

(No Model.)

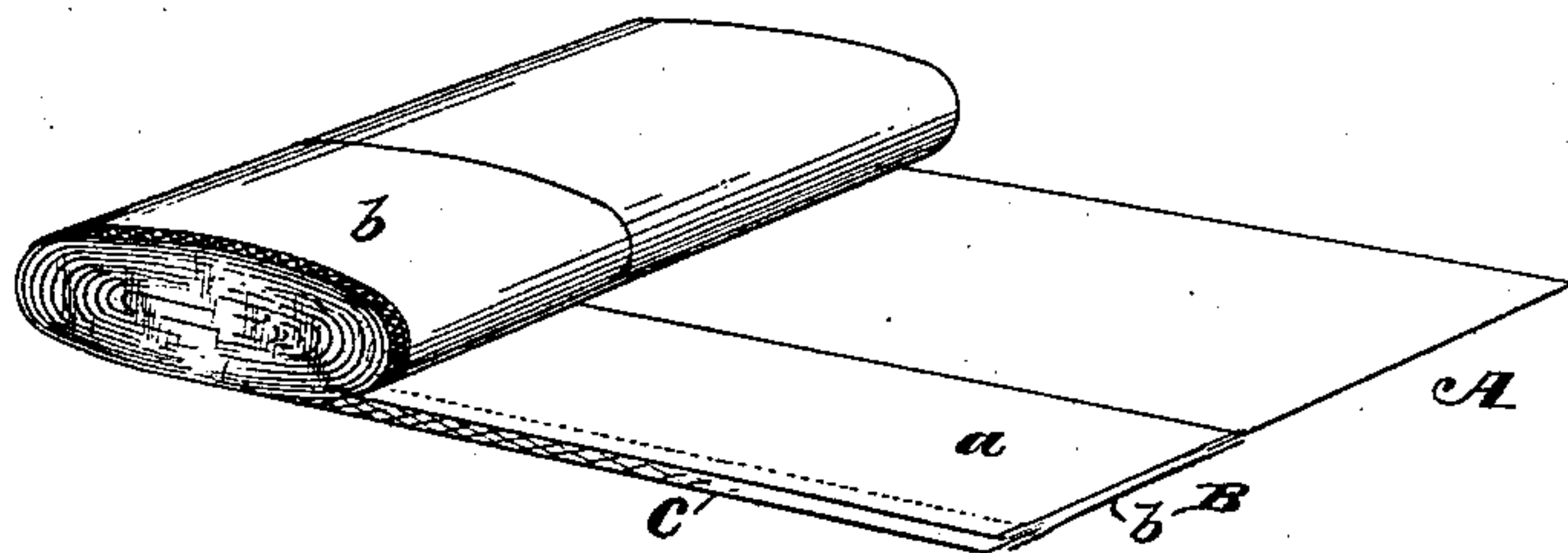
S. M. & H. MOSCHCOWITZ.

DRESS SKIRT FACING.

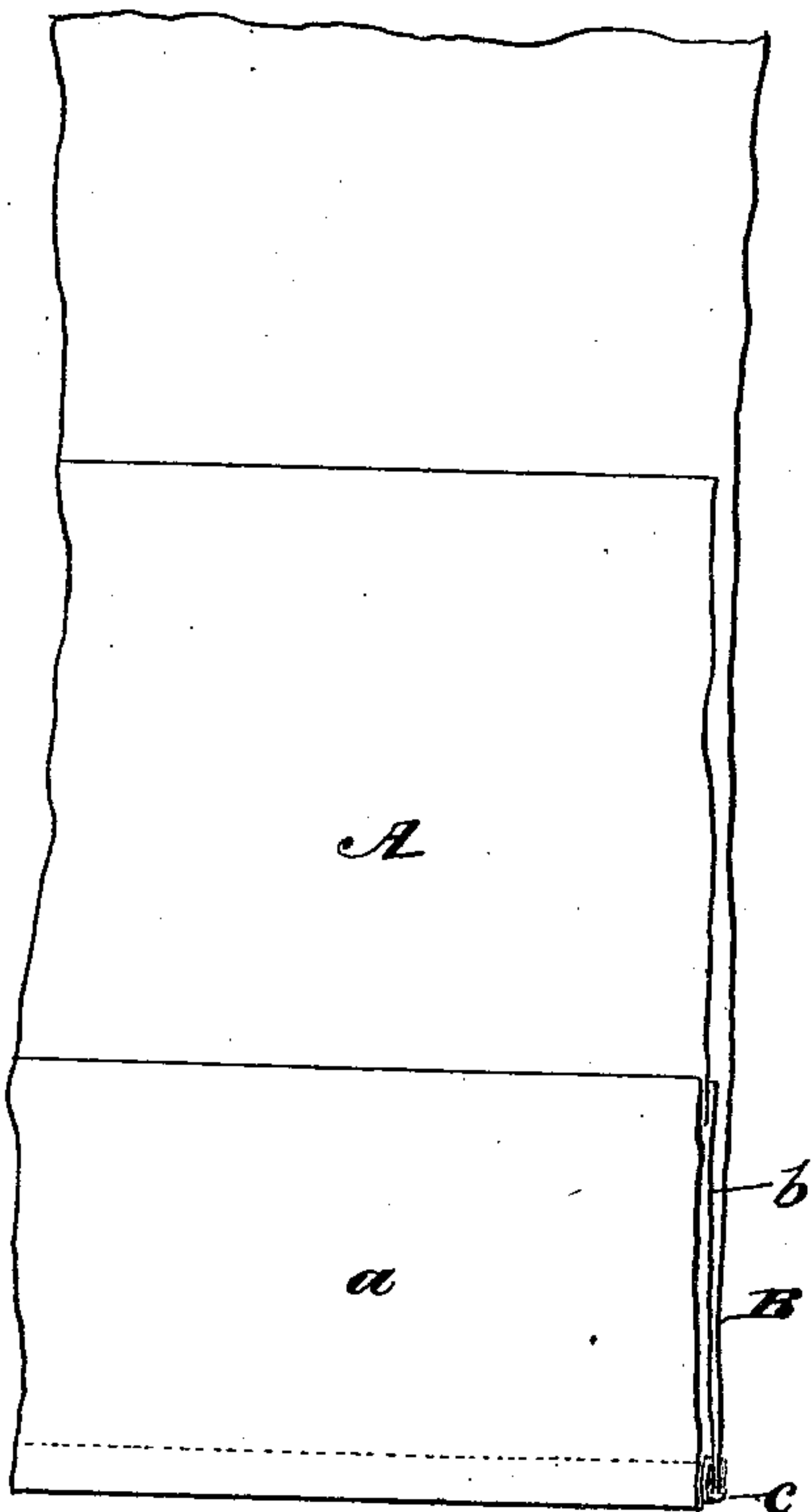
No. 348,859.

Patented Sept. 7, 1886.

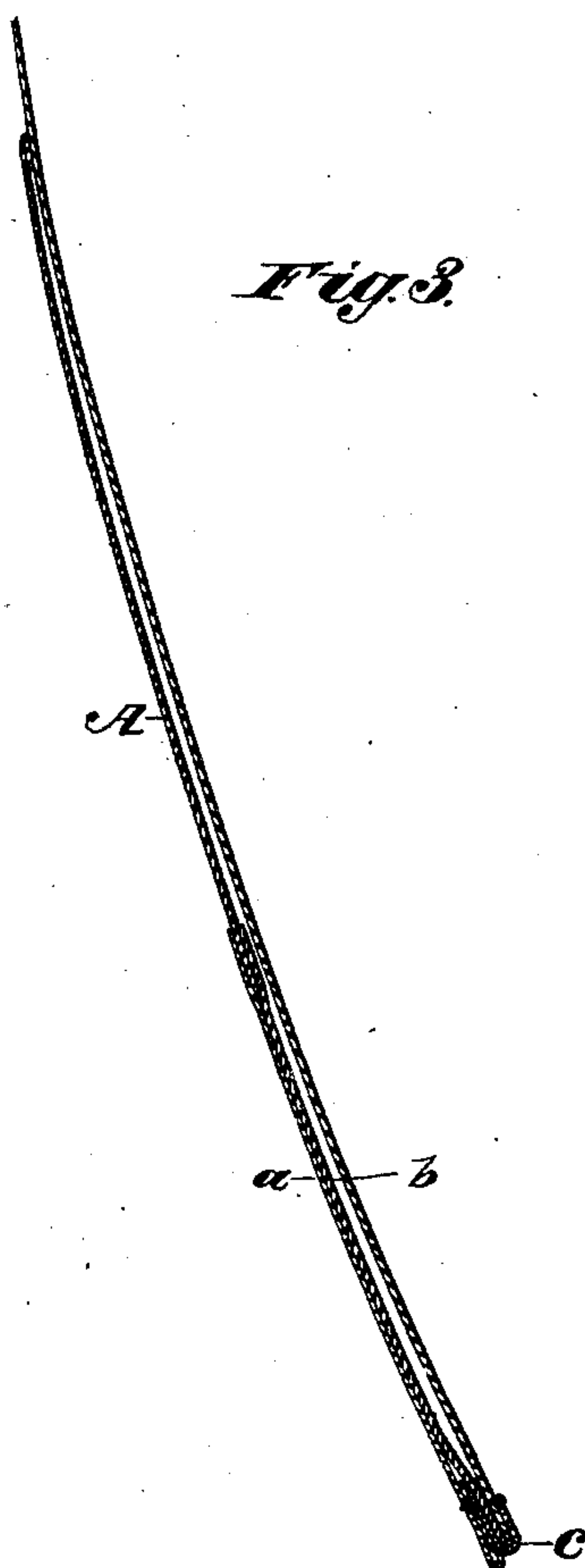
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SCHAMU M. MOSCHCOWITZ AND HERMAN MOSCHCOWITZ, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## DRESS-SKIRT FACING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 348,859, dated September 7, 1886.

Application filed December 2, 1885. Serial No. 184,482. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, SCHAMU M. MOSCHCOWITZ and HERMAN MOSCHCOWITZ, citizens of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Dress-Skirt Facings, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to a protective dress-skirt facing for stiffening the extremities of ladies' skirts and saving them from the effects of wear and weather.

Heretofore skirt-protectors of various kinds, sometimes of water-proof material, have been attached to the lower edges of dresses to protect the dress and its facing and binding from the chafing wear of contact with the ground and to prevent the absorption of moisture. Such devices, as usually arranged, are, however, objectionable in several respects, principally on account of their unsightly appearance, especially when soiled, the difficulty of obtaining a graceful "set" of the dress when provided with such attachments, and the unsatisfactory results of efforts to cleanse them when stained with mud or street-sweepings. These objections we overcome by an improved construction of dress-skirt facing which forms an integral part of a completed dress-skirt without imparting any bulging or unsightly appearance thereto, and at the same time protects the lower edges of the dress from soiling, wear, or other injury, and is capable of being easily and thoroughly cleansed when necessary.

The invention consists in the construction hereinafter described and claimed, reference being made to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a roll of our improved protective facing for dress-skirts. Fig. 2 shows our improved facing attached to a portion of a skirt. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical section of a portion of skirt with facing attached.

Referring to these drawings, the letter A designates the upper portion of the facing, and B the lower or self-protective portion.

The upper portion, A, of our improved facing may consist of alpaca or other soft and limp material of single thickness, while the lower portion, B, is of double thickness, the outer

face, *a*, being composed of rubber, leather, or gossamer cloth and the inner face, *b*, of "leno" or other stiffening material. A skirt-facing must be considerably stiffer below than above, in order that firmness may be secured at the extremity of the skirt, which would otherwise be liable to curl upward and get out of shape, and it must be soft and limp above in order to facilitate its attachment to the skirt and avoid interference with the graceful folds of the garment. With these requisites there should be combined the ability of resisting moisture and of protecting the lower edge of the dress from wear. These advantages we secure by combining the limp and soft upper portion, A, with the stiff and water-proof lower portion, B.

As above mentioned, the lower portion of our improved skirt-facing consists of an outer water-proof face, *a*, and an inner stiffening face, *b*. The materials composing these inner and outer faces are firmly united by any suitable water-proof cements, which also connect the upper and lower portions of the facing, the lower edge of the upper or limp portion, A, being received between the upper edges of the two thicknesses of material that compose the lower portion. By this construction we are enabled to furnish a protective skirt-facing having the desirable qualities of pliability and imperviousness to moisture, together with a requisite degree of stiffness or body in its lower portion. The facing is also contrived in such a way that when soiled it can be easily and quickly cleansed without injury, while its lower portion forms a perfect protection for the lower edge of the skirt.

It is obvious that the glossy outer face of the gossamer or rubber cloth *a* will shed water readily, and is capable of being easily cleansed when it becomes soiled. It also protects the skirt and the soft part of the facing from imbibing moisture.

This protective skirt-facing is designed to be graded as to thickness and texture, according to the requirements of various grades of dress-goods, and the facing may be prepared in varying widths and colors and sold by the yard, ready for use.

We prefer to manufacture the facing or strip of skirt-braid or dress-binding at



tached thereto and forming an integral part of the facing, the whole being thus sold, ready for attachment to a dress. This braid or binding may be of various styles and colors, corresponding to different classes of dress-goods. The braid *c* is arranged between the water-proof material *a* and the stiffening material *b*, and may be attached to either of these parts by stitching, or it may be secured by the water-proof cement that unites said water-proof and stiffening fabrics. A suitable width of the braid *c* projects beyond the lower edges of the fabrics *a* and *b*, and is to be turned over upon the dress-goods and sewed thereto when the facing is attached to the skirt *C*. The braid thus covers the raw edge of the skirt material and serves as a means of attaching the lower edge of the facing. If desired, the lower edge of the water-proof material *a* may be turned in to impart additional stiffness to the edge of the facing; but this is not essential if the water-proof fabric is sufficiently heavy and has a smooth edge. It will be understood, however, that whether the lower edge of the water-proof material *a* is turned in or not, the relative arrangement of the fabric *a* and braid *c* must be such that when the facing is attached to the skirt *C* and the braid turned over the lower edge of the same and secured thereto it will be even or parallel with the lower edge of said water-proof material, which thus protects the braid from wear.

Although we prefer to make our improved skirt-facing with the braid *c* attached, it is obvious that the braid may be dispensed with, or it may be attached to the dress after the skirt and facing are connected.

The manner of applying our improved facing is as follows: Having procured the number of yards corresponding to the width of the lower end of the skirt, the facing is to be basted to the lower edge of the skirt with close stitches. The skirt should now be placed on a lap-board with the facing uppermost, lying evenly. Then baste the skirt and facing together at the upper part of the latter. Now join the ends of the facing by lapping one end over the other. The lower and stiffer part of the facing should not be turned in but sewed over with a row of cross-stitches to avoid a bulging appearance. If the facing is already provided with a braid or binding, *c*, this braid or binding will be turned over the lower edge of the skirt material and be sewed thereto. The upper and softer part of the facing may be turned in and hemmed or felled down in the ordinary way. In case the facing is not provided with a permanent strip of braid or

binding, we may now proceed to bind the lower part of the skirt with a separate binding-braid. If the machine-binder is used, the binding may be accomplished in the usual manner; but if the binding is to be sewed on one side and felled down on the other it is advisable to first sew on the wrong side and then fell down on the right side, thus avoiding sewing on the glossy and stiff part of the facing. During this operation it is deemed advisable not to insert pins or needles into the stiffer part of the facing.

This protective skirt-facing embodies several important advantages. It can be furnished as an article of trade with or without an attached braid or binding, and ready for immediate use, being prepared in various widths, grades, and colors. When applied to a dress-skirt as described, it protects the dress from injury by trailing over wet and muddy places, and obviates the chafing, wear, and cutting so common at the lower edge of a skirt. It is capable of being easily and thoroughly cleansed when necessary, and does not impair the set of the dress nor impede the movements of the wearer.

What we claim is—

1. A skirt-facing consisting of an upper soft or limp fabric, *A*, and a lower portion composed of a sheet, *a*, of water-proof fabric having one surface cemented throughout to the surface of a stiffening-sheet, *b*, said sheets embracing and united to the lower edge of the upper soft or limp fabric, substantially as described.

2. In a skirt-facing, the combination of an upper soft portion, a water-proof material, and a stiffening fabric united throughout and secured to the lower edge of said upper portion, and a strip of braid or binding secured to the waterproofed portion of said facing and projecting beyond its lower edge, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with a skirt, of a facing composed of an upper soft portion, a lower waterproofed and stiffened portion, and a braid or binding turned over upon the lower edge of the skirt and secured thereto and having one edge between the stiffening and water-proof portion of the facing, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

SCHAMU M. MOSCHCOWITZ.  
HERMAN MOSCHCOWITZ.

Witnesses:

LEOPOLD MOSCHCOWITZ,  
LOUIS LINDEMANN.