

S. FELLNER.
Skirt.

No. 203,607.

Patented May 14, 1878.

Fig. 1.

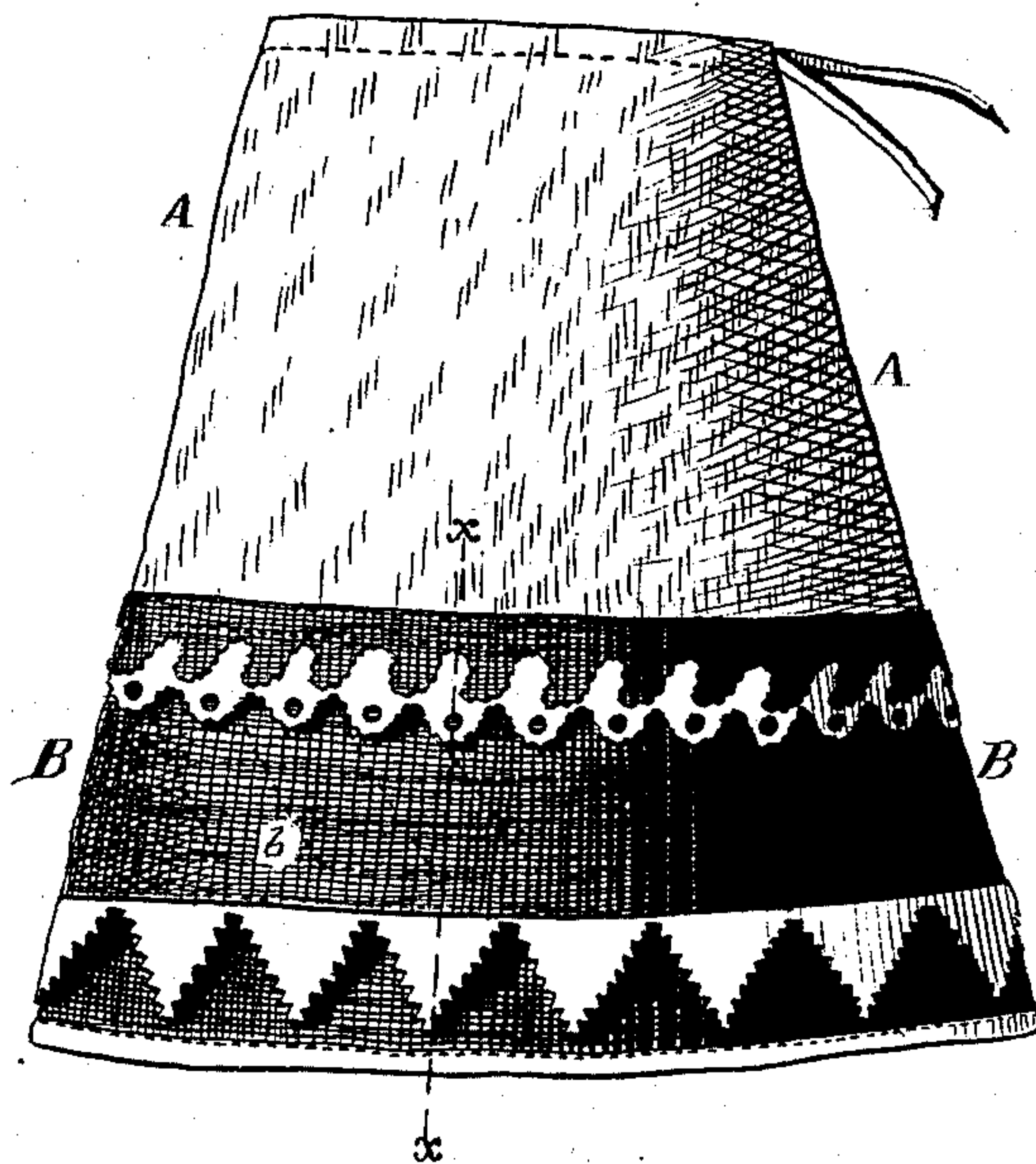
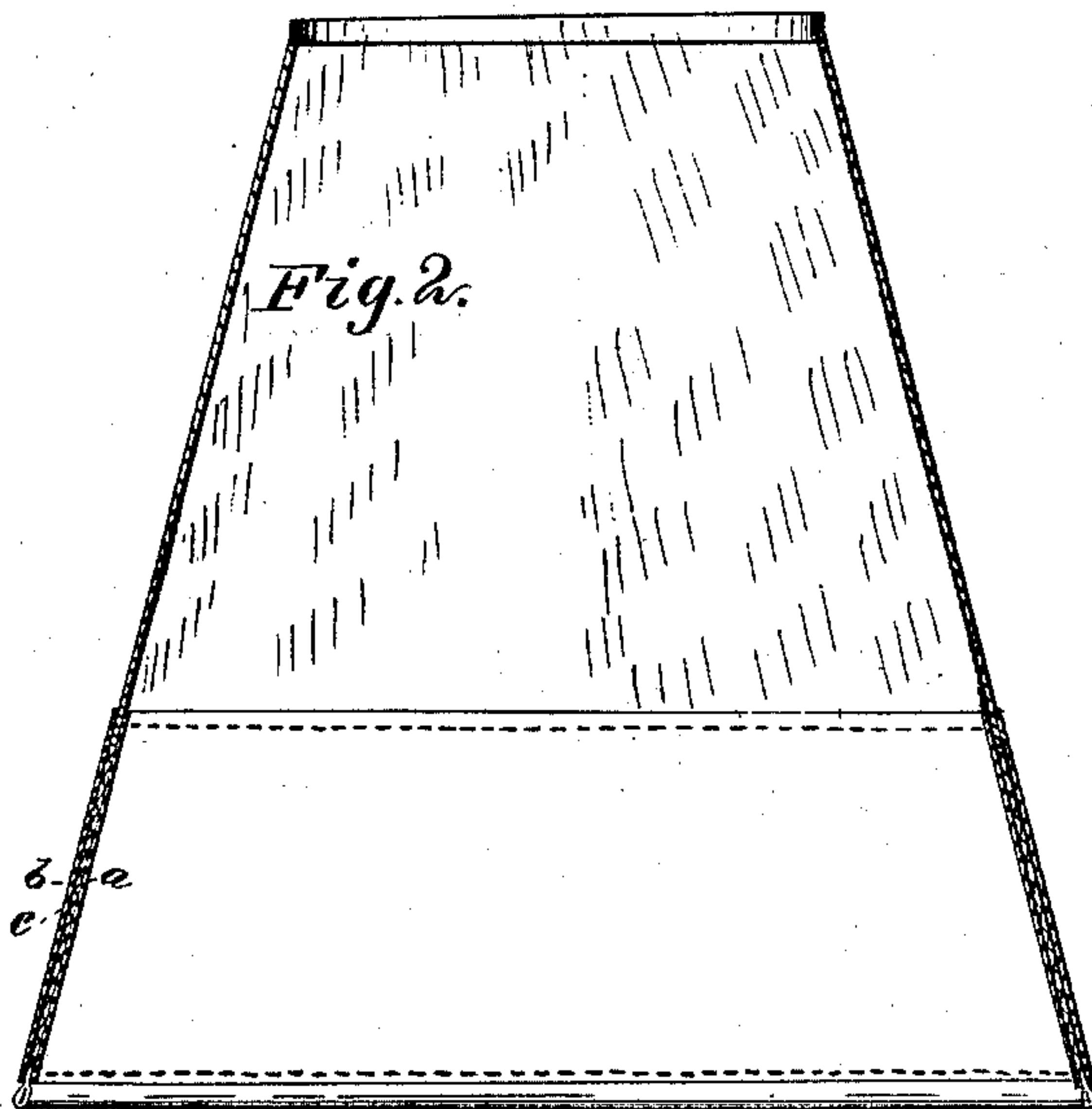


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN SKIRTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,607**, dated May 14, 1878; application filed March 6, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL FELLNER, of Streator, in the county of La Salle and State of Illinois, have invented a new and Improved Underskirt for Ladies' Wear; and that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view, in elevation, of my improved skirt, and Fig. 2 is a similar view in section.

My invention consists in making the upper portion of the skirt, for about two-thirds of its length downward from the waist, of a flannel or other light and soft cotton or woolen goods, and the lower portion of an inside thin strip of rubber, and the outside with a similar strip of rubber cloth, with an interposed sheet of cotton wadding, the lower portion being secured to the upper portion of the skirt by sewing.

The ordinary underskirt, in wet weather, is liable to become soiled around the bottom with mud and dirty water, and it can be cleaned only by being removed from the wearer and washed, which operation is objectionable because of its tendency to shrink and thus reduce the size of the skirt. Besides this, the ordinary skirt, when wet around the bottom, is not only uncomfortable to the wearer, but it is also dangerous to the health of the person, all which objections my invention is designed to overcome, as the lower portion of the skirt is made of a material which is impervious to moisture, and consequently it does not absorb or retain dampness, and when soiled it can be cleaned by a damp cloth or sponge, without necessitating the removal of the skirt from the person.

A represents the upper portion of the skirt, which may be made of flannel or other light soft goods, and B the lower portion, which is composed of three separate thicknesses of different materials. The inside material is thin sheet-rubber *a*, and the outside rubber cloth *b*, with an interposed sheet of cotton wadding, *c*. This latter is stitched or quilted to the rubber cloth, and the whole lower portion united to the upper portion or body of the skirt by being sewed thereto. At the bottom of the lower portion of the skirt a rubber welted cord is sewed between the rubber and rubber cloth to give finish and increase the durability of the skirt. The extra thickness of skirt at bottom causes it to keep its shape, and thus allows a lighter material to be used for the upper portion or body of the skirt.

I am aware that it has heretofore been proposed to make a skirt with a reversible bottom, which was water-proof on one side and figured on the other, to adapt the skirt for use in wet and dry weather. I therefore make no broad claim to a skirt having a water-proof bottom; but,

Having described my invention, what I claim as new is—

As a new article of manufacture, an underskirt consisting of the flannel portion A, combined with a lower portion composed of the rubber-cloth portions *a b* and interposed cotton wadding *c*, the three latter being sewed together and also to the upper or body part of the skirt A, as shown and described.

SAMUEL FELLNER.

Witnesses:

JOHN T. KUENS,
JAMES G. WILSON.