of skirts of the same pattern but different sizes, but it is impossible for the dealer to provide all the sizes required in order to properly fit customers having different sized waists.

In order to render the waistband of the skirt adjustable various devices have heretofore been proposed, such devices using mostly elastic means in various ways, but invariably the result is not quite satisfactory, and defects, notably improper hang of the garment, are usually the result.

In the improved skirt, hereinafter described in detail, the placket is arranged at one side of the garment and use is made of an elastic band or webbing forming an integral portion of the rear of the waistband, and extending uninterruptedly from the placket to the other side of the garment, to insure a proper hang of the garment irrespective of the size of the wearer's waist.

The body A of the skirt or petticoat is pro-

vided with a waistband B and a placket C arranged at one side of the body and extending the usual distance downward from the waistband B, the placket C having a suitable fastening device C' for closing the placket.

The front portion B' of the waistband B is formed of an inelastic woven material, such as that of which the body A is usually made, while the rear portion of the waistband is formed by an elastic band B<sup>2</sup>, and the rear upper portion of the body A is formed with plaits A' and secured by stitches or other means E to the said elastic band B<sup>2</sup>. Now by the arrangement described the rear portion of the waistband and the plaited rear upper portion A' of the body A are yielding, and hence the waistband readily adapts itself to waists of different sizes, that is, a skirt or petticoat having a waistband of a certain size can be worn by persons having the same or larger size waist measure, at the same time insuring proper fit and hang of the skirt or petticoat.

The front portion B' of the waistband is curved downward to form the desirable dip in a natural manner, it being understood that as the elastic band B<sup>2</sup> is in a somewhat stretched condition and hence under tension, it holds the waistband firmly in position on the wearer's waist, and hence the curved front portion B' of the waistband is not liable to slip upward but firmly retains its natural position. By having the placket or slit C at the side of the garment, it is not liable to bulge or open, at the same time allowing the waistband to be uninterrupted and elastic at the back portion, for the purpose above set forth.

In the manufacture of the garment, the elastic band B<sup>2</sup> is held in a fully stretched position during the time the upper back portion of the body A is sewed to the said elastic band and while it is itself non-plaited, and when the sewing operation is completed and the elastic band is released, then in contracting it forms the upper rear portion of the body A into the plaits A' above mentioned and shown in the drawings.

Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent:

A skirt or petticoat comprising a body provided with a waistband, a placket at one side of the body, and fastening means for closing the overlapping sides of the said placket, the entire front portion of the said

waistband being inelastic and the rear portion being formed of an elastic band, the rear upper portion of the said body being connected with the said elastic band throughout the length thereof, the said rear upper portion of the body being gathered to expand and contract in unison with the said elastic band.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM EPSTEIN.  
SAMUEL EPSTEIN.

Witnesses:

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