

*S. S. Richardson*

*Tailoring*

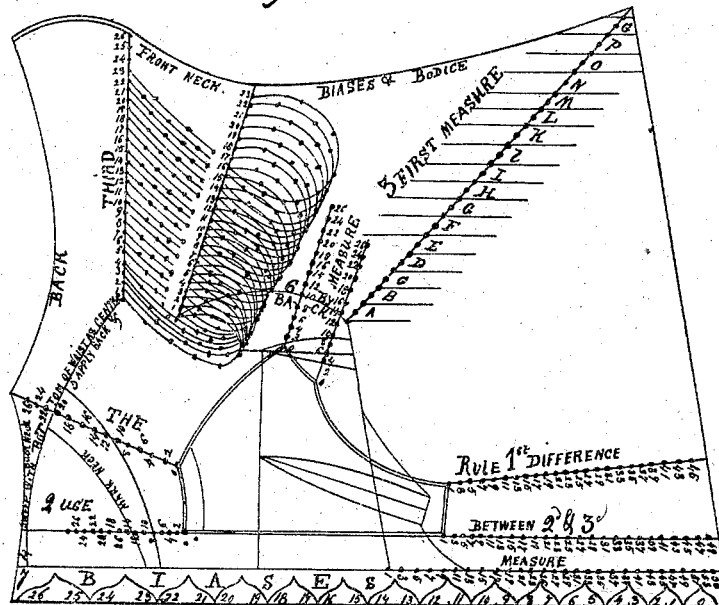
*N<sup>o</sup> 3522.*

*Patented Apr. 4. 1844.*

*Fig 2*

*Fig 1*

First the waist - Unfold under the arms  
Second over the shoulder.



*Witnesses.*

*L. J. Richardson*

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*Saml. S. Richardson*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAML. S. RICHARDSON, OF BALDWIN, MAINE.

## FITTING LADIES' DRESSES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 3,522, dated April 4, 1844.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL S. RICHARDSON, of the town of Baldwin, county of Cumberland, State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Apparatus for Fitting Ladies' Dresses, which I call the "Tri-measure-Rule," and that the following is a full and accurate description of the same.

The apparatus consists of a measure and corresponding diagram. The measure is made of oiled linen tape (or other fabric) forty five inches in length and from half an inch to an inch in width; and is adapted to three separate admeasurements. The first division of it commences at thirteen and a half inches from the end, is graduated into inches, marked with the letters of the alphabet in order and used to measure the girth of the smaller part of the waist. The second division, commencing fourteen and half inches from the end, is graduated into thirds of an inch, marked with the natural numbers in order from one to eighty-one, inclusive, and adapted to measuring from the bottom of the waist in the middle of the back over the outer tip of the shoulder down to the bottom of a belt-waist in the middle in front. The third division, commencing at twenty-one inches from the end, is graduated into inches and marked with the natural numbers in order from zero to twenty-four; being suited to measuring the distance around the breast close under the arms, so as to secure the largest possible girth without varying the measure from a horizontal position. The difference between the second and third of these divisions, when applied, gives an important element in the proportion of the dress, which is not attainable by direct measurement. This is a very essential property of the measure, or (as I call it) of the triple measure.

To use this triple measure, apply the divisions in the order of the figured directions upon one end of the same. For example, when the first division is applied to the waist, suppose the girth extends to the letter M. On applying the second division over the shoulder as directed above, suppose the number indicated is 48, and on applying the third division about the breast, suppose it gives the No. 12. Instead of using the second measure directly, use is made of the difference between the second and third, which in this example is 36.

The diagram, which is upon a card of

paste-board about 21 inches by 17, is designed to aid in cutting patterns from paper. It presents first, in a broad line, the form of one half of a back of the smallest size. In the boundary of this back are six angles or corners from each of which lines are extended in such direction as to preserve the proportion of all larger sizes, necessary to be used, having their corners regularly arranged in these lines. These points or corners, being sufficient to fix the size and proportion of a back for any particular measure, are all numbered and punctured through the card for transferring with a pencil to the paper beneath. Rules on the face of the diagram direct from which division of the triple measure each point is to be determined. Rule first applies to two lines pertaining to the back, as well as one pertaining to the front. It reads "difference between 2 and 3 measure." Thus the diagram being placed upon paper with the longest straight edge toward the operator and coinciding with a straight edge of the paper, mark, in the two lines under rule first pertaining to the back, the points numbered with the difference of the second and third measure, which, in the example introduced in the description of the measure above, is 36. If a tight fit is desired mark in each line otherwise 37. Rule second applies to the other four angles of the back. It reads "use the third measure." Thus the number obtained by taking the third measurement, shows the point on the diagram in the line marked "Use, to be taken in marking for the back." Also the same number in the line marked "the" and in the two lines near the center of the card between which is the word "Measure." The word "Third" in this rule being placed at one end of the curves representing arm sizes, or those parts of arm holes belonging to fronts. The six corners of the back are now secured and the straight edge is right. Place the edge of the card marked "Back neck", to the two points of the back next the neck, and mark the curve by it. In the same manner, by the curved edge marked "Back", strike that part next the arm, and that from the arm to the bottom of the waist. The bottom of the waist is cut straight between the two points fixing the length; and the sweep on the upper part of the shoulder is rounded to match with the corresponding part of the front after that is cut. The

miniature front is traced with a narrow line. One edge is straight, and lies an inch outside of the straight edge of the back. It is produced parallel to that of the back and numbered with the odd numbers from one to fifty-five. Points are taken in this line according to rule first on the card; and any point gives the length of a waist without a bodice, or that part which projects downward in front.

Under the second rule the word "Third" directs to the arm sizes, which are to be marked at each end of the curve in points numbered with the figures obtained at the third measurement; also mark each puncture through which this curve passes. At rule third marked "First measure", transfer the point at the letter obtained at the first measurement.

Rule fourth is "Sweep with bottom of waist as center,"—that is, place the pencil in the puncture before marked at the left of the arm size and with a finger on the point at the bottom of the waist swing the upper part of the card to the left, striking a sweep to the edge of the pattern.

Fifth is "Apply back and mark neck"—that is, place the back already cut upon the sweep of the front last struck, and mark by it the width of the top of the shoulder, which gives the point to which the neck should be marked.

Sixth, "By back"—that is, the curve, on the back already cut, from the arm to the bottom of the waist, is applied to that part of the front on which the rule is written and a curve given to match it.

Seventh, "Biases"—these are slips or gores, allowed to be cut out or taken in, in consequence of the difference, in size, of the breast and lower part of the waist. Two of these biases are represented in the front on the diagram, by lines converging to a point about as high as the arm-hole. In these biases is a center-mark. In striking, this center mark should first be struck by the eye, and, as the width is all that is essential, on the hither margin of the diagram is a series of these spanned by braces. Each one is numbered with two numbers and answers for two sizes. This numbering corresponds to the third measurement. The proper curve for striking the biases and also the bodice is marked on the opposite margin by the words "Biases and Bodice."

What I claim is,

The mode herein described of fitting ladies' dresses by the combined use of the triple measure and diagram, both graduated in the manner described.

SAML. S. RICHARDSON.

Witnesses:

S. W. SWEASEY,  
THOS. S. THOMPSON.