

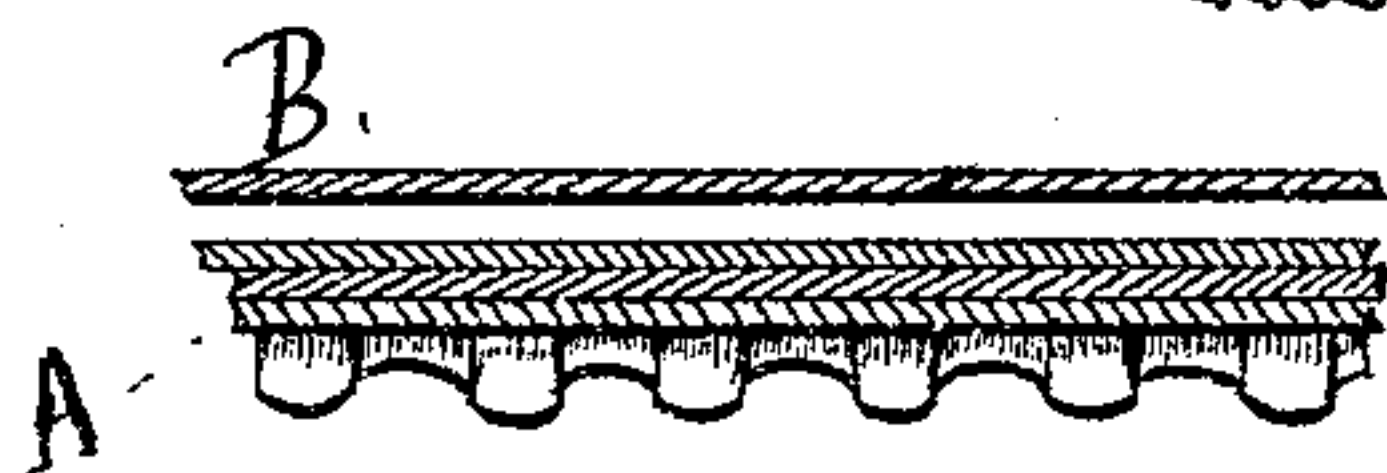
M. H. CHASE.  
Skirt-Protectors.

No. 153,314.

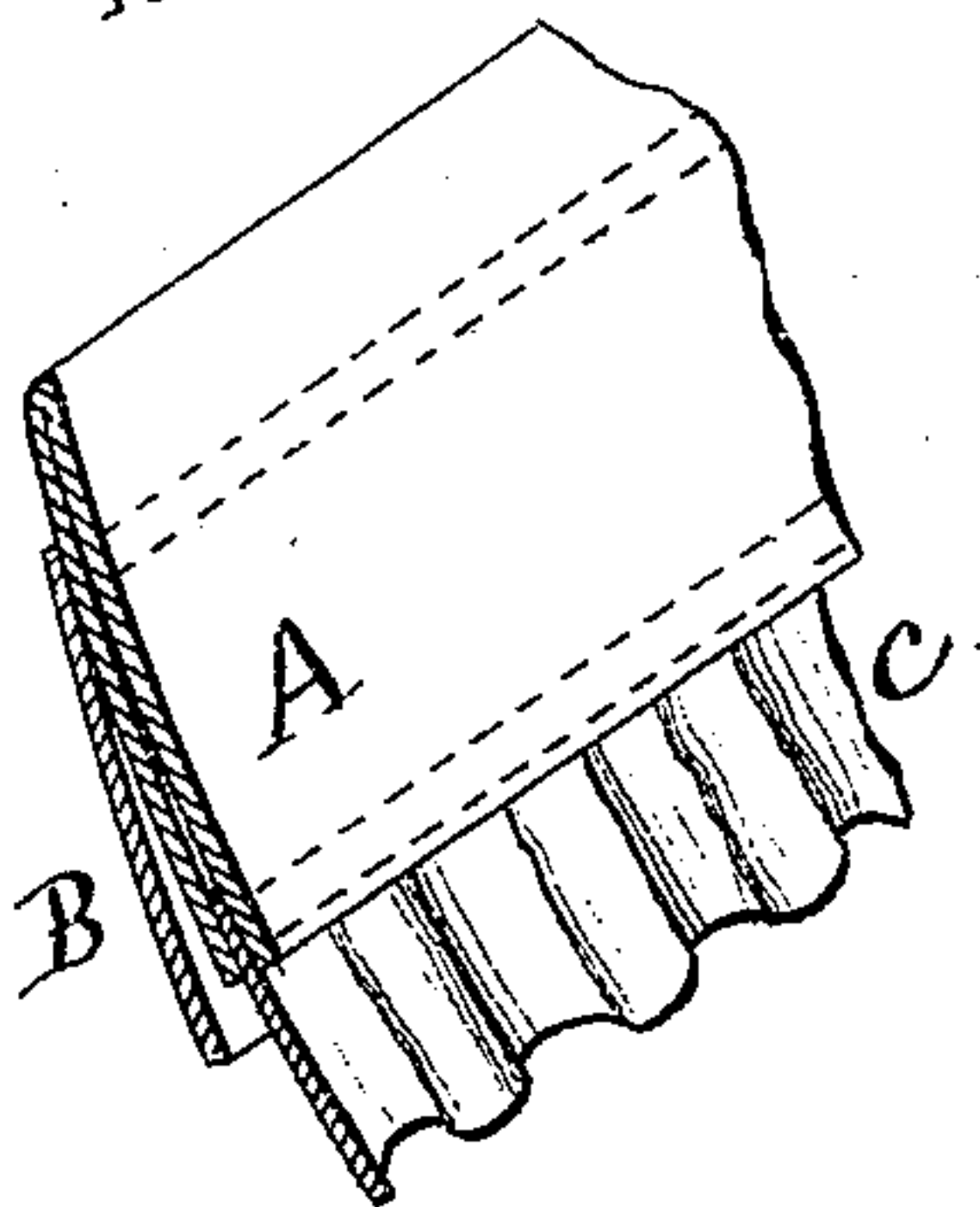
Patented July 21, 1874..



*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*

WITNESSES  
*a. H. Norrie*  
*perushing*

*m. Herbert Chase* INVENTOR  
By *James L. Norrie* Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

M. HERBERT CHASE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SKIRT-PROTECTORS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **153,314**, dated July 21, 1874; application filed July 14, 1874.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, M. HERBERT CHASE, of New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Skirt-Protectors, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to a new and improved protector, to be applied to the bottom of a lady's dress-skirt to insure the fabric against wear, and prevent it from becoming soiled; and its object is to provide a more durable and perfect protector for this purpose than has hitherto been made.

It has been customary to affix protectors of various styles to the facing at the lower edges of dress-skirts, which have usually consisted merely of a strip of plaited or folded wiggan, oiled silk, or other equivalent material, stitched along the upper edge of the facing, and extending to the lower edge of the same. Protectors, as thus constructed, have been found objectionable, owing to the rapidity with which they wear out; but the principal objection has been that the stitches by which such protectors have been attached to the fabric soon become worn, allowing the protector to become detached, which gives the dress an unsightly appearance and necessitates constant attention and renewal. Attempts have been made to render the protector more durable by providing one of the surfaces of the protector with protruding guards of leather or other material, which will drag upon the ground or sidewalk, and save the body of the material from wear; but these have not been found to answer the purpose, for the reason that the stitches by which they are attached are still liable to wear and allow the protector to separate or drop off of the dress-skirt, as above stated. It might be possible to construct the protector of such width that the edge at which it is stitched to the dress would never come in contact with the ground, and the stitches thus be saved from abrasion or wear; but this would necessitate for use such an amount or width of stiff, unyielding material as to interfere with the set of the dress, and render it awkward and ungainly in appearance.

My invention is designed particularly to overcome these defects; and it consists in an

auxiliary strip of protecting material secured above a plain, plaited, or guarded strip, as before described, in such a manner that its lower edge will fall over and protect the threads or stitches by which such plaited, plain, or guarded strip is attached to the dress-skirt, whether it be short or long, as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

In the drawing, Figure 1 represents a view of my skirt-protector as applied to a dress. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the same.

A C represent a strip of wiggan, rubber, leather, hair-cloth, or other suitable material, which may be plaited or plain, attached to the lower edge of the skirt, or to the facing of the same, in the usual manner, so as to project slightly below the edge of the skirt. B represents the auxiliary strip, or strip for protecting the seam or stitches by which the lower piece is attached to the skirt, or to the part A. Said strip may be made of rubber, wiggan, hair-cloth, linen, or other suitable material; but I prefer a water-proof material. Said strip is made about the same width as, or slightly wider than, the lower strip, and is stitched to the skirt in such a position that its lower edge will fall over the upper edge of the lowest strip, and cover and protect the seam by which the same is attached to the skirt, or the part A. The upper edge of the auxiliary strip, at which point it is attached to the dress, will not, under any ordinary circumstances, reach the ground, and the seam or stitches by which it is attached will be subjected to little or no wear. The lower edge of the same, falling over the upper edge of the lower folded strip, will protect the stitches of the same, and render the protector much more durable than any heretofore constructed.

It is evident that my protector will in no way interfere with the set of the dress, as it is made in two or more flounces or parts, the lower edge of the upper part of either part or flounce will in no way interfere with the flexibility of the lower part of the skirt.

The auxiliary strip may be made of rubber, hair-cloth, or other suitable material, and may be folded, if desired, in the same manner as the lower strip, although I prefer to make it of a plain strip or band.

I intend to manufacture the protector in continuous strips or bands, so that the same may be made and sold by the yard, as an article of manufacture.

What I claim is—

1. An auxiliary strip, B, applied as described, for protecting the seam and edges of the upper and lower strips A C of a dress-protector, substantially as herein specified.

2. The combination of the strips A, B, and C in a skirt-protector, arranged substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth and described.

3. A skirt-protector consisting of a strip, A C,

and an auxiliary strip, B, of water-proof or other suitable material, said auxiliary strip being secured at its upper edge to the skirt, and free at its lower edge, said lower edge covering and protecting the seam by which the lower or plaited strip is attached to the skirt, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand.

M. HERBERT CHASE.

Witnesses:

ALBERT H. NORRIS,  
JAMES L. NORRIS.