

T. R. GAINES.  
 ADJUSTABLE BAND FOR GARMENTS AND THE LIKE.  
 APPLICATION FILED MAY 29, 1914.

1.174.976.

Patented Mar. 14, 1916.

FIG. 1.

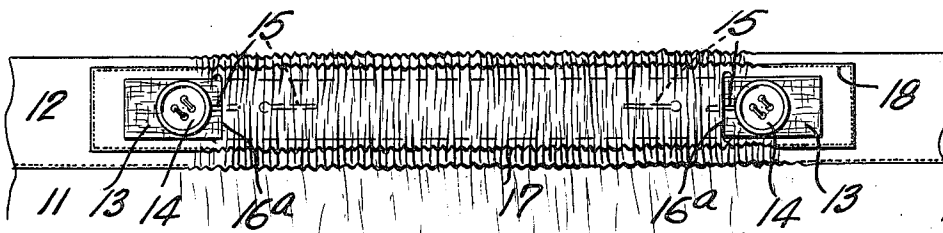


FIG. 2.

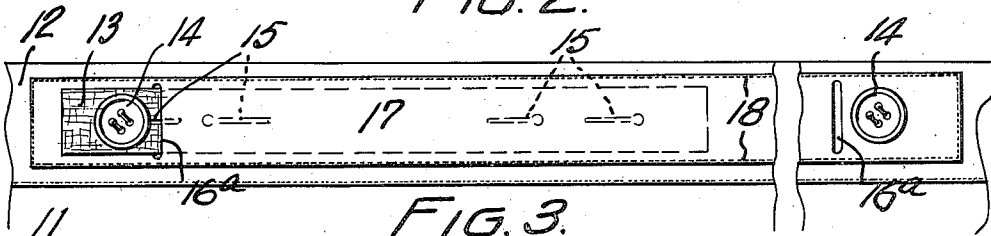
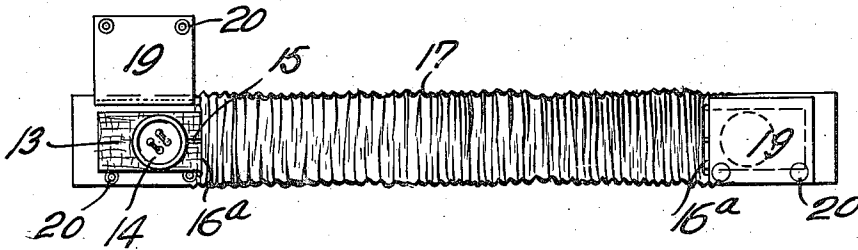


FIG. 3.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## ADJUSTABLE BAND FOR GARMENTS AND THE LIKE.

1,174,976.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 14, 1916.

Application filed May 29, 1914. Serial No. 841,954.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS R. GAINES, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the city of Montreal, in the Province of Quebec and Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Bands for Garments and the like, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to improvements in adjustable bands for garments, and the object is to provide a device which may be applied either to an existing garment or to a new garment in course of construction, and which will take up the slack material at the waist band or the like.

A further object is to provide an attachment for waist bands which may be removed when the garment is washed.

A still further object is to provide an attachment which may be adjusted to the wearer's measure or to compensate for permanent elongation as occurs in elastic materials.

The use of a draw string run through a tubular hem at the waist band of a garment to gather the garment in exactly to the wearer's measure has been used for many years and of late years improvement has been made by substituting an elastic band fixed at its ends at suitable points on the waist band, so that the contraction of the elastic draws the garment closely to the wearer's body. The disadvantage of this is that the elastic band cannot be taken out without considerable trouble when the garment is washed, and moreover, the elastic band is subject to decomposition by the action of air, perspiration, etc. and consequent permanent elongation, so that the accuracy of fit is soon lost.

The present invention aims to provide a band of elastic which may be adjusted as to length between its points of attachment and the garment waist band, and which may be readily removed for renewal or during washing of the garment. This attachment may be incorporated in the garment during manufacture, or may be sewed separately, so that it can be applied to an existing garment without much alteration to the garment.

In the drawings which illustrate the invention:—Figure 1 shows the device as applied to an existing garment. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, showing the device

unfastened at one end. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the attachment, as designed for application to existing garments.

Referring more particularly to the drawings, 11 designates a garment having a waist band 12. The automatic adjusting means consists of a strip 13 preferably of elastic material attached toward its ends to the waist band by means of buttons 14 secured to the waist band, and button-holes 15 formed in the strip. There are a plurality of buttonholes toward each end of the strip, so that the distance between the buttons 14 on the waist band may be regulated by inserting the buttons through one or other of the holes 15.

When the device is used in connection with an existing garment, the strip 13 is contained within a tubular sheath 17 having slots 16 adjacent the ends thereof and buttons secured to the sheath adjacent the slots. This sheath is made suitably longer than the strip 13 and is attached throughout its entire periphery when extended to the extended waist band 12 of the garment, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, by a line of stitching 18. If the ends of the strip 13 are now secured to the buttons, the portion of the sheath and attached skirt band between the buttons will be gathered, as shown in Fig. 1. This form of the device is clearly shown in Fig. 3, as it will appear for sale ready for attachment to existing garments. In some cases, it may be desirable to cover or conceal the fastening devices 14, and for this purpose flaps 19 may be secured to the body portion in position to fold over the fastening devices, and be secured in folded position by suitable fastening devices 20, as clearly shown in Fig. 3.

A slight modification of the device is shown in Fig. 5 in which the band 13 instead of passing through a tubular portion passes through a plurality of eyelets or slits 21 formed in the garment, as clearly shown.

While the invention has been described only as applied to the waist bands of garments, for the reason that this will be by far its largest use, it is obvious that it may be applied to other parts.

The advantages of this device over existing structures are very great. The band 13 may be adjusted in length to suit the user, and if this band is of elastic material and permanent elongation occurs, compensating adjustment may be made in an instant of

time and without the necessity of sewing. The band may be removed to preserve the same and to let out the gathering in the garment during laundrying. The device  
5 may be sold separately and ready for attachment to existing garments with a minimum of trouble. The device is extremely simple, durable and inexpensive.

Having thus described my invention, what  
10 I claim is:—

In combination with a tubular sheath adapted for attachment to a garment, of an

elastic band inserted therein, said tubular sheath having openings adjacent its extremities and said elastic band extended  
15 through said openings and detachably and adjustably fastened beyond said openings to said sheath.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set  
my hand, in the presence of two witnesses. 20  
THOMAS R. GAINES.

Witnesses:

S. R. W. ALLEN,  
G. M. MORELAND.