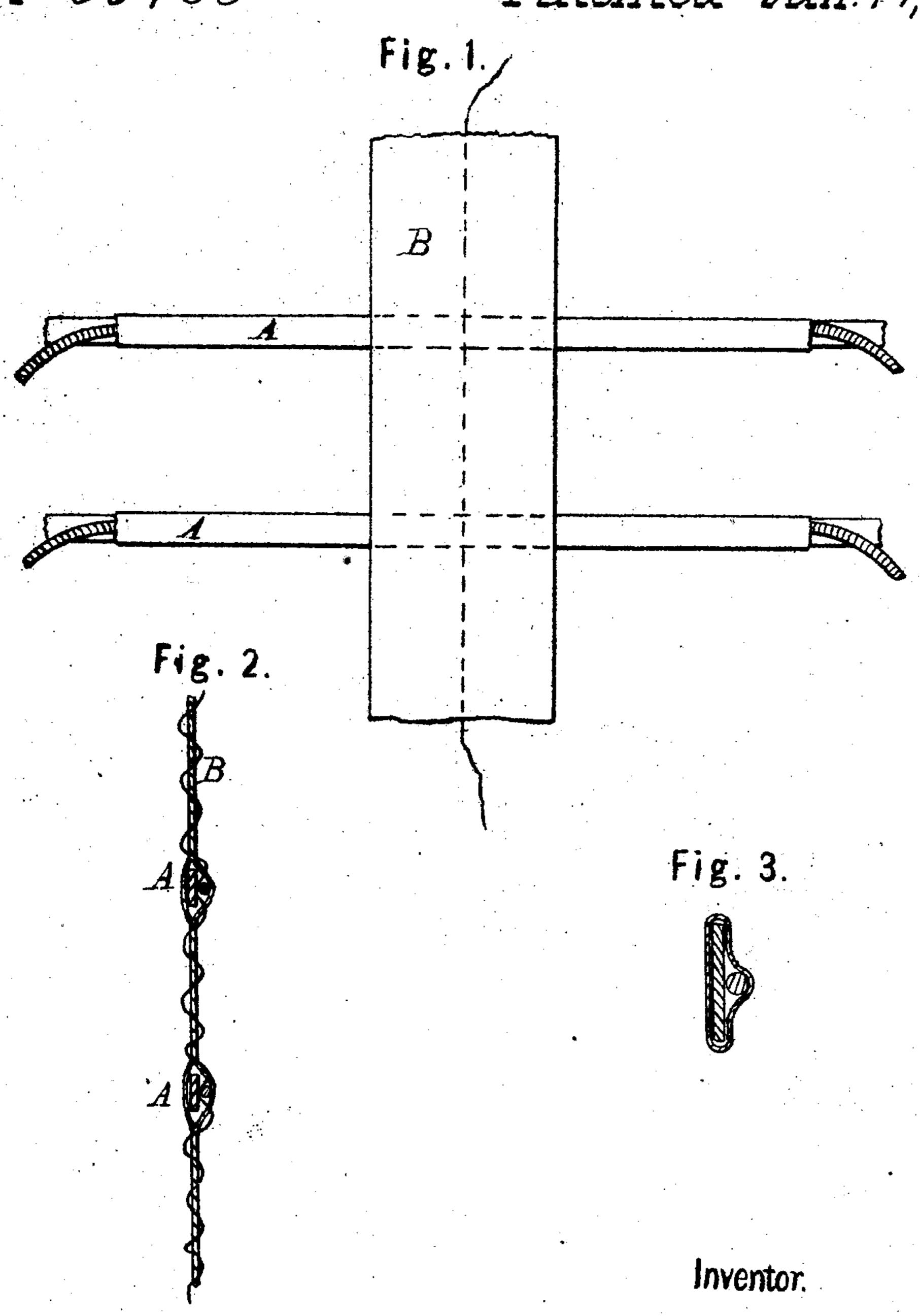
T. S. Gilbert.

Nº55768

Hoop Skirt.
Patented Jun. 19,1866.



Witnesses

## United States Patent Office.

THOMAS S. GILBERT, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIM-SELF AND PERKINS, COOK & CO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HOOP-SKIRTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,768, dated June 19, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, Thomas S. Gilbert, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Hoop-Skirts; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a side view, showing a portion of two hoops and the tape to which they are attached; Fig. 2, a vertical section through the center of the tape, showing the manner of securing the hoop thereto; and in Fig. 3 a cross-section of the wire much enlarged.

In hoop-skirts as generally constructed the hoops are secured to the tapes by means of metal clasps or tacks, adding much to the weight of the skirt, and forming many other objections to that mode of construction.

To overcome these objections is the object of my invention, which consists in placing a cord upon one side of the wire and braiding over the wire and cord, in the usual manner of braiding, so as to inclose both the wire and cord within the same covering, so that when the wire is passed through the tape in the usual manner it may be sewed thereto, so as to secure the hoop to the tape without the necessary use of clasps or tacks.

To enable others skilled in the art to use my improvement, I will proceed to fully de-

scribe the same, as illustrated in the accom-

panying drawings.

As represented in Fig. 3, the wire is denoted in black, the cord in blue, and the covering in red. This is done by placing a cord on one side of the wire and conducting it through the common braiding machine, so that the braider shall inclose both cord and wire at the same operation, operating the same as if the cord were not present. Thus covered, the hoops A A are cut to their proper length, placed in the loops of the tape B, and joined in the usual manner, as seen in Figs. 1 and 2. After this is done and the tape in its proper position, I run a thread (using a common sewing-needle) through the tape, as denoted by a black line, Fig. 2, taking care to pass the thread through the cord or between the cord and hoop, as seen in Fig. 2. This prevents the tape from slipping on the hoop and fully accomplishes the object of my invention in a much more simple manner and at less expense than the same security has heretofore been given.

Having therefore thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

Inclosing a cord upon the wire, substantially in the manner described, so that the hoop and tape may be secured, as and for the purpose specified.

THOMAS S. GILBERT.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. EARLE, JOHN H. SHUMWAY.