

(No Model.)

G. A. CLOSE.

DRESS SHIELD AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME.

No. 373,273.

Patented Nov. 15, 1887.

Fig. 1.

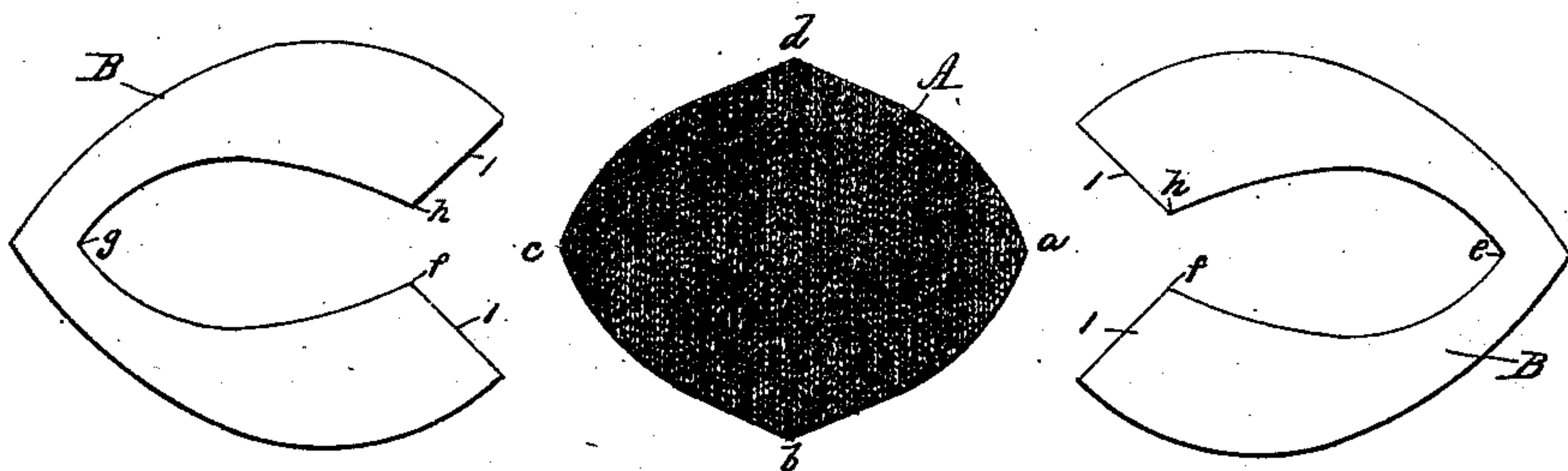


Fig. 2.

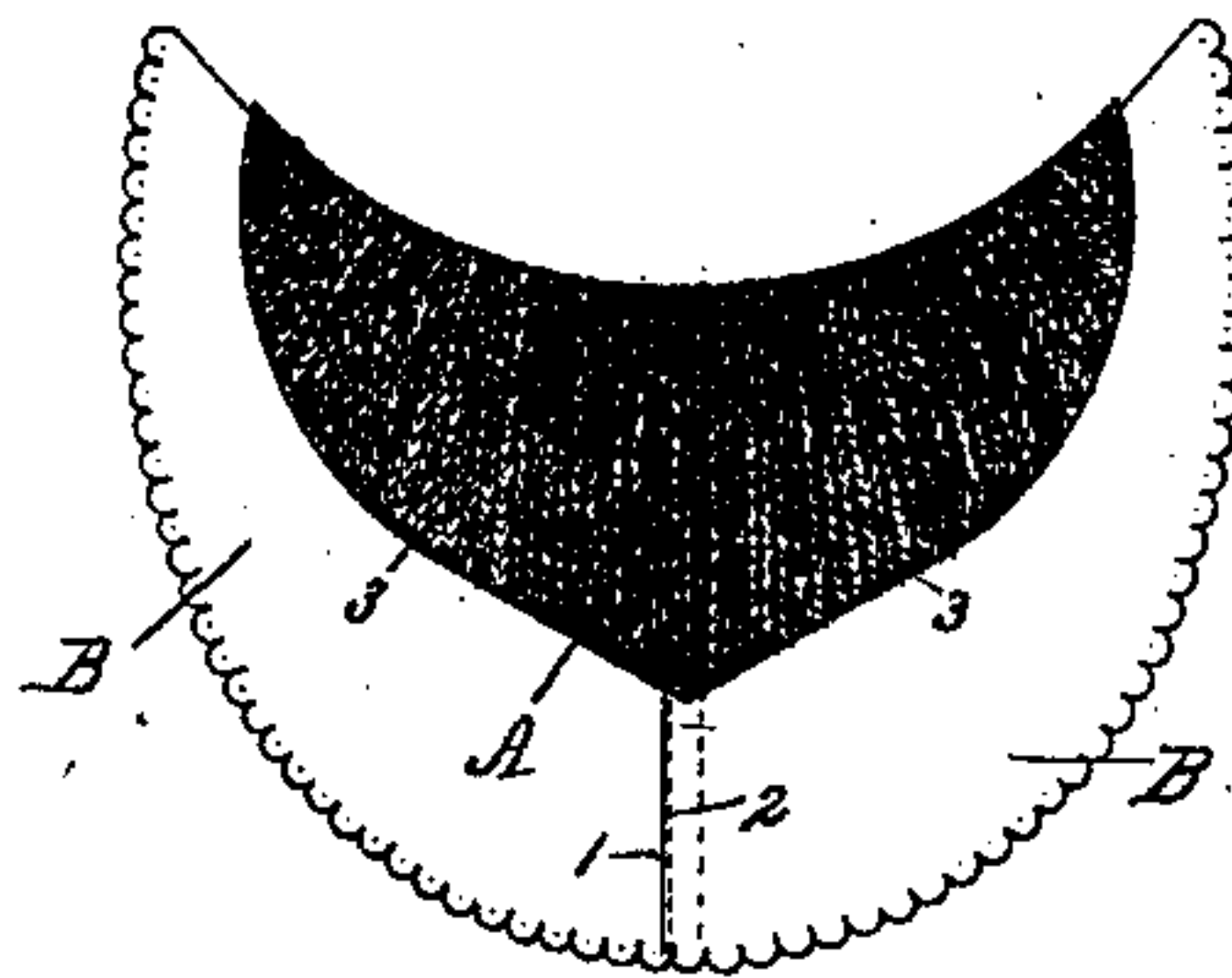


Fig. 3.

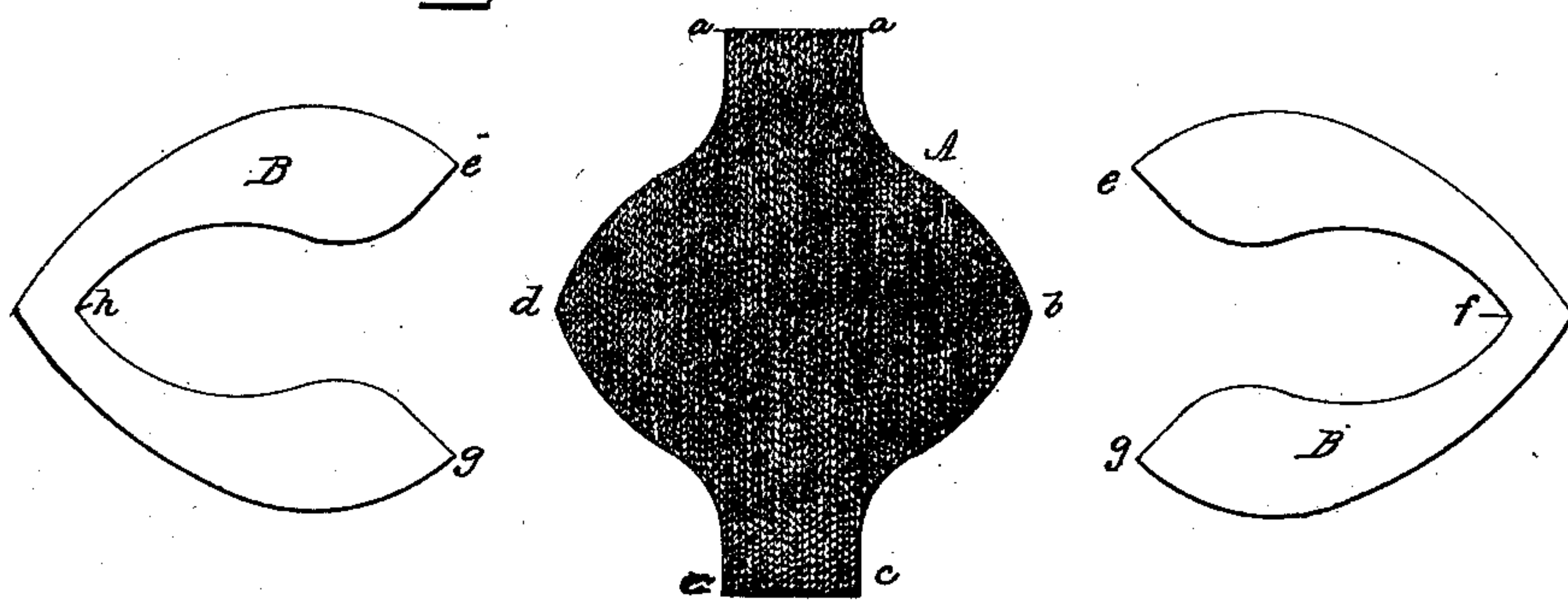
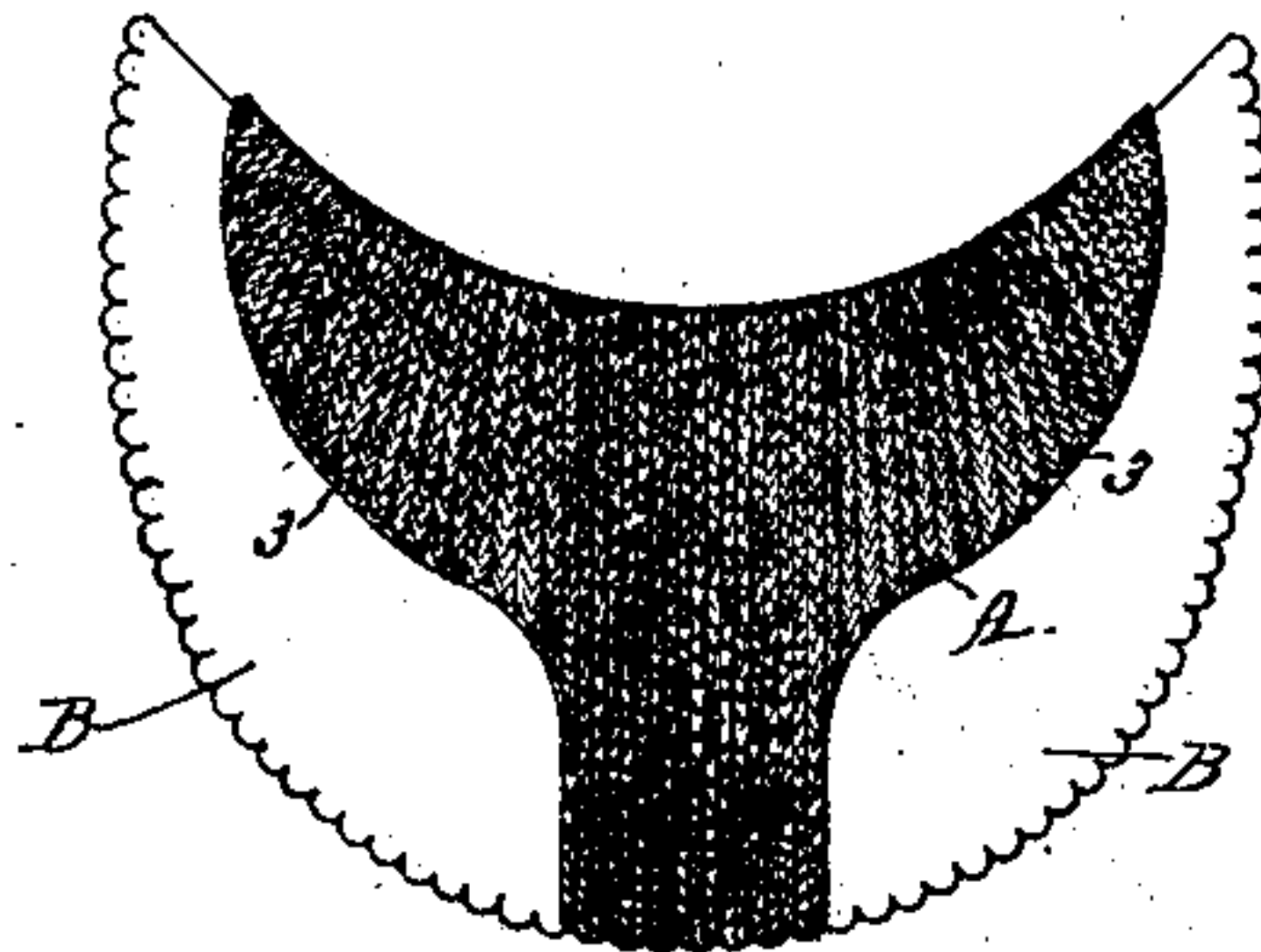


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

G. ALBERTUS CLOSE, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO THOMAS P. TAYLOR, OF SAME PLACE.

DRESS-SHIELD AND METHOD OF MAKING THE SAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,273, dated November 15, 1887.

Application filed September 7, 1887. Serial No. 249,026. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, G. ALBERTUS CLOSE, 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 Dress-Shields; 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 the manufacture of dress-shields, and has for its object to produce an article of this class in which the edges or skirts shall be wholly or partially formed from independent pieces of material, and the inner portion thereof of suitable elastic water-proof material, the essential feature of my invention being that a perfect shield is formed without molding or vulcanizing, both the central portions being cut out by dies from large pieces of material, a number of thicknesses being cut at a time.

Figures 1 and 3 are elevations illustrating the three pieces from which a shield is formed, detached; and Figs. 2 and 4 are elevations illustrating completed shields.

A denotes the central portion of the shield, which is formed from elastic water-proof material, preferably sheet-gum covered on both sides with stockinet, and may be of any suitable size and of suitable shape within reasonable limits—as, for example, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3.

The outer portion or skirt of the shield, which is made from any suitable material, either water-proof or not, as may be preferred, is cut out in two parts, which are designated by B.

The method of making the shield consists in stitching the central or water-proof portion to the outer portion or skirt, stretching the former portion as it is stitched in place. Where the skirt extends entirely around the shield, as in Fig. 2, the operation is as follows: The edges of the parts of the skirt designated as 1 1 are joined together by a seam designated 2 in Fig. 2. The elastic water-proof or central portion is then attached to the skirt by a seam or seams designated as 3. This seam is, of course, not necessarily formed by stitch-

ing. Any well-known means of joining the parts may be adopted. In securing the central portion to the skirt the seam is divided into quarters. For convenience in description I have designated four points in the edge of the central portion as *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d*. As the skirt does not extend entirely around the water-proof portion in the form shown in Figs. 3 and 4, there are necessarily two points designated as *a* and two points designated as *c*. The corresponding points at the quarters of the skirt I have designated as *e*, *f*, *g*, and *h*. It will be noticed that the distance between the points in the skirt is perceptibly greater than the distance between the points in the central portion. The operator places the edge of the central portion over the edge of the skirt-point *a* of the central portion corresponding with point *e* of the skirt. Starting at this point, or any other, if preferred, the operator joins the central portion to the skirt by seam 3, at the same time stretching the central portion sufficiently so that when point *f* in the skirt is reached point *b* will correspond therewith. The operator then makes the turn and continues the seam to point *g* in the skirt, taking care at the same time to stretch the central portion sufficiently so that point *c* in said portion will correspond with point *g* in the skirt. If the shield is made in the style illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, the seam of course ends at point *g* and a new seam is commenced, the opposite point *c* of the central portion being placed over the opposite point *g* of the skirt, and the seam continued until point *d* of the central portion corresponds with point *h* of the skirt. If the shield is made in the style illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, a turn merely has to be made when the second point is reached, the seam being continued instead of a new one commenced, as in the other form. When three quarters of the central portion have been joined to the three corresponding quarters of the skirt, the seam will have been finished to the point *d* in the central portion, which will just correspond with point *h* in the skirt. The seam is then continued to point *e* in the skirt, the central portion being stretched so that point *a* corresponds with point *e* of the skirt. If the shield is the style illustrated in Figs. 1

and 2, a complete circuit of the shield will have been made. If the shield is the style illustrated in Figs. 3 and 4, independent seams will have been made on opposite sides of the shield. This stretching of the central portion in attaching it to the skirt acts to draw the completed article to the desired form, entirely dispensing with the usual operation of molding or forming. It is of course well understood that the necessary form for armpit-shields is a double crescent—that is, two crescent-shaped sheets or plies of water-proof material, one of which serves as a protection for the under side of the sleeve of an outer garment, the other portion serving as a protection for the garment under the arm. It is furthermore necessary that the upper portion of the shield—that is, the portion where the two sheets or plies join—should be curved inward, so as to conform to the curvature of the armhole of any garment. This shaping or forming of the shield I accomplish in the manner already described.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. As a new manufacture, a dress shield consisting of a central portion of elastic water-

proof material secured to a skirt of any suitable material, the quarters of the skirt being longer than the quarters of the central portion, and the latter being stretched so that the ends of the respective quarters correspond, substantially as shown.

2. The improvement in the art of making dress-shields which consists in blanking out a central portion from elastic water-proof material, blanking out a skirt of any suitable material in two pieces independently thereof, the length of the edges of the quarters of the skirt being longer than the corresponding edges of the central portion, and then securing the outer edge of the central portion to the inner edge of the skirt, at the same time stretching the edge of the central portion so that at the ends of the respective quarters the edges will correspond, whereby a perfect shield is formed.

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

G. ALBERTUS CLOSE.

Witnesses:

A. M. WOOSTER,

B. E. LEE.