

No. 689,600.

Patented Dec. 24, 1901.

T. E. SOMERVILLE.  
SHIELD FOR STOCKINGS.

(Application filed Mar. 15, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig 1

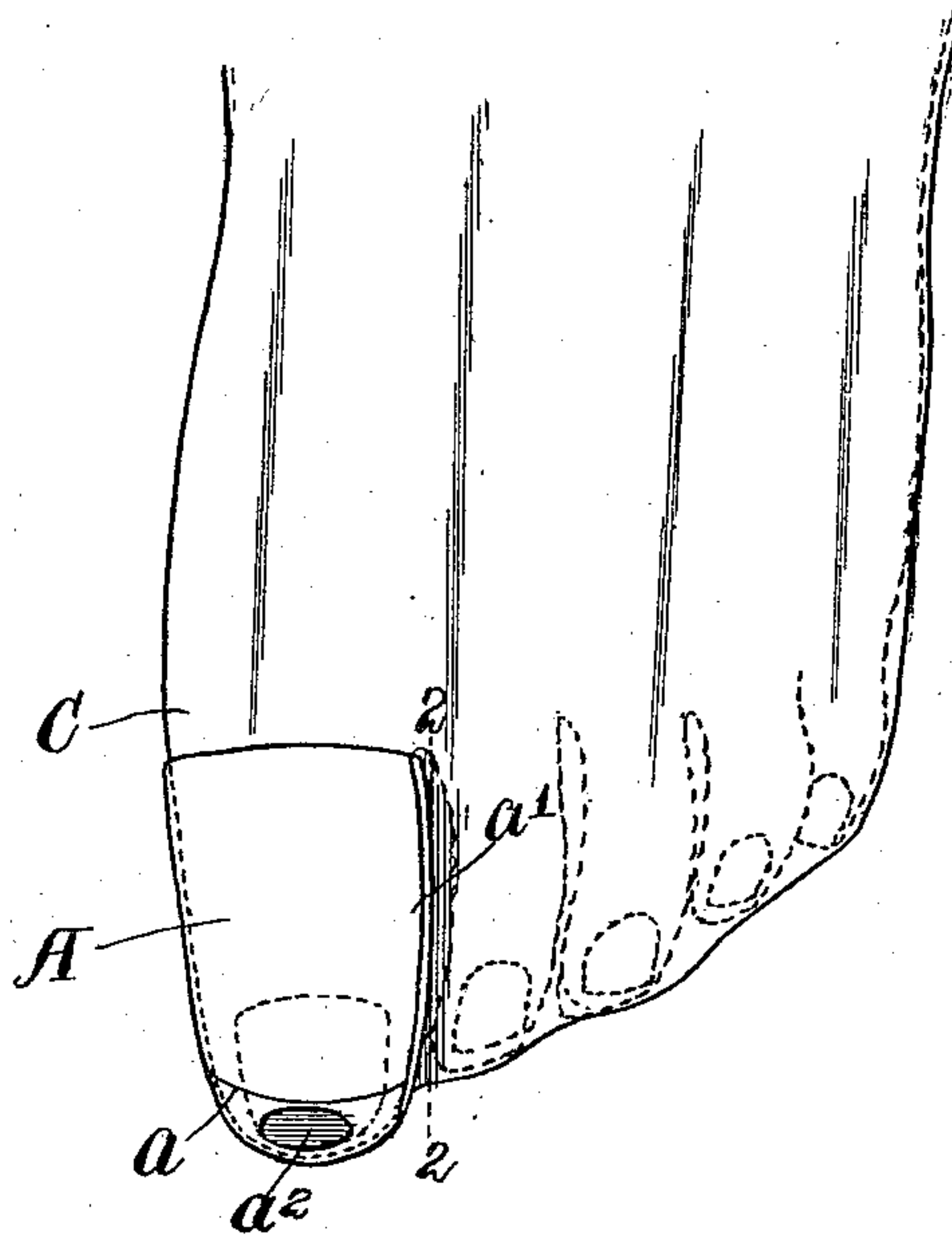


Fig 2

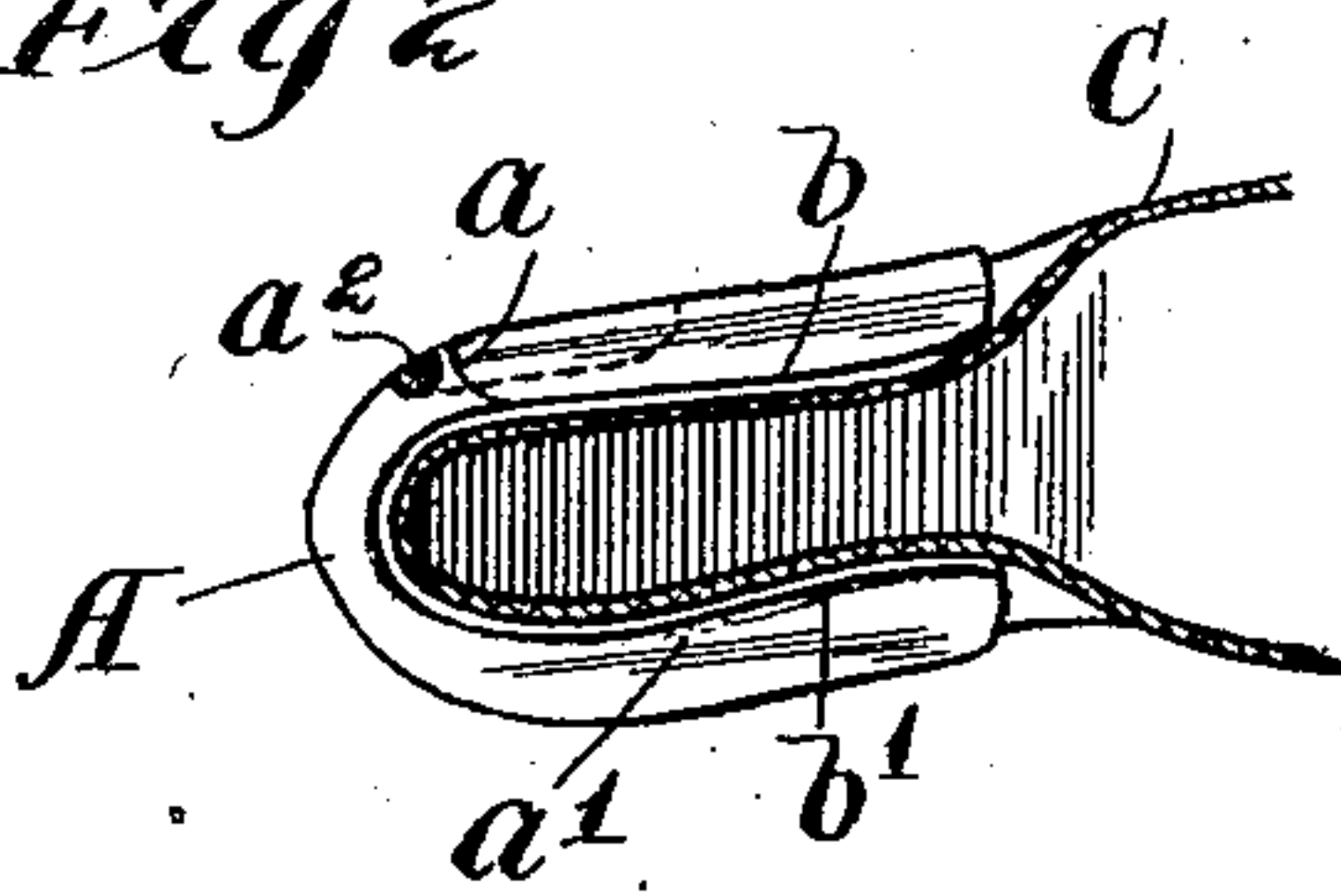


Fig 3

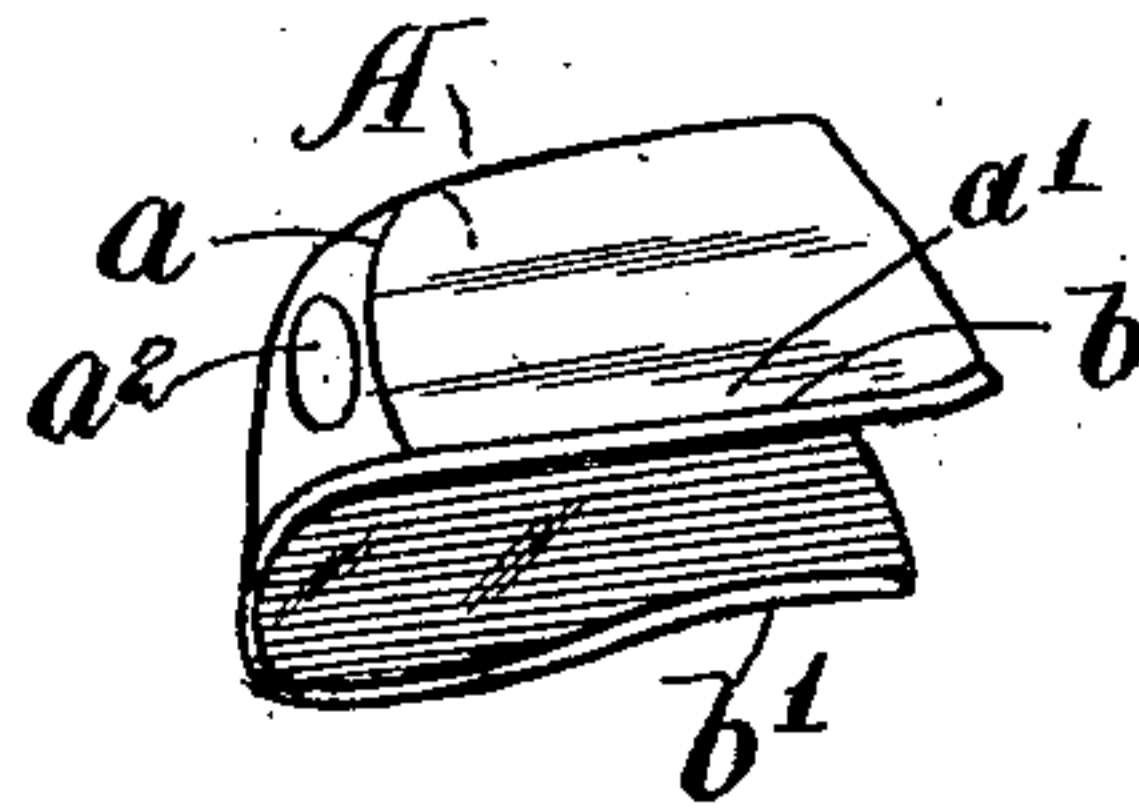
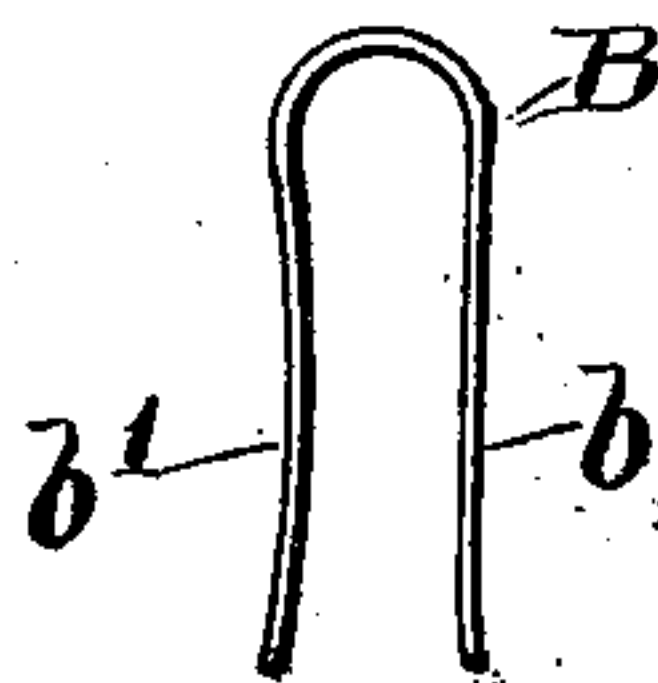


Fig 4



Witnesses:-

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS E. SOMERVILLE, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## SHIELD FOR STOCKINGS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 689,600, dated December 24, 1901.

Application filed March 15, 1901. Serial No. 51,264. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS E. SOMERVILLE, of Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shields for Stockings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, 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 a shield for stockings.

The invention consists in the matters hereinafter set forth, and more particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

This invention relates especially to a device for covering the toe of the stocking, so as to protect it from wear against the shoe-lining, and therefore to prolong the period of wear of the stocking as a whole.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a portion of a stocking-foot with the shield secured thereon. Fig. 2 is a view, partially in section on line 2 2 of Fig. 1 and partially in elevation, showing the manner of securing the device in place. Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of the shield. Fig. 4 is a view of the spring-clip for retaining the device in position.

As shown in the drawings, the device comprises a guard or tip A, made of a single piece of flexible soft leather, such as chamois, formed to cover the sides and tip of that portion of a stocking C which covers the first toe when on the wearer's foot, the seam  $a$  necessary to secure the proper form being so positioned as to be over the outer part of the nail of the wearer, so that no inconvenience is occasioned. A U-shaped clip B, of spring-wire, is secured to that portion of the margin  $a'$  of the guard which is arranged to lie preferably between the first and second toes, so that its arms extend lengthwise of the foot. Said guard is so shaped that it will engage the stocking and hold the guard in place. The clip is made with its upper jaw  $b$  straight and its lower jaw  $b'$  curved slightly upward near its inner end to conform to the ball of the toe. As the guard is so fashioned that the clip engages the position of the stocking between the first and second toes of the wearer and the jaws of the clip do not come between the shoe and the foot, there is no discomfort occasioned to the wearer. The guard fits snugly over the foot and because of the

lightness of the leather is worn without annoyance. It is a perfect protection to the toe of the stocking and prevents the usual excessive wear thereof at that point. As the guard is found to wear unevenly, it is made with a reinforcing strip or patch  $a^2$ , which is placed at that portion of the guard which is most liable to wear. Said reinforcement is secured in position by cement, preferably, and may be renewed from time to time as required. It will be understood that the guards are made in pairs right and left.

I claim as my invention—

1. A stocking-shield comprising a guard made of a thin flexible material and shaped to cover the portion of the stocking which covers the first toe when on the wearer's foot; said shield being provided with a lateral opening which is adapted to pass over the portion of the stocking between the first and second toes of the wearer and means for retaining the guard in position.

2. A stocking-shield comprising a guard made of thin flexible material and shaped to cover the portion of the stocking which covers the first toe when on the wearer's foot, said shield being provided with a lateral opening adapted to pass over the portion of the stocking between the first and second toes of the wearer and provided also with a reinforcing-strip secured to said guard and means for retaining the guard in position.

3. A stocking-shield comprising a guard of thin, flexible material shaped to cover the portion of the stocking which covers the first toe when on the wearer's foot, and a spring-clip secured thereto for retaining the guard in position.

4. A stocking-shield comprising a guard of thin flexible material shaped to cover the portion of the stocking which covers the first toe when on the wearer's foot, and a spring-clip secured to the inner margin of said guard adapted to engage the portion of the stocking between the first and second toes of the wearer.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 12th day of March, A. D. 1901.

THOMAS E. SOMERVILLE.

Witnesses:

GERTRUDE BRYCE,  
BERTHA A. PRICE.