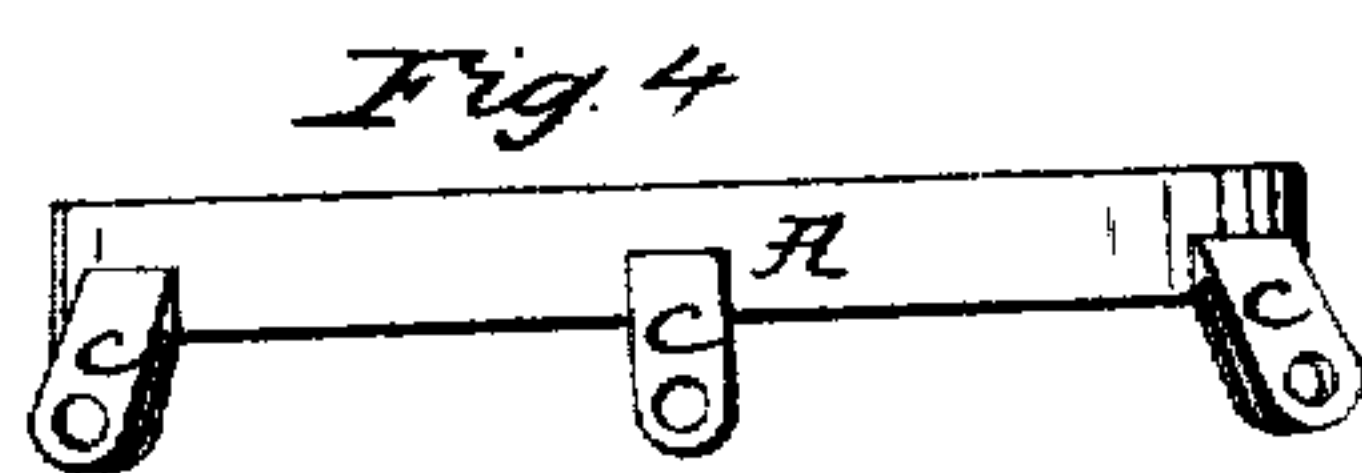
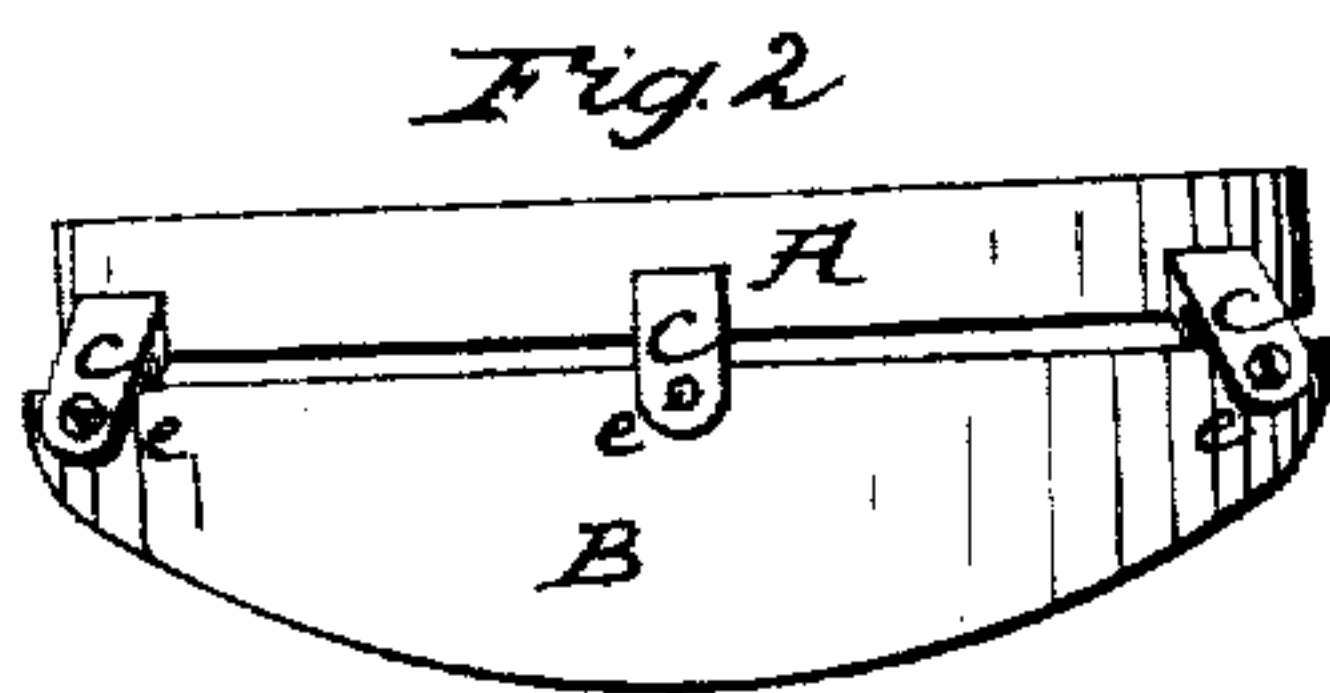
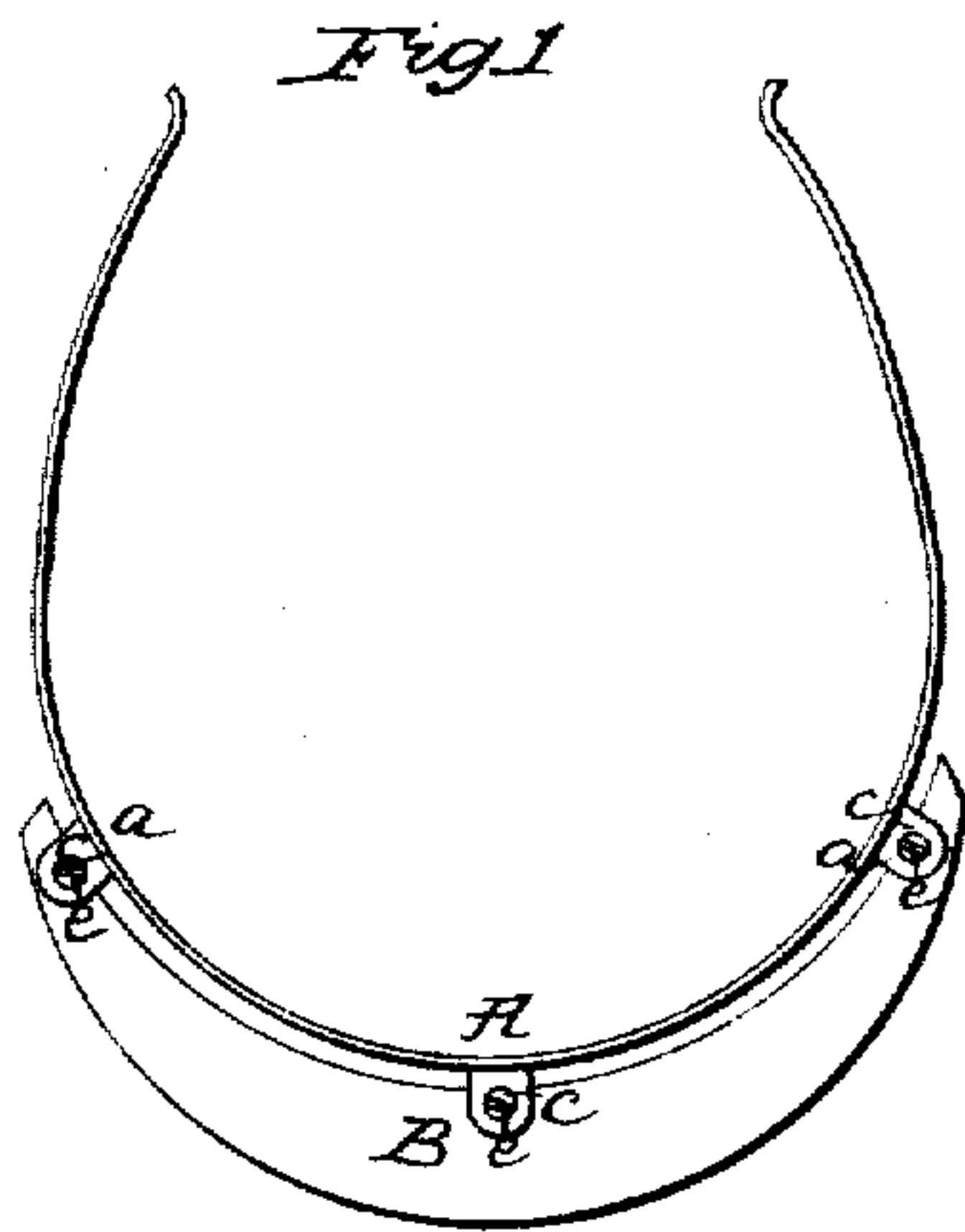


*J. F. Spence,*

*Protecting the Eyes,*

*Patented Oct. 16, 1866.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 58,907,*



*Witnesses:*  
*J. W. Coombes*  
*L. Holmes*

*Fig 3*

*Inventor:*  
*James F. Spence*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. SPENCE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SHADES FOR PROTECTING THE EYES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 58,907, dated October 16, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES F. SPENCE, of the city of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shades for Protecting the Eyes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan or top view. Fig. 2 is a front view. Fig. 3 is a side view. Fig. 4 is a detached front view of a portion of the invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention consists in a novel construction of a shade for protecting the eyes from the injurious effects of a strong light, whereby the said shade may be more easily and conveniently secured upon the forehead than those heretofore made, and by which it is also prevented from heating the forehead when placed thereon.

To enable others to understand the nature and construction of my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings.

A is a clasp or band, which may be made of tin or other sheet metal, or of hard vulcanized rubber. The central or forward portion of this clasp is nearly or quite semicircular in form, as shown at *a a* in Fig. 1, in order to correspond with the shape of the forehead, and the ends of which are curved inward toward each other, as also represented in the said figure, but have their extreme portions *b* curved outward, so as not to irritate or abrade the skin when the clasp is placed upon the head, as will be presently fully explained.

Soldered or otherwise secured upon the outer side of the front or semicircular part of the clasp A is a suitable number of spurs or projections, *c*, by means of which the shade B is attached to the clasp A. These spurs project downward at a suitable angle to the outer side of the said clasp, as clearly shown in the drawings, and may be made double, so as to clasp the edge of the shade B between two surfaces, as indicated in Fig. 2.

The shade B is of the same shape as those commonly worn, and may be made of cloth, leather, pasteboard, or other suitable material, and has its inner or concave edge placed between the two parts of the spurs *c*, and is firmly secured thereto by screws *e*, in such manner that it may be easily removed by unscrewing the said screws in order to be replaced when soiled or torn. The concave inner edge of the shade B is not brought in contact with the clasp A, but is so situated with reference thereto that a space, *d*, is left between the shade and the clasp, through which the air may pass to keep the forehead cool when the shade is placed over the eyes.

When in use, the clasp or band A is placed upon the head, the front or semicircular part extending across the forehead, and the two ends resting against the sides of the head, thus lightly clasp the head between them, but with sufficient force to retain the clasp A in place, the shade B, when the clasp A is thus attached to the forehead, extending downward and forward over the eyes at a suitable angle to the forehead, and thus protecting them from the light in the same manner as an ordinary shade. The use of the clasp A enables the shade to be put on and taken off with the least possible inconvenience, and the space *d* permits the air to rise and pass freely between the shade and the forehead, thus keeping the forehead cool, instead of heating the same by the contact of the shade therewith, as is the case with the shades in common use.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The elastic clasp or band A, in combination with the shade B, substantially as herein set forth, for the purpose specified.

2. The construction of the shade whereby a space is left for the passage of air between the shade and the forehead, substantially as herein set forth, for the purpose specified.

JAMES F. SPENCE.

Witnesses:

A. LE CLERC,  
J. W. COOMBS.