

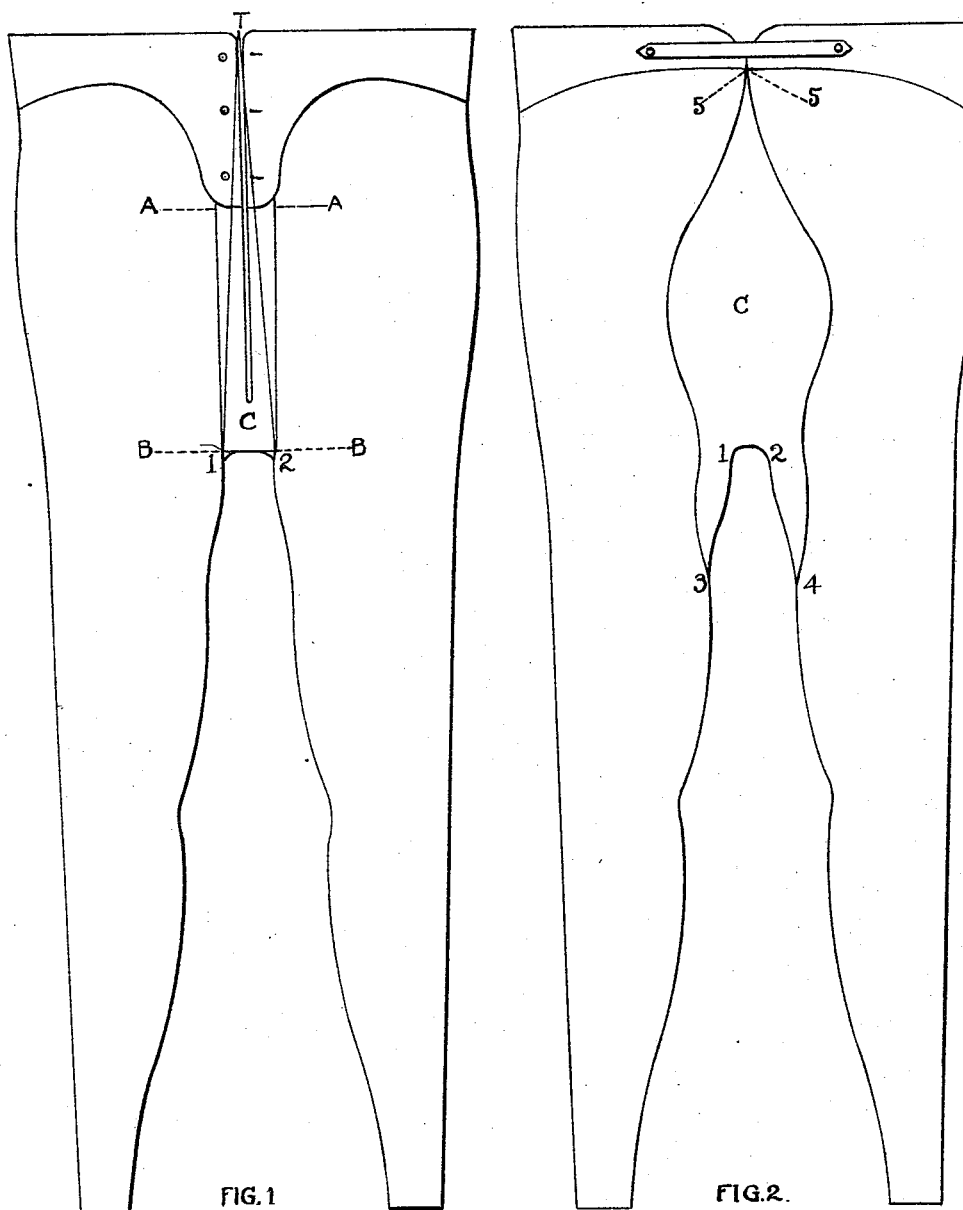
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

R. E. HILL.  
DRAWERS.

No. 454,736.

Patented June 23, 1891.



Witnesses  
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*Lester C. Kewell*

Inventor  
*Romulus E. Hill*

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FIG. 3.

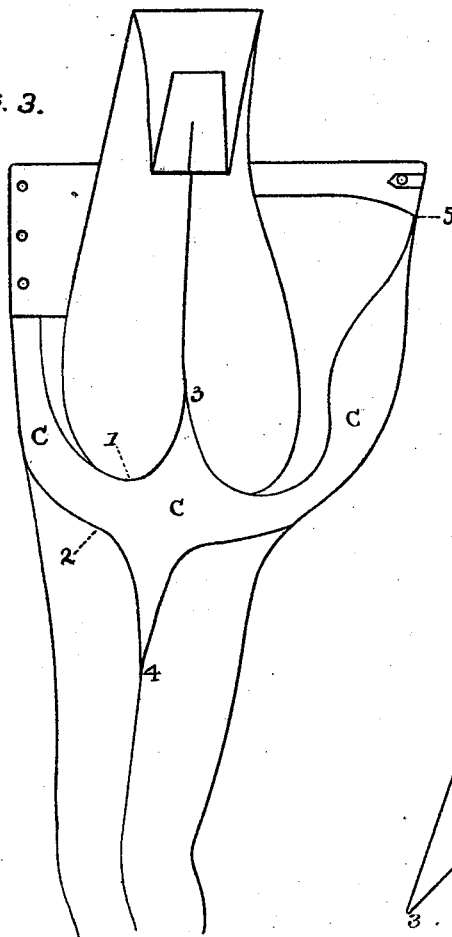


FIG. 5.

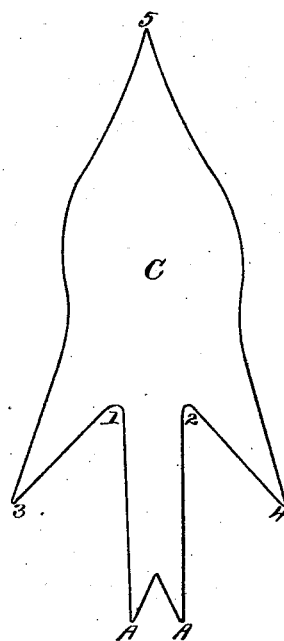
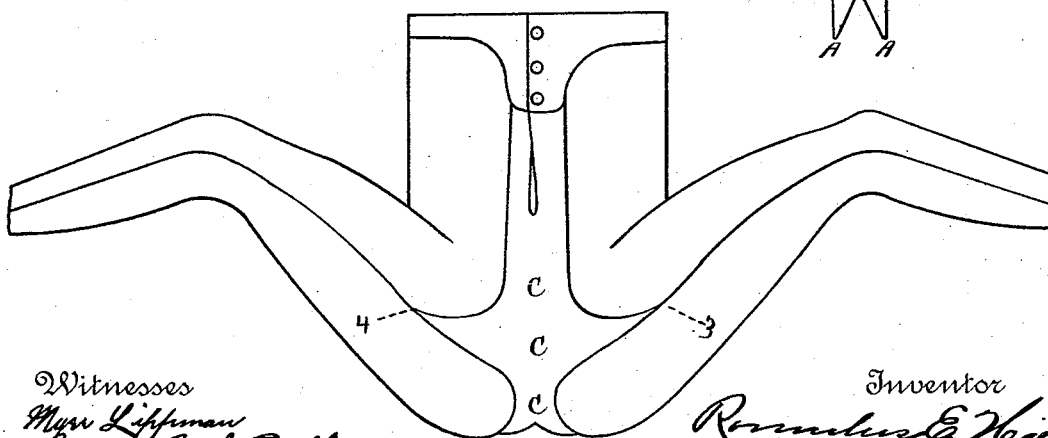


FIG. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROMULUS E. HILL, OF EVANSTON, ILLINOIS.

## DRAWERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 454,736, dated June 23, 1891.

Application filed December 2, 1889. Serial No. 332,360. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROMULUS E. HILL, of Evanston, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Drawers, &c., of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to the manufacture of drawers, trousers, tights, overalls, &c.; and it consists in the peculiar construction of the same at the crotch, whereby the latter is rendered elastic and adjustable to the various strains which may come upon it, thereby avoiding the tearing and damaging of the unyielding seams and contributing to the comfort and convenience of the wearer, and whereby, also, a greater economy is obtained in the cutting and fitting of the garments, and variations in the size of the waist is obtained without materially altering the pattern of the leg-sections.

Figure 1 is a front view of a pair of drawers with my invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is an inside view with one of the legs of the drawers elevated. Fig. 4 is an inside central view with the legs spread apart, and Fig. 5 is an outline view of the blank or inserted crotch-piece spread out in a straight plane.

C, Fig. 5, is the piece to be inserted in the crotch. The general shape of this piece is that of a barbed arrow-head, whose point fits between the leg-sections at the waistband in the rear, whose barbs 3 4 form gussets that extend down the leg-seams on the inside, and whose ends A A extend up in front on each side of the slit or placket-opening. The edges A' A<sup>2</sup>, Fig. 5, are attached to the front of the garment upon opposite sides of the slit by means of seams along the lines A B. The width of the fabric from 1 to 2 is about two inches, and being made of elastic material—such as knit fabric—is capable of stretching five to seven inches without perceptible tension or discomfort to the wearer. This is especially adapted to the requirements of the masculine anatomy and gives ample fullness to any one using it, and will adjust itself alike on either side to the extent required.

Referring to Fig. 2, the broadest part of the inserted piece may be seen as coming where the greatest fullness is required, while the points 1 3 and 2 4 extend down the inseam of

the legs, as better shown in Figs. 3 and 4, to form gussets. The effect of these gussets is to produce more fullness in the crotch, and also to relieve the seam in the legs at these points of their unyielding character and render all parts flexible and elastic.

In applying the piece C it is not intended to be put on over the other material of the garment, but it is inserted in the same plane as the rest of the goods, and separating the leg-sections a distance equal to its width. The material of which it is made is preferably a loosely-knitted elastic stock; but it may, as well as the body of the garment, be made of any desirable material.

It is well known that when an edge of fabric is lapped over another and stitched at the seam thus formed, which, when located at the crotch, results in uncomfortable binding and chafing and destructive tearings under strain. My inserted section, it will be seen, extends from the waistband in the rear down under the crotch to the waistband in front, entirely separating the two leg-sections from each other, and also extends down between the inseams of the leg, thus giving fullness to the crotch in both front and rear and also down the legs, and relieving all discomfort and destructive strains.

In defining my invention with greater clearness I would state that I am aware that it is not new to apply elastic and also re-enforcing gores to the crotch of bifurcated garments, and I make no claim to this broad idea.

I am also aware that it is not new to apply a seam strengthener or stay to pantaloons which is in the nature of an applied piece lapping over on top of the seam and extending from the waistband in the rear to the button-fly in front. My invention is not a seam strengthener, stay, or re-enforce which adds to the strength and unyielding qualities of the seam; but it does away with the usual crotch-seam, and is an inserted piece which extends from the waistband in the rear around under the crotch to the waistband in front, extending on both sides of the slit of the placket-opening, and entirely separating the material of the two leg-sections. The advantage of this is not only to give perfect elasticity and fullness, as before described; but by

varying the size of the inserted piece the waist measure may be increased or diminished without altering the leg-pattern or changing its form, which would involve a  
5 more wasteful cut of the material. The crotch-piece in my invention is formed of the material cut out between the crotch and the ankles, and by utilizing this piece the greatest economy is had. Furthermore, in fitting  
10 the crotch-piece in all garments, except tights, the V-shaped notch between the tongues A A forms the terminus of the bottom of the slit of the placket-opening, while the tongues A A extend up on opposite sides of the said placket-opening. From this it will be seen that  
15 the seam at the bottom of the placket-opening and the inside seams A B of the leg-section are not coincident, but disconnected, thus furnishing an elasticity and degree of movement between the two which avoids drawing  
20 strains in front, and further adds to the comfort and elasticity of the garment.

In making use of my invention I do not confine myself to the gussets extending down  
25 the inseams of the legs, as in some cases I may dispense with the same.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The combination, with the leg-sections  
30 in a bifurcated garment extending upwardly

at the sides to the waistband, of an inserted crotch-piece lying between the leg-sections and extending from a point in the rear up to and forming the bottom of the placket-opening in front, with the seams which unite said  
35 crotch-piece to the leg-sections arranged exclusively inside the legs, but out of alignment with the middle line of the placket-opening and an equal distance from said middle line on each side, whereby the bottom of  
40 the placket-opening is left elastic at the space between the seams of the crotch-piece, and a uniform pattern for the leg-sections is preserved for different sizes of garments, substantially as shown and described.

2. The combination, with the leg-sections in a bifurcated garment, of an inserted crotch-piece separating the leg-sections in front and having the two tongues A A extending up on  
50 opposite sides of the placket-opening, and having the bottom of said placket-opening terminating at a point between the tongues and out of connection or coincidence with the side seams of the inserted crotch-piece, substantially as shown and described.

ROMULUS E. HILL.

Witnesses:

LESTER C. NEWELL,  
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