

H. G. JOHNSON.
GARMENT.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 19, 1912.

1,298,346.

Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.

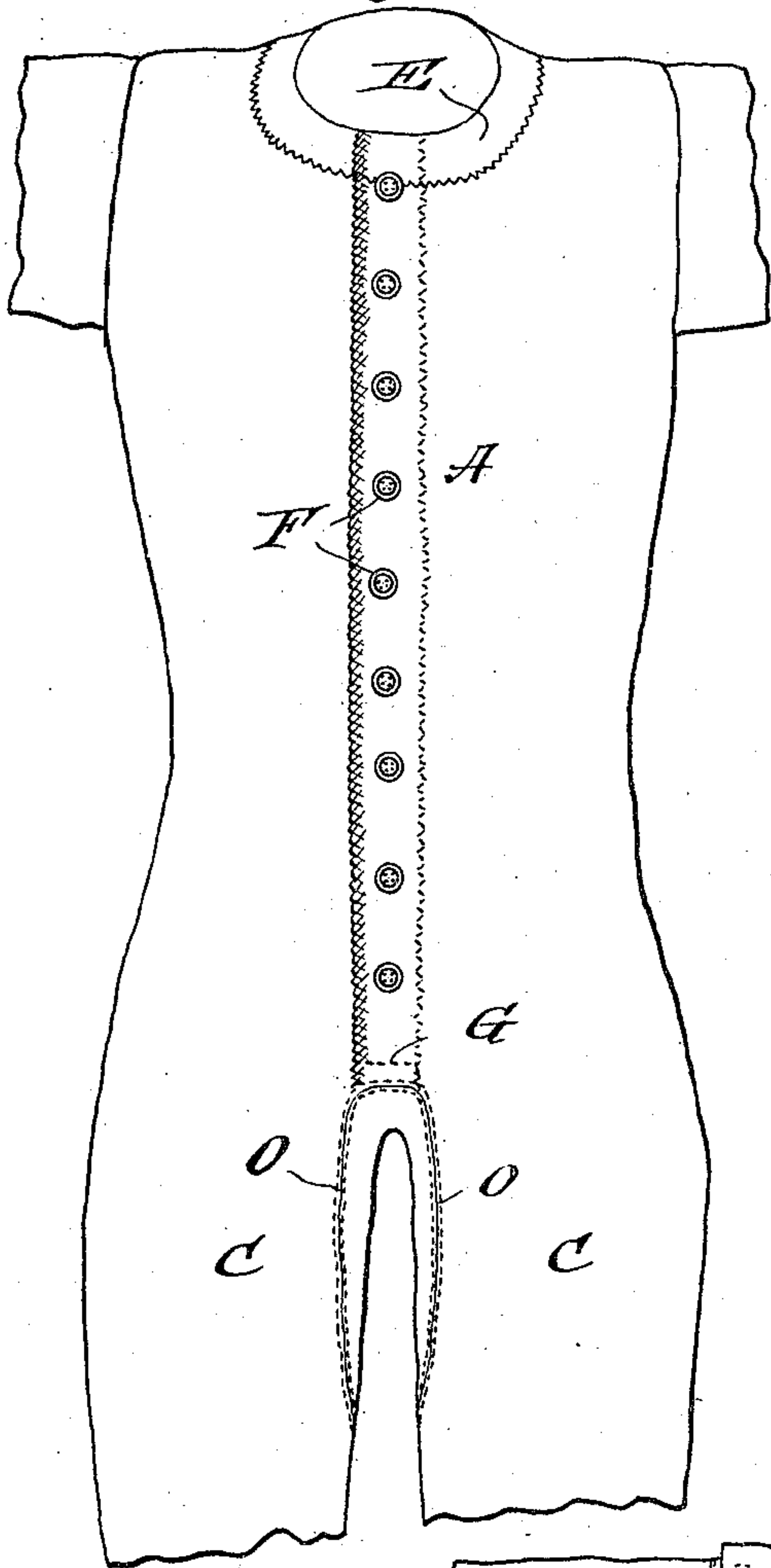
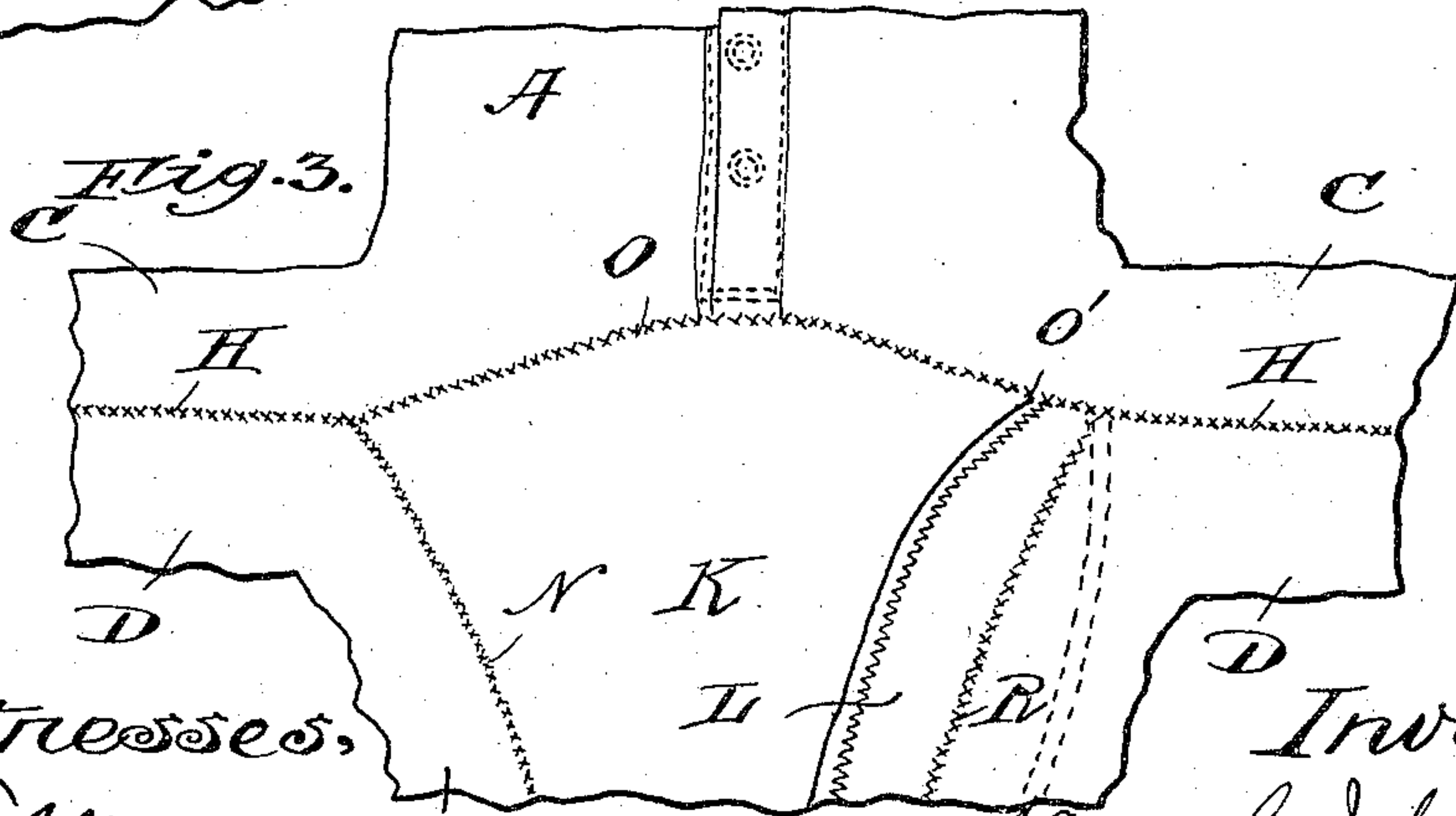
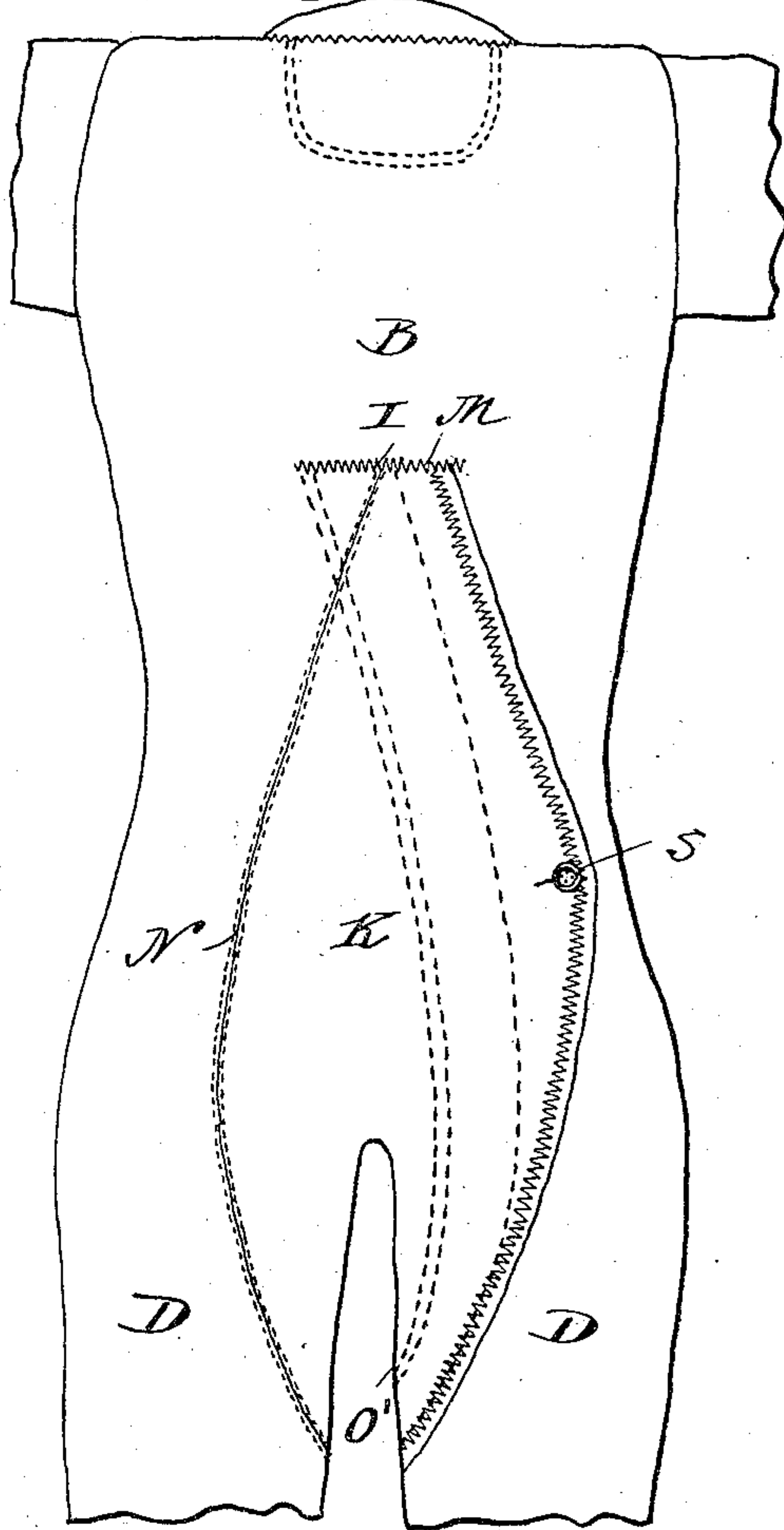


Fig. 2.



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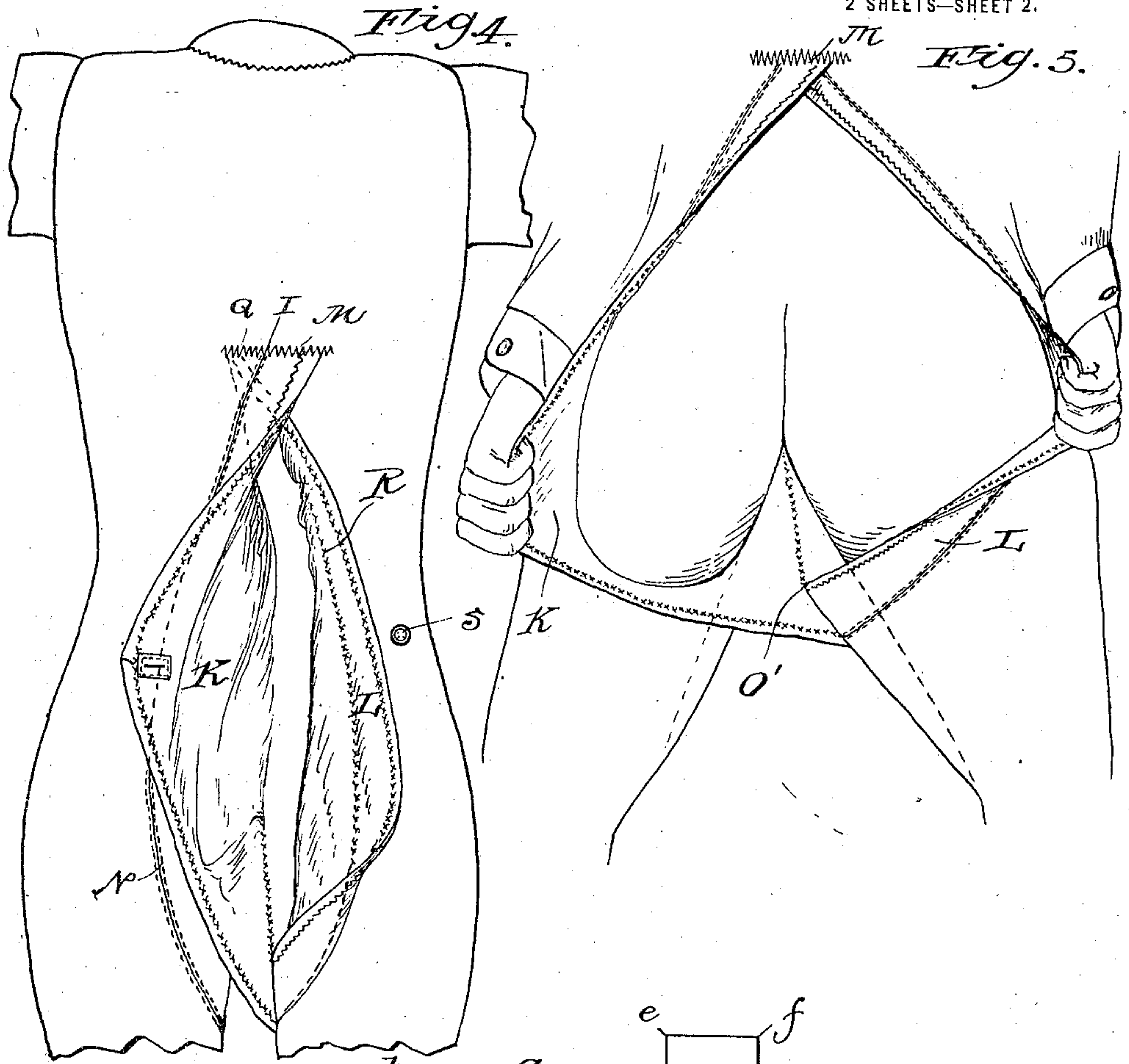


Fig. 6.

Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HORACE G. JOHNSON, OF KENOSHA, WISCONSIN.

GARMENT.

1,298,346.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 25, 1919.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HORACE G. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing in Kenosha, in the county of Kenosha and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garments, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to that class of underwear known as union suits, and has reference more particularly to an improvement in a novel type of union suit first disclosed in my former Patent No. 973,200, granted October 18, 1910. This type of garment is characterized by the provision of a permanently closed crotch and a posterior opening that extends from a point above the seat to a point below the crotch in one leg only of the garment. In my said former patent the posterior opening of the garment is covered throughout its entire length by a relatively wide member lapping the opening and, in the garment therein shown, forming a portion of a seat-piece insertion, this latter, in order to afford the requisite width at the seat and thigh regions, being formed with thigh extensions running down into the inner portions of both legs and extending through the crotch region. The lower end of the lapping or flap portion of this seat and thigh insertion is permanently secured to the rear leg portion by a transverse seam extending from the inner leg seam for some distance across the leg and to the neighborhood of the outer edge of the latter; the free margin on the underlying body portion of the garment covered by said lapping member or flap extending obliquely from a point in the vicinity of the waist-line down to the inner point of attachment in the in-seam of the leg of the lower end of said outer lapping member. While this construction is practicable and workable, I have found that by modifying the form of said outer lapping member, particularly with reference to its outer free edge; and by employing in conjunction therewith a relatively narrow inner lapping member, I am enabled to secure several distinct advantages, as compared with the construction of my former patent, as herein-
after pointed out, while fully preserving the permanently closed crotch feature.

My invention, its mode of use, and its advantages will all be readily understood when considered in connection with the accompanying drawings, which illustrate my pres-

ent commercial form of garment, and in which—

Figures 1 and 2 are, respectively, front and rear elevations broken off at the arms and legs, the garment being shown substantially as it would appear on the human figure. Fig. 3 is a fragmentary plan view in detail of the crotch and adjacent portions of the garment, viewed from the inner side of the latter, as the same would appear were the garment split longitudinally on each side and the front and rear parts of the upper or body portion spread out in a common plane, with the inner sides of the leg portions extended at right angles thereto. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2, but with the inner and outer lapping members laid back, and the edges of the opening slightly distended.

Fig. 5 is a view illustrating the fully extended or service position of the posterior opening, as the same appears when the garment is on the body of the wearer. Figs. 6 and 7 are detail plan views of the blanks that form the outer and inner lapping members or flaps.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the front, and B the rear or back of the upper or body portion of the garment; and C and D designate the front and rear, respectively, of the leg portions. The front A has a straight opening extending from the neck E to a point somewhat above the apex of the crotch, the edges adjacent to such opening being suitably finished with edging or binding and adapted to be separably united by buttoning over each other as shown at F; said edges being permanently united above the front edge of the crotch as by the transverse stitching indicated at G.

The garment herein shown is knit or woven in tubular form from top to bottom, the legs being formed by splitting the tube centrally from the lower end to the crotch and then joining the inner edges of the front and rear leg portions by inner leg seams H which extend upwardly to points several inches below the apex of the crotch. The vertical split in the rear portion of the garment is extended up to a point above the seat and preferably at or somewhat above the waist-line, such as the point indicated at I in Fig. 2; and to the edges formed by such vertical split I secure, as by sewing, the outer margins of a pair of inserts K and L,

respectively, the forms of which are shown in the detail views Figs. 6 and 7.

The outer and larger insert K is of a generally triangular form, as shown in Fig. 6; and it is secured at its short upper edge $a-b$ to the rear body portion of the garment along a substantially horizontal seam M; at its outer lateral edge $b-c$ to the rear body and leg portion of the garment along a seam N; at its lower base edge $c-d$ to the front portion of the garment slightly above and along both sides of the crotch by a seam O; its other lateral edge $d-a$ being left free and openable, and provided with a button-hole P at a suitable point therein.

The inner insert L, which is preferably, and in the form herein shown, a relatively long narrow strip of substantially uniform width except as to its lower edge portion, is secured at its upper edge $e-f$ to the rear body portion of the garment along an extension g of the seam M lying on the opposite side of the point I; at its outer lateral edge $f-g$ to the opposite rear body and leg portion of the garment along a seam R; at its short oblique inner and lower edge $g-h$ to the front portion of the garment coincident with one of the lower end portions of the seam O; its inner lateral edge $h-e$ being left free and openable from a point O' in the seam O to the lower end of the seam Q.

The rear body portion of the garment is provided with a button S located at a suitable point to engage the button-hole P when the outer insert or flap member is closed, as shown in Fig. 2.

From the foregoing it will be noted that the described garment possesses an up-and-down posterior opening that extends into one leg only and is formed between lapping parts which are permanently attached to the garment, and in the construction shown, to each other, at their upper and lower ends. By extending the lower portion of the outer insert member K through the crotch region and securing its lower edge permanently to the inner front portions of the legs on both sides of the crotch, I provide a permanently closed crotch, since the legs are permanently joined together along the base edge

of the insert K by the seam O above and on opposite sides of the front of the crotch region, the seam O connecting with and forming a continuation of the inner leg seams H. By attaching the lower edge of the free margin of the inner insert L to a point in the inseam of one leg substantially below the center or apex of the crotch, and by making the line of attachment of the lower end of the inner insert L coincident substantially with the inseam of the leg, or the extension O thereof, I provide a sufficient extent of overlap of the parts K and L to prevent gaping of the opening when the garment is in use. At the same time, the described construction entirely avoids any twisting or contracting tendency upon the thigh portion of the garment at the lower end of the opening when the latter is used, such as results from transversely seaming the lower end of the outer lapping member across the rear portion of the leg; affords a larger and freer opening for a given length of opening, and produces much less twisting and wadding of the material at the lower end of the opening when the latter is used.

It will also be observed that the length of the free margin of the inner lapping member between its upper and lower points of attachment is substantially greater than the distance measured in a direct line over the surface contour of the garment from its said upper point of attachment to the crotch center, as more clearly shown in Fig. 4.

I claim—

An undergarment of the class described having an up-and-down posterior opening formed between inner and outer lapping parts; the free margins of said lapping parts extending to one leg only substantially below the apex of the crotch and from permanently attached points in the back above the seat to permanently attached points at substantially the inseam of said leg.

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Witnesses:

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