(No Model.)

W. G. WILSON.

HAT SECURING ATTACHMENT.

No. 535,780. Patented Mar. 12, 1895.

Fig. 1.

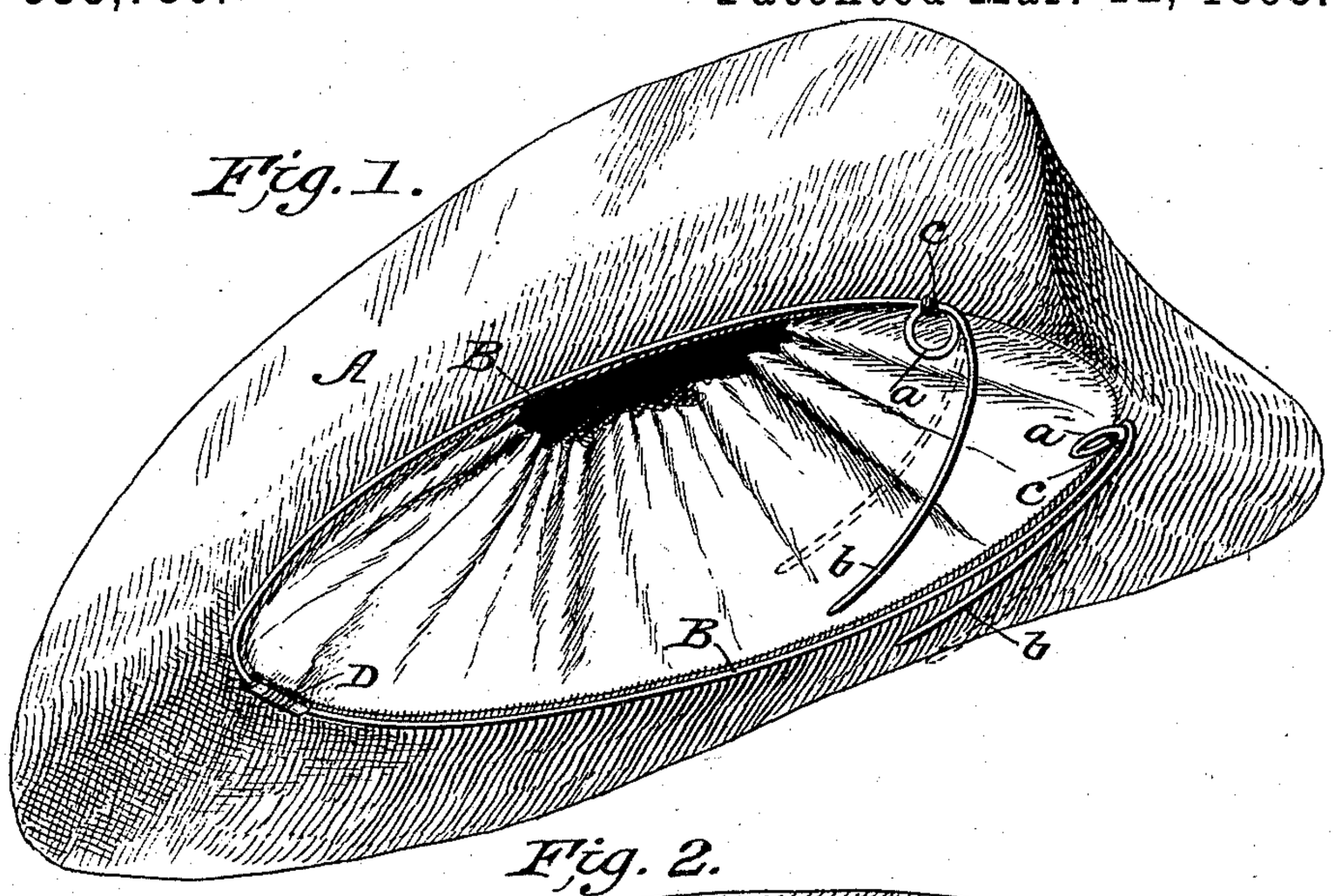


Fig. 2.

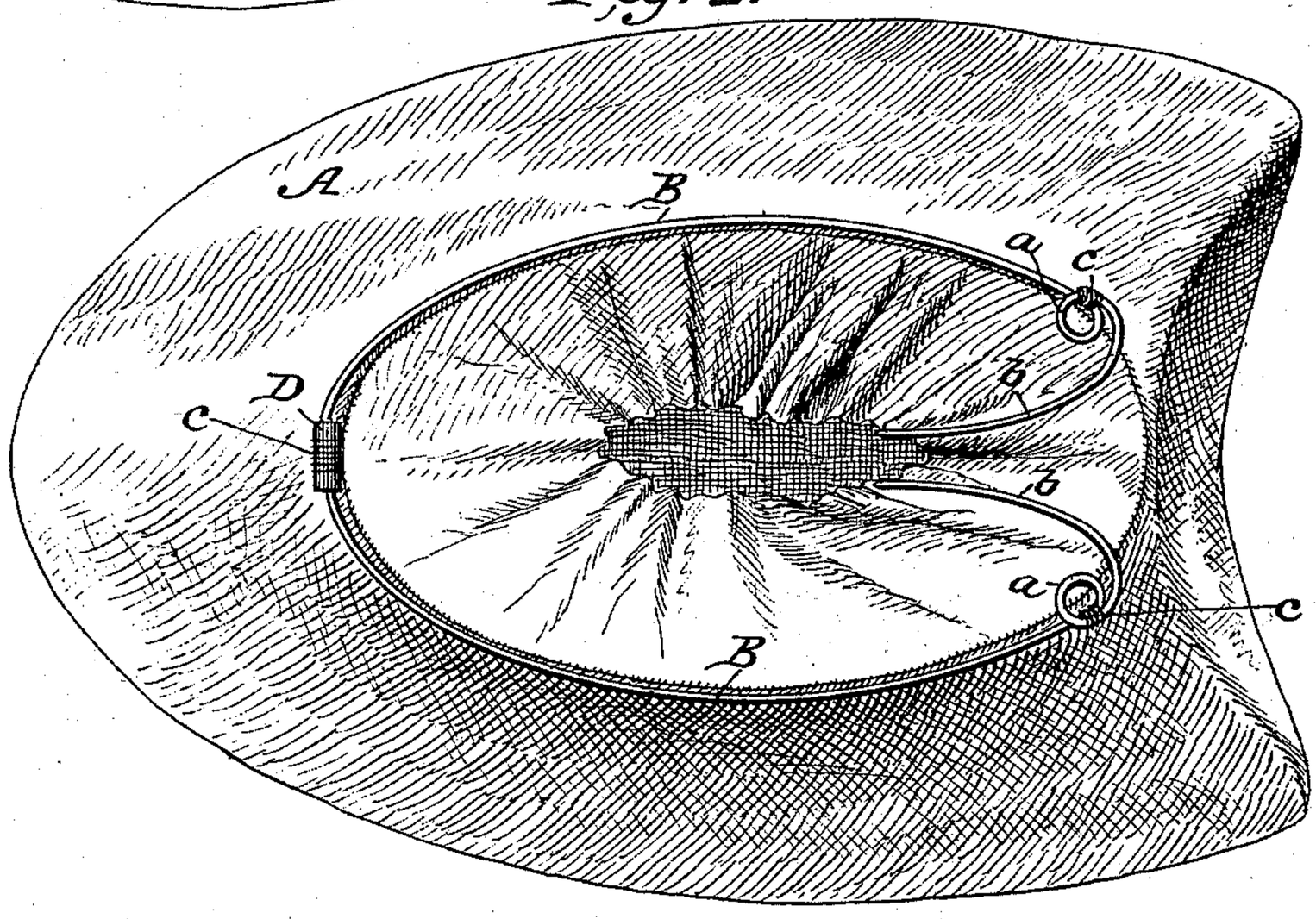
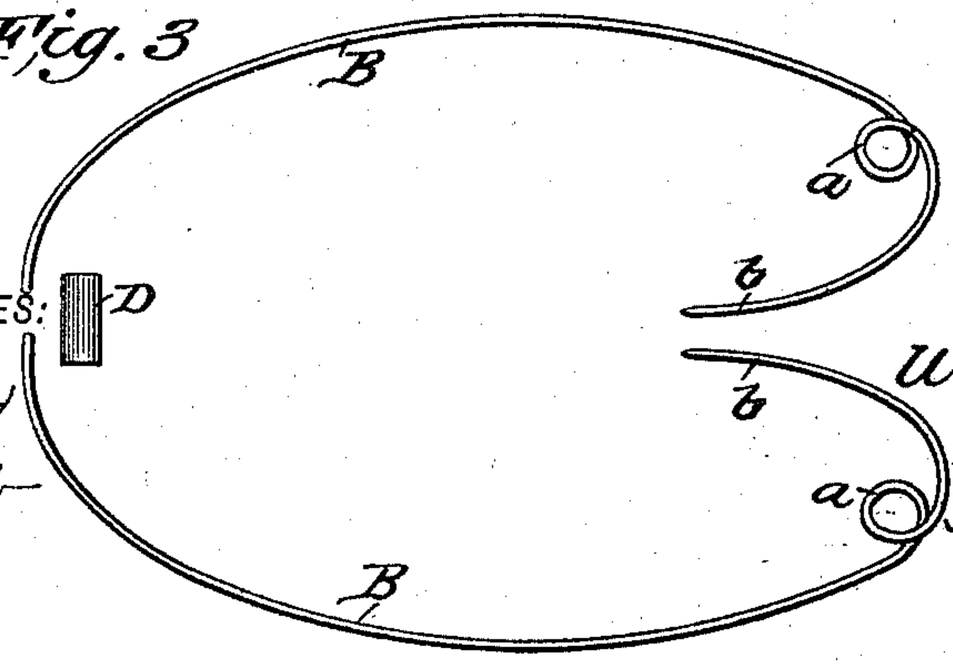


Fig. 3



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM GORDON WILSON, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO LEWIS CALDER, OF SAME PLACE.

HAT-SECURING ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 535,780, dated March 12, 1895.

Application filed January 15, 1895. Serial No. 535,005. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GORDON WILSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Securing Attachments for Ladies' Hats; 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 new and useful improvements in devices for retaining ladies' hats in place upon the head. It has for its object to dispense with the usual removable hat pins and to thus avoid the constant puncturing, disfigurement and final destruction of the hat; and with these ends in view my invention consists of a hat securing device adapted to be secured to the hat at a point which shall be out of sight when the hat is in place, and which shall be capable of ready adjustment and efficient for the purpose for which it is designed.

In order that those skilled in the art may fully understand my invention I will proceed to describe the construction, application and operation of the same, referring by letters to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a lady's hat with my retaining device secured in place thereto. Fig. 2 is a bottom view; and Fig. 3 is a plan view of the device removed from the hat.

Similar letters of reference denote like parts in the several views.

A is an ordinary lady's hat of any special design or material.

B B are two pieces of spring wire bent at *a* to form a spring coil, and extended below the coil to constitute a downwardly, inwardly and forwardly curved prong or point *b*. The opposite or remaining portion of the wire is bent to conform to the general contour of the head opening of the hat, and is secured thereto by ordinary stitching, as seen at *c*.

D is a tubular or hollow metallic housing adapted to receive the free forward or front ends of the wires B B. This housing may be formed with suitable barbs by means of which it may be readily secured to the front portion of the crown of the hat, or it may be secured in position by stitching or otherwise, and the employment of this housing or tube D enables the wires to be cut at the forward ends to any suitable extent in order that they may properly fit the size and contour of the hat, and when the ends are placed within the housing the wires become practically a single continuous wire. The wires and the housing are secured in position at or about at the line of juncture between the crown and rim of the hat, so that they will be practically concealed, or may be entirely so when covered by the usual trimming or finish given to the under side of the hat.

In placing the hat in position upon the head the prongs *b*, *b*, are preferably sprung apart, as shown in dotted lines at Fig. 1, and then inserted in the hair of the wearer and pushed forward until the hat is in proper position on the head. The curvature of the prongs tends to secure a proper retaining hold upon the hair, but in addition thereto the tendency of the prongs to return to their normal position and relation with each other produces a transverse or sidewise clamping action upon the hair and head of the wearer, thus holding the hat more firmly in position than can be accomplished by the use of ordinary hat pins.

I do not wish to be confined to the use of the housing tube D, as it may be dispensed with and the ends of the wire secured by stitching, but I prefer the use of the housing as it adds greatly to the stability of the device. The genus of my invention consists in the idea of constructing the device in two parts so that the ends may be cut for the purposes of adjustment to hats of various sizes, and forming the opposite ends with the spring coil *a*, and downwardly, inwardly and forwardly projecting prong *b*. With this construction it will be seen that when the wires are secured in proper position upon the hat the pressing apart of the prongs *b* is resisted by the curved portion of the wire resting against the hat between the coil *a* and the forward ends, so that the clamping action hereinbefore referred to is obtained.

The wires constituting the fastening device

may be braided, japanned or otherwise coated or covered to conceal the metal much in the same way as ordinary bonnet frame wire, or it may be left in its natural condition and when secured to the hat, concealed by any suitable under trimming.

Having described the construction, application, and mode of operation of my improved securing attachment, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A securing attachment for ladies' hats composed of two pieces of spring wire B, coiled as shown at *a*, provided with inwardly, downwardly and forwardly projecting prongs *b* and adapted to be secured in position, substantially as hereinbefore set forth.

2. In combination with the hat A, the wires B B constructed as described, and the housing D concealing and retaining the forward ends of the wires, said wires and the housing D being secured to the under side of the hat, substantially as hereinbefore described.

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

WILLIAM GORDON WILSON.

Witnesses:

IRA CALDER,

LEWIS CALDER.