

E. COPLESTON.  
Hat.

No. 200,374.

Patented Feb. 19, 1878.

FIG. 1.

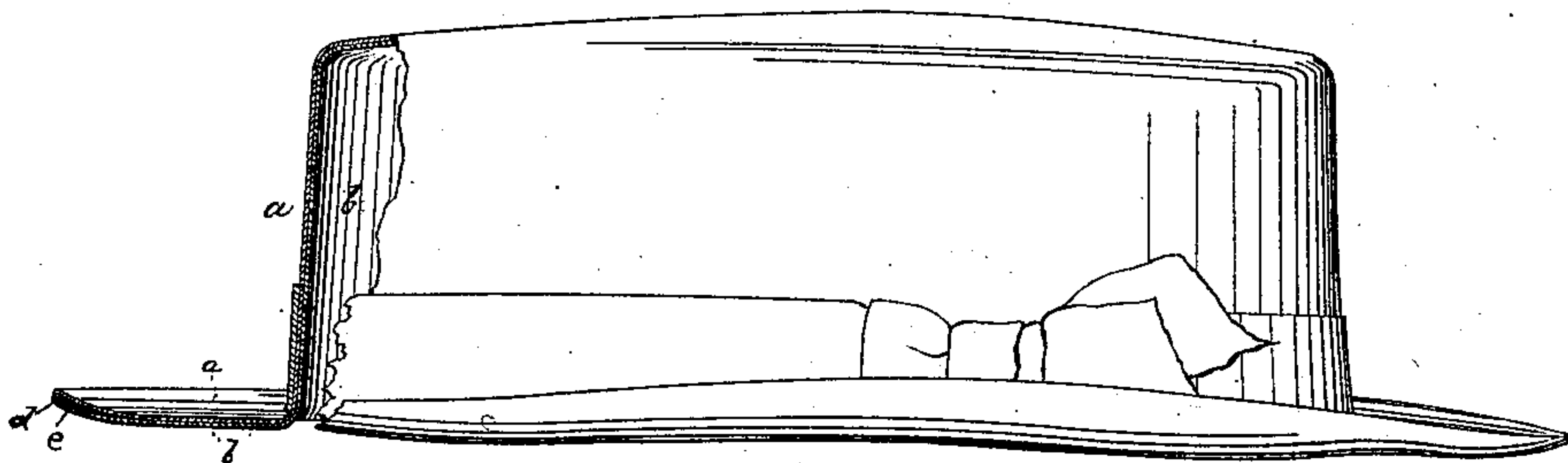


FIG. 2.

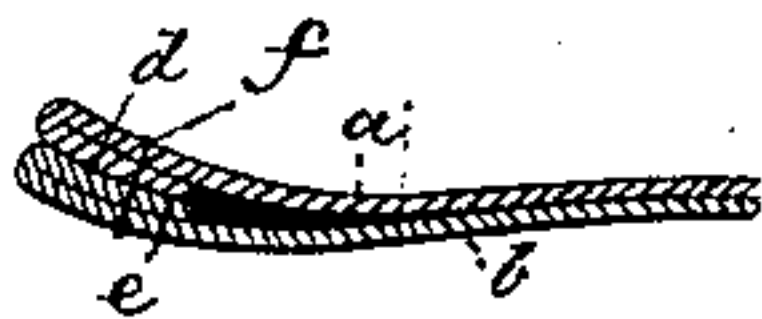
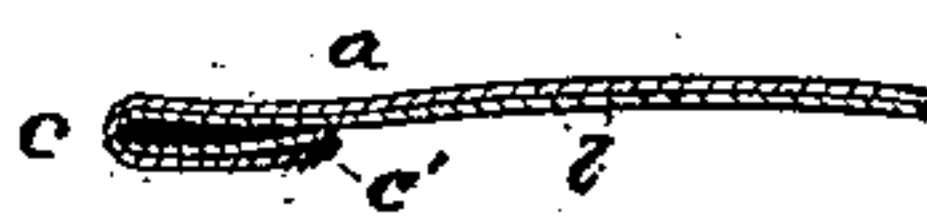


FIG. 3.



WITNESSES:  
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by Crosby Gregory Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN COPLESTON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HATS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,374**, dated February 19, 1878; application filed December 27, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN COPLESTON, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Hats, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to improvements in the manufacture of Manila hats which have their brims and crowns composed of two thicknesses of material; and the invention consists in a hat constructed as hereinafter described, as an improved article of manufacture, it having the straw or equivalent material composing the brim bent, each layer in toward the other, about the outer edge of the brim and stitched together.

Figure 1 represents, in side elevation and partially in section, a hat made in accordance with my invention; Fig. 2, an enlarged section taken through the brim; and Fig. 3 represents the usual method of preparing the edge of the brim in this class of hats.

The hat shown in the drawing is supposed to be of the class known as "Manila," it being a very finely plaited straw.

These hats are commonly made of an outer layer, *a*, and an inner layer, *b*, of material, both at the crown and the brim, and at the outer edge of the brim both layers of the material have commonly been plaited together, after which the outer portion of the brim has been folded over, as shown in Fig. 3, at *c*, the extreme edge *c'* being blind-stitched to the under layer *b*, after which the brim has been pressed into shape.

This method of finishing the edge is objectionable for many reasons; and to make a neater and more substantial edge to such brim I fold the brim edges in opposite directions—viz., the edge of the portion *a* at the brim I fold downward and backward, as shown at *d*, and the portion *b* upward and backward, as shown at *e*, where I unite such edges so prepared and folded by means of stitches *f*.

This improved manner of making the edge of the brim obviates the usual rough projecting surface below the brim, makes a more durable brim, one equally smooth at bottom and top, one which will not get out of shape when wet, and one which obviates binding the brim.

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, a Manila or other plaited hat having its brim and crown formed of two thicknesses of material, the edges of the brim being turned in opposite directions, as shown, and stitched together, leaving the upper and lower edges of the brim smooth and the edge finished, all substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EDWIN COPLESTON.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,  
W. J. PRATT.