

(No Model.)

H. A. HOUSE

HAT STAY.

No. 330,979.

Patented Nov. 24, 1885.

Fig 1

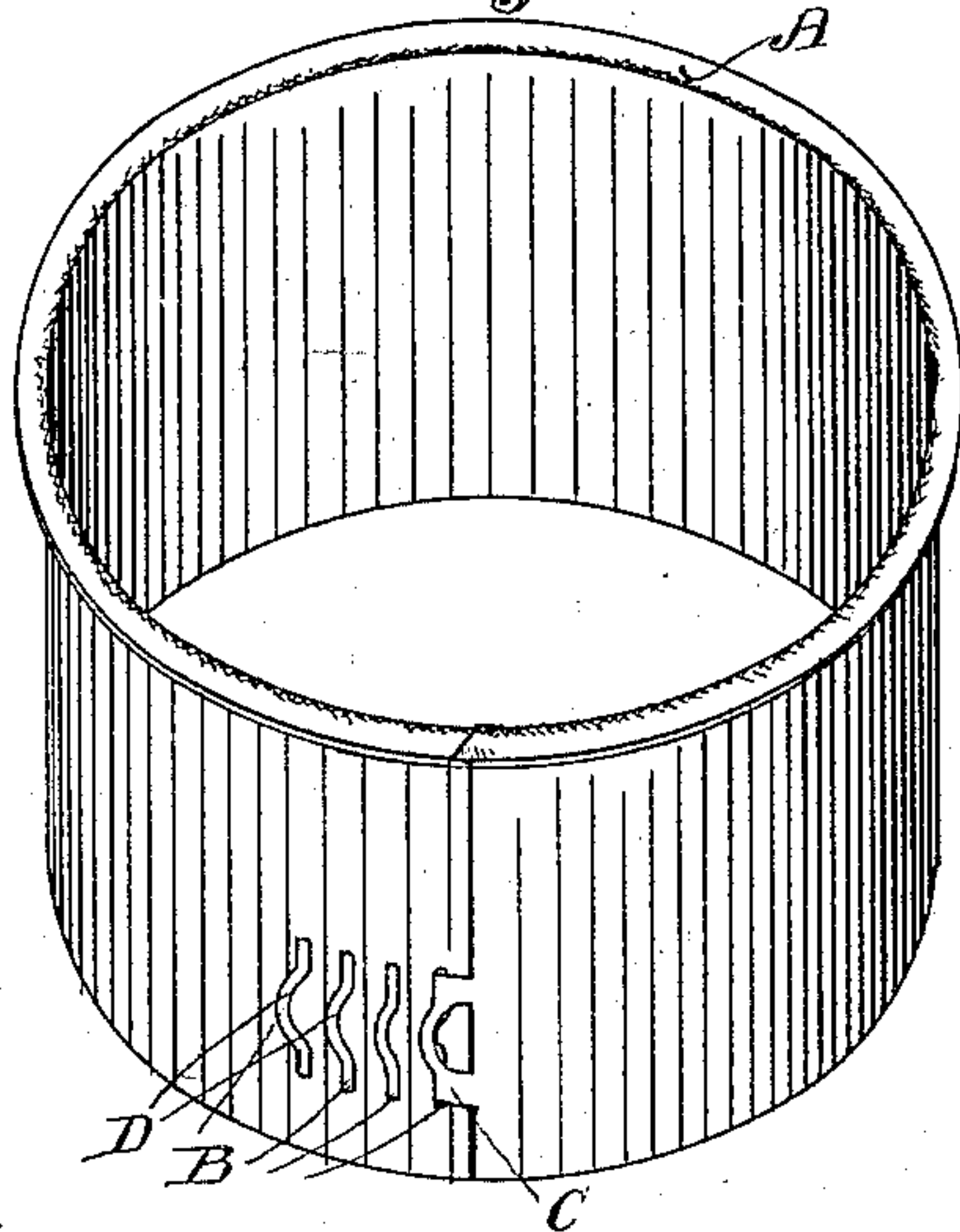


Fig 2

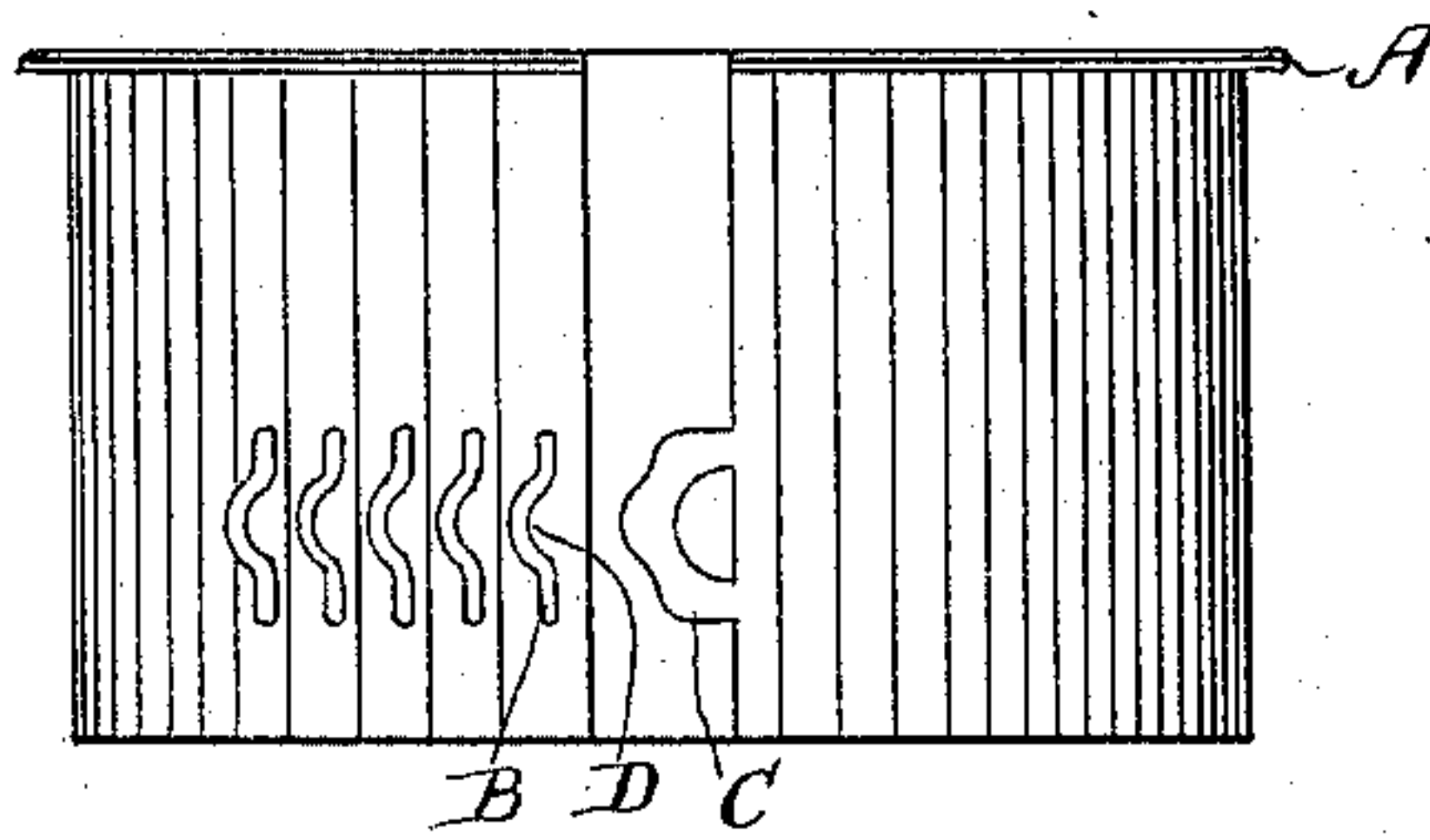
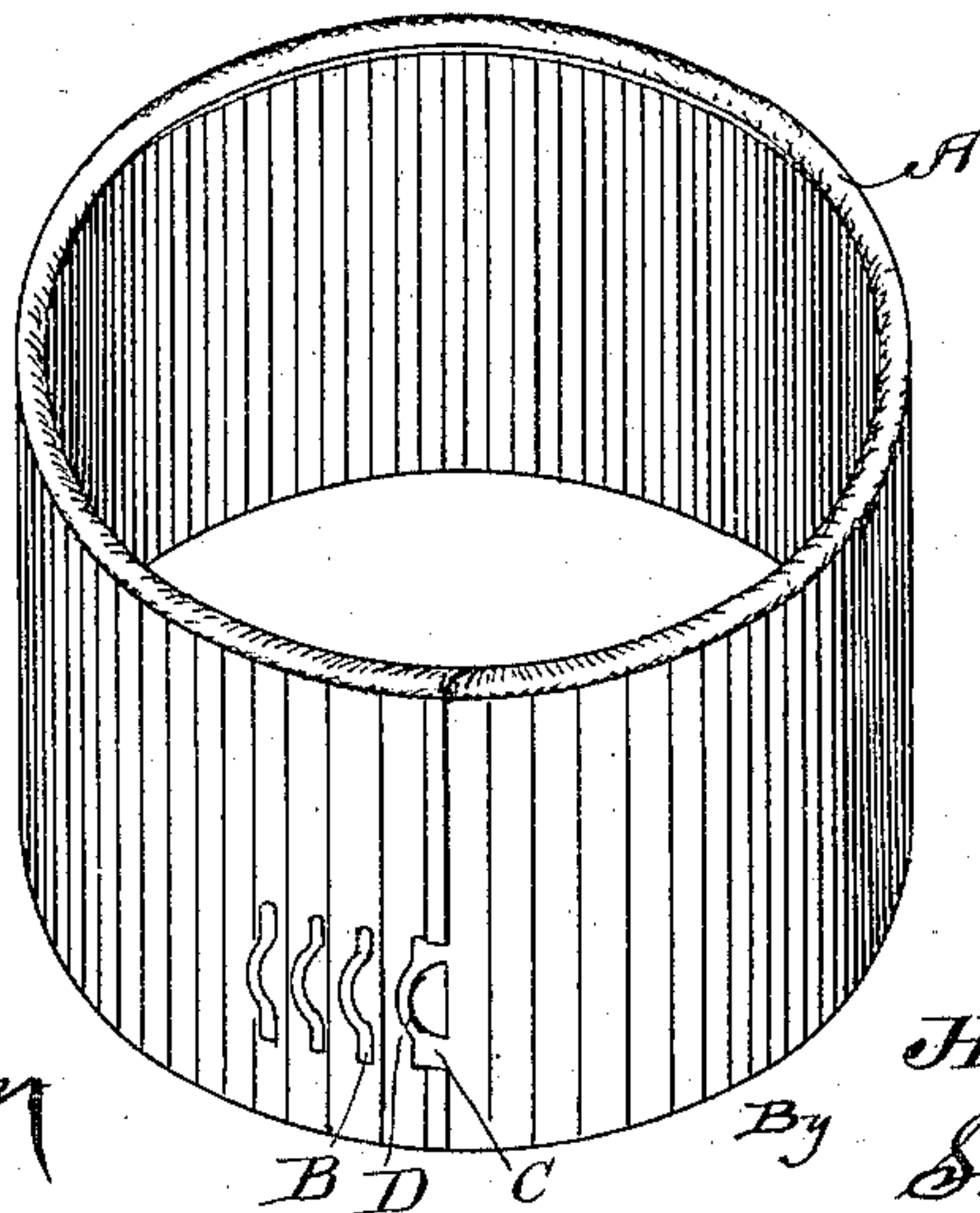


Fig 3



Witnesses
S. S. Williamson
W. D. Harland

Inventor
Henry A. House
By *Smith & Hubbard*
Atty's.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY A. HOUSE, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT.

HAT-STAY.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 330,979, dated November 24, 1885.

Application filed February 6, 1885. Serial No. 155,064. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY A. HOUSE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Stays; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain novel and useful improvements in that class of devices known as "packing hat-stays," and has for its object to provide such a device as shall be adjustable to any-sized crown, while at the same time the top of the stay is so formed that there is comparatively no chafing against the hat and ample surface is afforded for the hat-brim to rest on, thereby preserving the shape; and with these ends in view my invention consists in the details of construction and combination of elements hereinafter fully and in detail explained, and then specifically designated by the claim.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may more fully understand its construction, I will proceed to describe the same in detail, referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improvement; Fig. 2, a view in elevation, showing the ends spread apart; Fig. 3, a perspective view showing the flange turned inward.

Similar letters denote like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

Hat-stays as at present constructed are merely of cylindrical shape, formed from straw or paste board, and they are not open, but the ends are pasted together, so that different-sized stays must be used for different-sized hats; also, the top edge and inner surface of the stay are constantly chafing against the sides of the hat-crown, and thereby the hat is sometimes seriously damaged.

In my improvement I curl or turn the upper edge, forming a flange, as seen at A.

B are bow-shaped vertical slots cut in the stay near one end, and C is a skeleton tongue projecting from the other end and in the same horizontal plane with said slots. The ends of the stay are fastened by simply passing the tongue within one of the slots, the rear edge, D, of the slot being forced by the hand back of the tongue, as will be understood by reference to Figs. 1 and 2. The slots may be cut so as to extend to a considerable distance around the stay, and the latter may then be rolled or contracted into a small compass and the tongue secured, as above described, so that a small-sized crown may be accommodated. When in proper position around the hat, the inner edge of the flange will fit closely around the bottom of the crown, where the latter joins the brim.

The flange may be made narrow or wide, as desired, to give an ample surface for the hat-brim to rest on; also, the top of the stay may be flanged and formed to correspond to the droop or curve in the brims of stiff hats.

I do not wish to be understood as claiming, broadly, the way of fastening the ends of the stay which I have shown and described, as I am aware that this is not new, broadly.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a hat-stay formed from a single piece of straw or paste board having at the top a continuous laterally-projecting flange for the brim of the hat to rest on, and provided at the ends with a fastening device, whereby the stay may be contracted and thereby adapted to various sizes of hats and then fastened, for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY A. HOUSE.

Witnesses:

S. S. WILLIAMSON,
E. S. SUMNER.