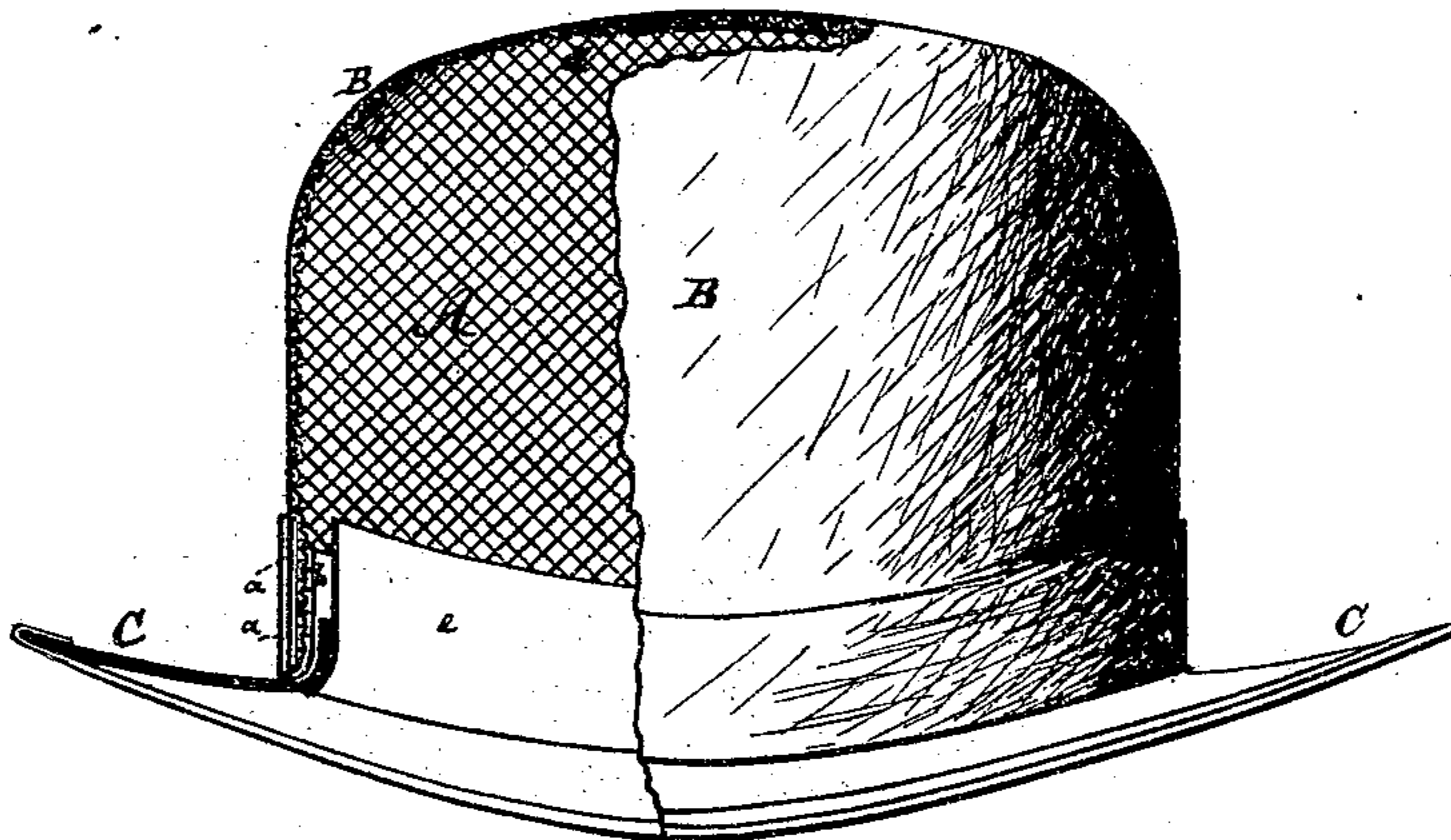


A. FRESHFIELD.

WIRE HAT-BODY.

No. 178,625.

Patented June 13, 1876.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAHAM FRESHFIELD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN WIRE HAT-BODIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **178,625**, dated June 13, 1876; application filed April 18, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABRAHAM FRESHFIELD, of New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Wire Hat-Body, of which the following is a specification:

The drawing represents a central vertical section of a hat constructed according to my invention.

This invention relates to a new hat-body made of tempered wire, so that it will impart strength, elasticity, and durability to the crown of the hat, and nevertheless allow the same to be made light and porous.

The letter A represents a hat-body made of wire-gauze, and struck up or bent into the form and size of the crown of the hat. After having been bent into form, this hat-body is properly tempered, so that it will acquire the proper degree of elasticity, and be enabled to resume its shape after being indented from without. Were it not for the tempering process thicker and heavier wire would have to be used, and the requisite elasticity, nevertheless, not be attained. This wire hat-body is placed within the crown of the hat, its lower part being confined between two binding-strips, *a* and *b*, of suitable fabric, that are glued or stitched together, the glue or thread uniting the two binding-strips through the apertures in the said wire-gauze. The outer covering B of the hat is placed over the wire hat-body, and around the outer binding-strip *a*, as shown, and secured to the latter or to the brim C in suitable manner. The hat-brim C is also connected with one of the two binding-

strips *a* *b*, or the wire hat-body may be extended into it. Within the wire hat-body may be suitable lining; but for most purposes this is unnecessary, such lining, if used, being united to the outer covering B by glue or thread, that passes through the apertures of the wire hat-body. If an inner lining is not used I place a small piece of fabric, *d*, into the upper part of the wire hat-body, and unite it in similar manner to the covering B; or said covering may, by suitable stitching or clasps, be directly connected to the wire hat-body, in which case the piece *d* can also be dispensed with. A sweat-band, *e*, is placed within the hat in the customary manner.

I claim as my invention—

1. In the art of making wire hats, the process described of treating the wire hat-body, by first shaping, next tempering, and finally covering the same, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination of the outer binding-strip *a* with the wire hat-body A, and with the inner binding-strip *b*, the two strips *a* and *b* being united through the apertures of said wire body A, and both inside of the covering B, substantially as herein shown and described.

3. The combination of the covering B with the wire hat-body and inner lining or piece *d*, said covering and inner piece being united through the apertures of the wire, substantially as herein shown and described.

A. FRESHFIELD.

Witnesses:

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