

(No Model.)

R. B. WHEELER.
CASING FOR GARMENT STAYS.

No. 431,299.

Patented July 1, 1890.

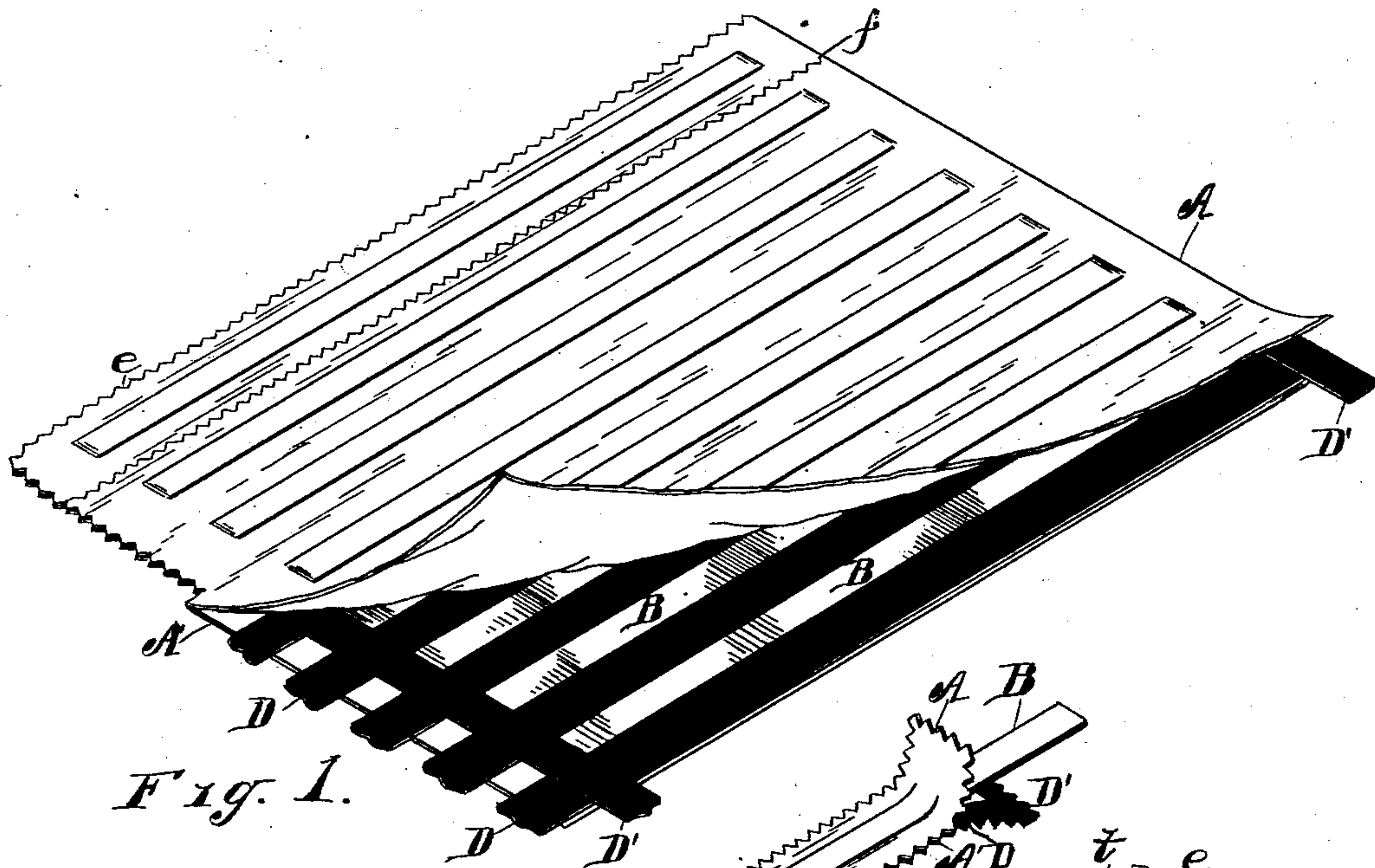


Fig. 1.

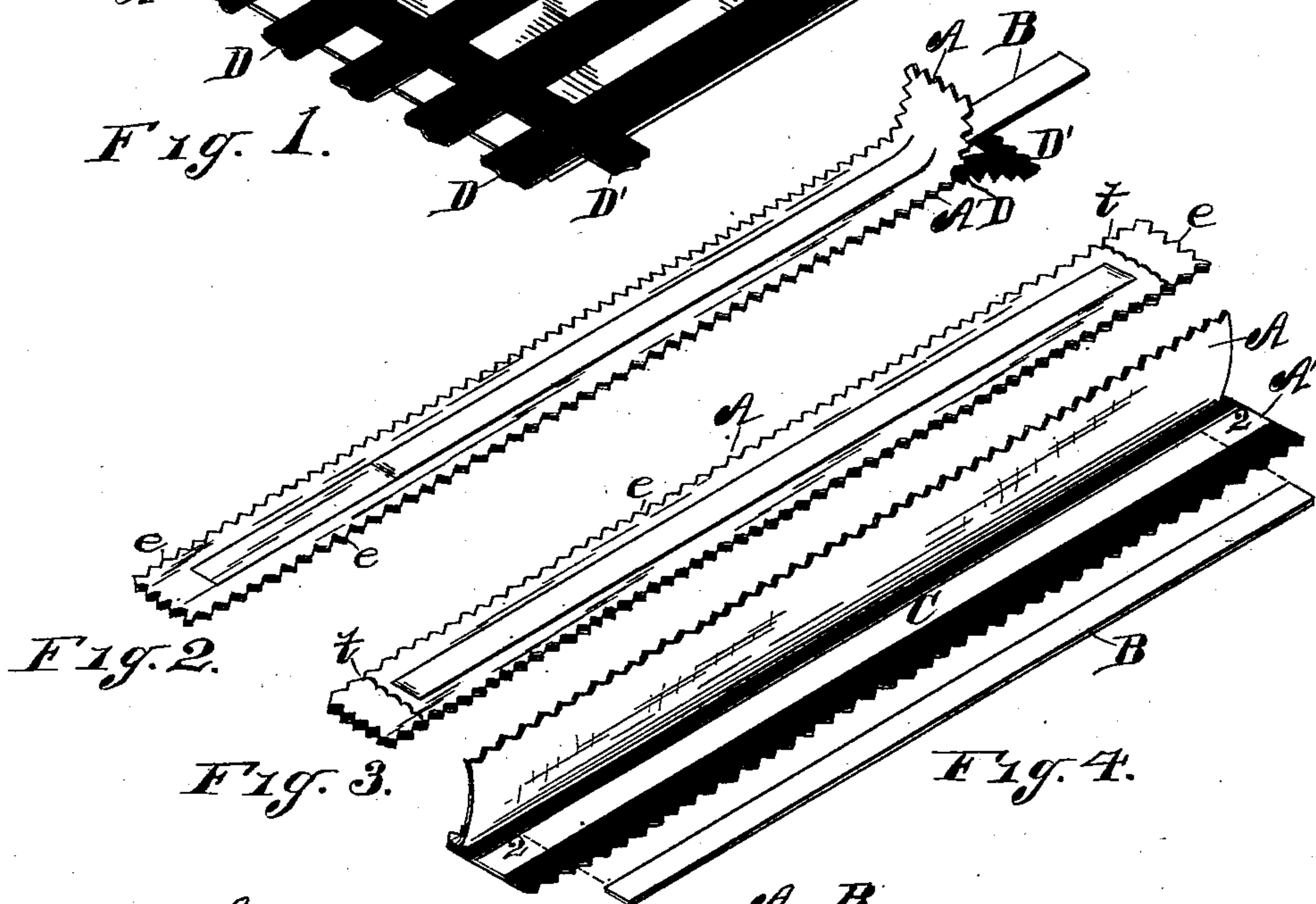


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

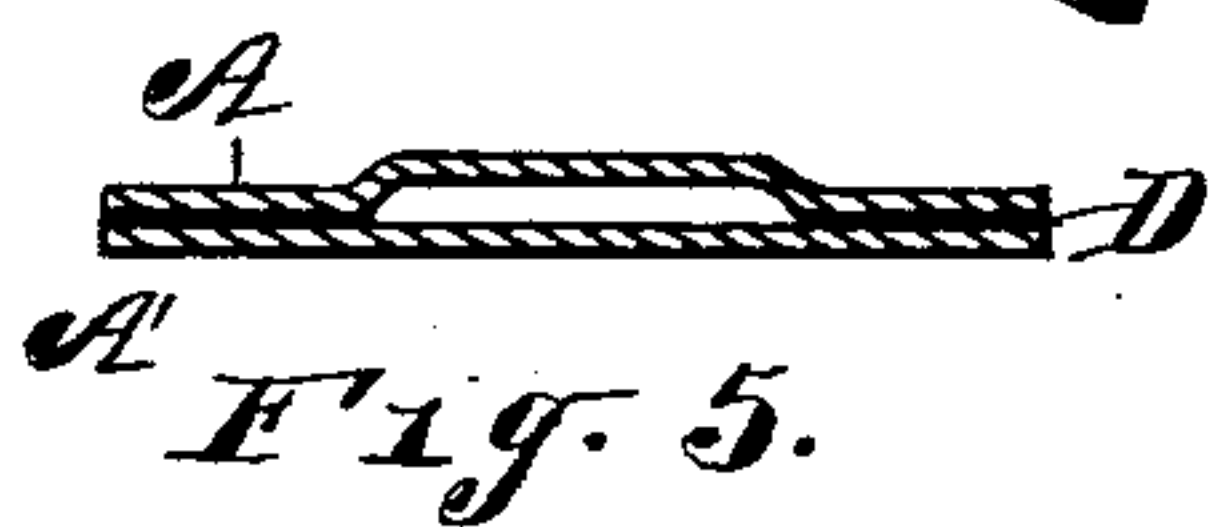


Fig. 5.

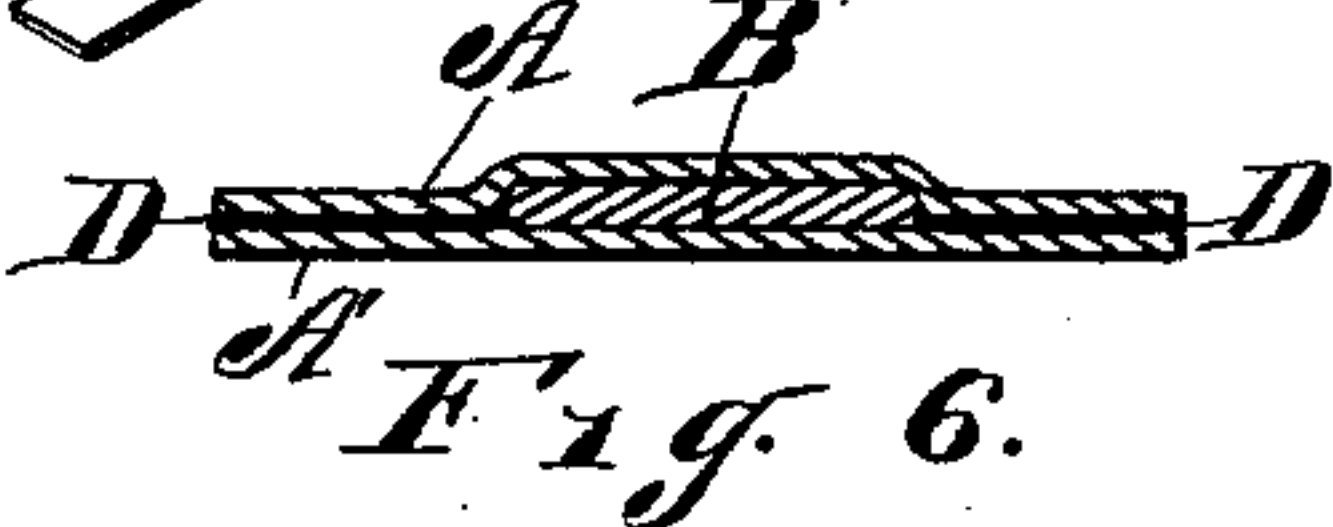


Fig. 6.

WITNESSES

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CASING FOR GARMENT-STAYS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 431,299, dated July 1, 1890.

Application filed February 10, 1890. Serial No. 339,943. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROSCOE B. WHEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Casings for Garment-Stays; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in pockets or casings for garment-stays; and it consists in two textile-fabric coverings that are longer and wider than the stiffening-blade, projecting beyond the edges of said blade, said fabrics being united at their longitudinal margins by means of gutta-percha tissue or like adhesive material placed between said fabrics along their longitudinal edges, leaving the central longitudinal portion of the covering fabrics uncemented, the object being to provide a casing for garment-steels or resilient blades in the form of a pocket, in which the blade is placed, and from which said blade may be withdrawn when desired, said casing also affording a firm stitching margin around the edges of the blade, whereby it may be attached to a garment.

In the use of garment-stays, especially in ladies' garments, it is often necessary to cut off a portion of the stiffening-blade when applying the stay to a short seam. To accomplish this with the stays in common use the fabric covering must also be cut away with the blade, exposing the latter, or it is greatly injured in removing the blade, as in most cases the fabric covering is made adherent to the blade.

In my improved stay the stiffening-blade may be readily withdrawn from the casing, cut off, if desired, replaced, and again secured therein without injury to said covering in any way, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and the essential features of the device pointed out particularly in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the specification, Figure 1 is a per-

spective view showing the manner of making this improved casing wherein the resilient blade is secured in the pocket. Fig. 2 is a view of a single stay, showing the stiffening-blade partly withdrawn from the casing. Fig. 3 is a view of the stay-casing, in which the margins of the fabric covering or casing, projecting beyond the ends of the blade instead of being cemented, are stitched together to retain the stiffening-blade within the casing. Fig. 4 is a view of Fig. 3, the upper fabric covering being partly removed, showing the marginal strips of gutta-percha tissue or cement that secure the covering fabric together and the pocket or chamber formed between said strips that receives the stiffening-blade. Fig. 5 is an enlarged cross-section through the casing. Fig. 6 is a like cross-section through the casing and resilient blade.

Referring to the letters of reference, A and A' indicate the upper and under textile-fabric covering, B the stiffening-blade, and D the strips of gutta-percha tissue or cement that join the covering fabrics along their longitudinal edges.

The view of Fig. 1 illustrates the manner of making this improved casing, wherein the resilient blades are secured in the casing in sheet form, which is accomplished by placing the textile fabric A' upon a suitable table and laying the steels or stiffening-blades B on said fabric parallel with one another and at some distance apart. The strips D of gutta-percha tissue or cement are then laid upon the fabric A' between the steels B and the strips D' of gutta-percha or cement across the strips D at the ends of said steels or stiffening-blades. The upper textile-fabric covering A is then placed upon the stiffening-blades and the strips of cement and the covering fabrics A A' united by applying heat and pressure to the outer face of the fabric or by passing the sheet thus formed between heated rollers, whereby the adhesive agent is fused or melted, thus firmly cementing said covering fabrics together around the stiffening-blades B and securely retaining said blades in place in the pockets between said fabrics. When the sheet has sufficiently cooled, the stays are separated by cutting through the fabrics A A' centrally between the blades B, as shown by the line f at the

left of Fig. 1, thus producing a completed stay of two coverings of fabric having the extending stitching-margin *e* around the blade.

To remove the stiffening-blade from the casing of a stay so formed, a hot iron is applied to the marginal fabric covering at the end of said blade, which softens the gutta-percha tissue between the fabrics *A A'*, when the covering may be separated at the end and the blade withdrawn from the pocket between said fabrics, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. If desired, a portion of the blade *B* may then be cut off and said blade reinserted in the pocket between the covering fabrics and again secured therein by placing a hot iron on the separated portion of the fabrics and cementing them together. This removing and reinserting of the stiffening-blade, as will be seen, is accomplished without injury to the casing.

In Figs. 3 and 4 the casing is made without employing the cross-strip *D'* of gutta-percha or cement at the ends of the stiffening-blades. Therefore that portion of the marginal ends of the covering fabrics extending beyond the ends of the blade and indicated at 2 2 in Fig. 4 are not cemented together, which leaves the opening or pocket *C*, in which the blade *B* is placed, continuous through the casing, and the blade may be secured therein by stitching through the margin of the covering fabrics at the ends of the blades, as shown at *t t* in Fig. 3. To remove the blade *B* from this form of casing, the stitching *t* at one end is cut, when said blade may be readily withdrawn from the pocket *C* in said casing.

The form of casing shown in Figs. 4 and 5 may be made in a continuous strip and cut off, as required, for the various lengths of uncovered steels or stiffening-blades in use, which may be inserted in the pocket *C* therein and secured by stitching across the ends of the casing, as shown in Fig. 3. The preferred form, however, is to make the casing complete in lengths varying from five to twelve inches, according to the lengths of steels or bones in use, and so as to leave the casing long enough to form the proper margin at the ends for stitching or cementing. The blade may then be inserted in the pocket *C* of the case and secured by stitching, as shown in Fig. 3, giving the stay a neat and finished appearance, or cemented, as shown in Fig. 1, or one end of the casing may be cemented and the other end left open to insert the blade, as shown in Fig. 2.

On looking at Fig. 6 it will be seen that there is no gutta-percha or cement between the sides of the blade *B* and the covering fabrics *A A'*, as this is not required where bone, whalebone, or plated steel is used for the stiffening-blade, which will be employed in this improved stay, thereby producing a superior article with less expense.

The method of making the casing wherein the longitudinal edges only of the textile-fabric covering are cemented is as follows: I

employ two pieces of textile fabric *A A'*, which are sufficiently wide to make the desired length of casing. The sheet *A'* is placed on a suitable platform. On this sheet I place the strips of cement or gutta-percha tissue *D*, crossing the fabric *A'*, parallel with each other and at such distance from each other as will be equal to the width of the resilient blade to be inserted in the casing. I then place the sheet of textile fabric *A* onto said fabric having the adhesive strips. Then by applying heat and pressure, by means of a sad-iron or heated rollers, the adhesive agent is fused and the fabrics are united at intervals, leaving the intervening spaces uncemented, which uncemented portions form pockets or chambers for the reception of the resilient blades. Then to obtain the separate casings the fabrics are divided or cut by a knife or pinking-wheel centrally along and through the point where the parts are cemented together, as shown on line *f* of Fig. 1, the strip *D*, of gutta-percha or cement, being wide enough to allow this division and form the stitching-margin *e* along the edges of the casing at the point of cutting.

I am aware that hollow tape has been used to form casings, and do not claim such, broadly; but I am not aware of a hollow casing such as I claim—that is, a hollow casing formed by cementing two textile fabrics along their longitudinal edges, which edges form margins through which the casing may be firmly and readily sewed onto a garment, and wherein the central portion of the casing is free from gutta-percha or cement.

The cementing of the fabrics enables making the cases cheaply and rapidly, and the cement allows the cutting and prevents the cut edges of the textile covering from fraying out or becoming ragged.

Having thus fully set forth my invention, what I claim is—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a hollow casing for the blade of a garment-stay, said casing comprising two textile-fabric pieces cemented together along their longitudinal edges and end and having the chamber or pocket along the longitudinal center between the textile fabrics, the textile fabrics being free from cement along their longitudinal center, said chamber adapted to receive a resilient blade, substantially as specified.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a casing for the resilient blade of a garment-stay, said casing comprising two textile-fabric pieces having their marginal edges cemented together, the textile-fabric pieces along the longitudinal center of the casing, having no cement and forming the chamber *C* between the cemented margins, said casing having the marginal stitching-edges, as set forth.

3. As an improved article of manufacture, a hollow casing for the blade of a garment-stay, said casing comprising two textile-fabric pieces having along their longitudinal

edges an interposed strip of gutta-percha tissue, to which the textile fabrics are adherent, the longitudinal center of the casing being free from gutta-percha tissue and forming the opening longitudinally between the textile-fabric pieces. 15

4. As an improved article of manufacture, a hollow casing for the resilient blade of a garment-stay, said casing comprising two textile-fabric coverings having along their marginal edges and ends an interposed gutta-percha agent, to which the covering fabrics

are adherent, the longitudinal central portion of the casing between the covering fabrics being free from gutta-percha tissue and having the longitudinal chamber between the textile covering, as set forth.

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

ROSCOE B. WHEELER.

Witnesses:

E. S. WHEELER,

B. P. WHEELER.