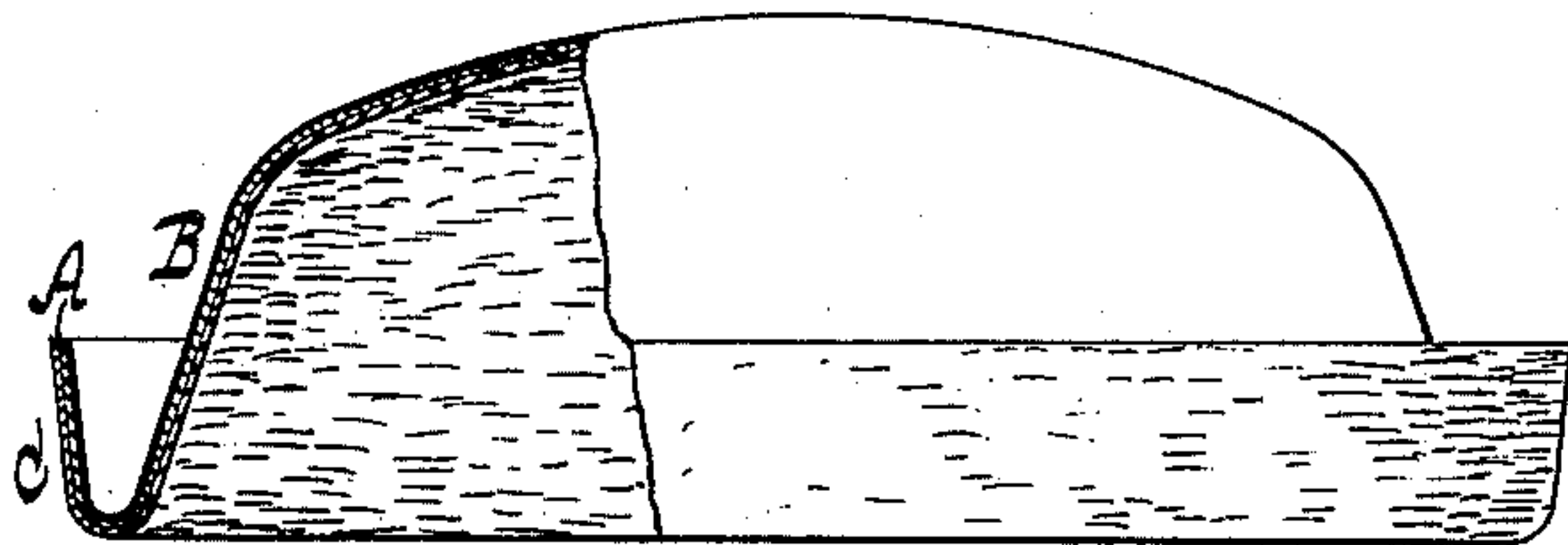


R. GRAY.
Head-Covering.

No. 219,462.

Patented Sept. 9, 1879.



Witnesses
Otto Lufeland
William Miller

Inventor:
Robert Gray
by
Van Santvoord & Hauff

his attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT GRAY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEAD-COVERINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,462**, dated September 9, 1879; application filed July 25, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT GRAY, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Head-Coverings, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which represents a sectional side view of a hat embodying my invention.

This invention relates to the manufacture of hats, bonnets, or other head-coverings with a top layer of flock.

Hats of this description have been made by applying the flock to a buckram support, but have invariably been stiff, owing to the fact that in order to give the article the required body or strength it was necessary to use a heavy or thick piece of buckram. One objection to this hat is the stiffness referred to, it being desirable in some cases to furnish a soft hat, and another the visibility of the buckram tending to defeat the object of the flock layer, which is to produce a felt-like article.

My invention is a head-covering consisting of a support of buckram or the like, a top layer of flock, and a canton-flannel or other similar lining, whereby the article is rendered capable of taking a soft finish, while both surfaces thereof have the appearance or semblance of felt—one of plain felt and the other of napped felt.

In the drawing, the letter A designates the support; B, the flock layer, and C the canton-flannel or other similar lining.

In carrying out my invention I first cement the lining C to a piece of buckram or like fabric by a suitable adhesive substance, with the nap of the lining exposed, and then press the two, together, in any usual or suitable manner, to the desired shape. In lieu of canton-flannel, the fabric known as "glove-lining" may be used. I now apply to the buckram a layer of cotton, wool, or other flock, this process consisting in coating the buckram with an adhesive substance and strewing the flock thereon in finely-powdered form. The article is then in a state for trimming.

The buckram A supports both the flock layer B and the lining C, and, being re-enforced by the lining, a light or thin piece of such material may be used, rendering the article pliable or soft, substantially like soft felt. The appearance of the article, moreover, is felt-like, inasmuch as the lining has the semblance of napped felt, and the flock layer that of plain felt.

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

A head-covering consisting of a support of buckram or the like, a top layer of flock, and a canton-flannel or other similar lining, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 8th day of July, 1879.

ROBERT GRAY.

Witnesses:

W. HAUFF,
CHAS. WAHLERS.