

W. H. SIMMONS.  
DRESS SHIELD.  
APPLICATION FILED APR. 6, 1908.

906,825.

Patented Dec. 15, 1908.

FIG. 1.

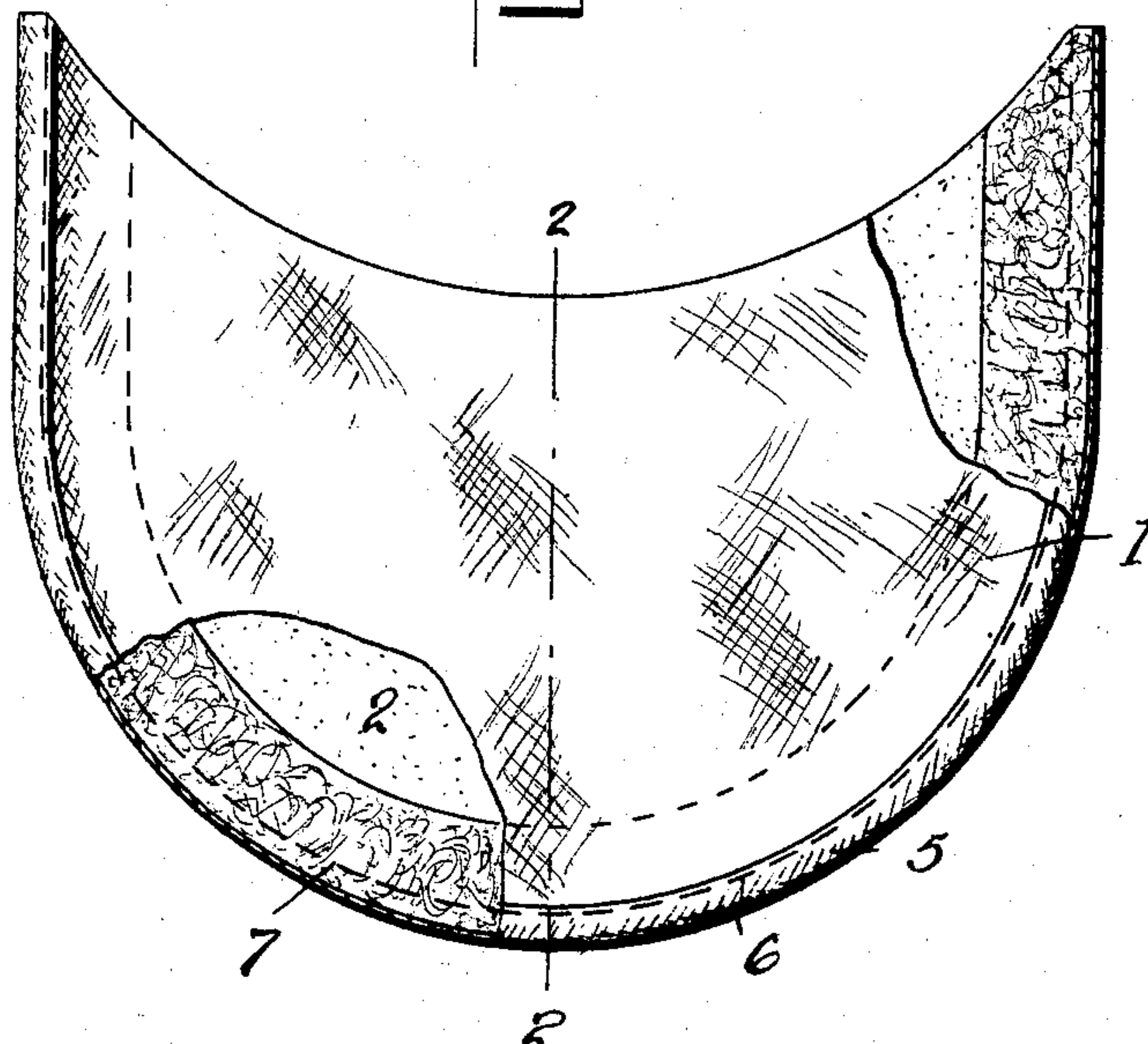


FIG. 4.

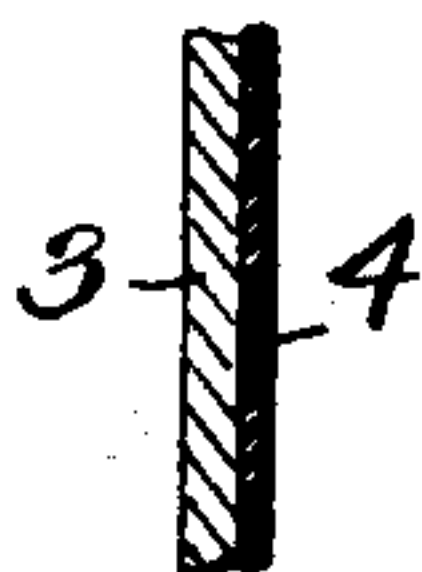


FIG. 2.

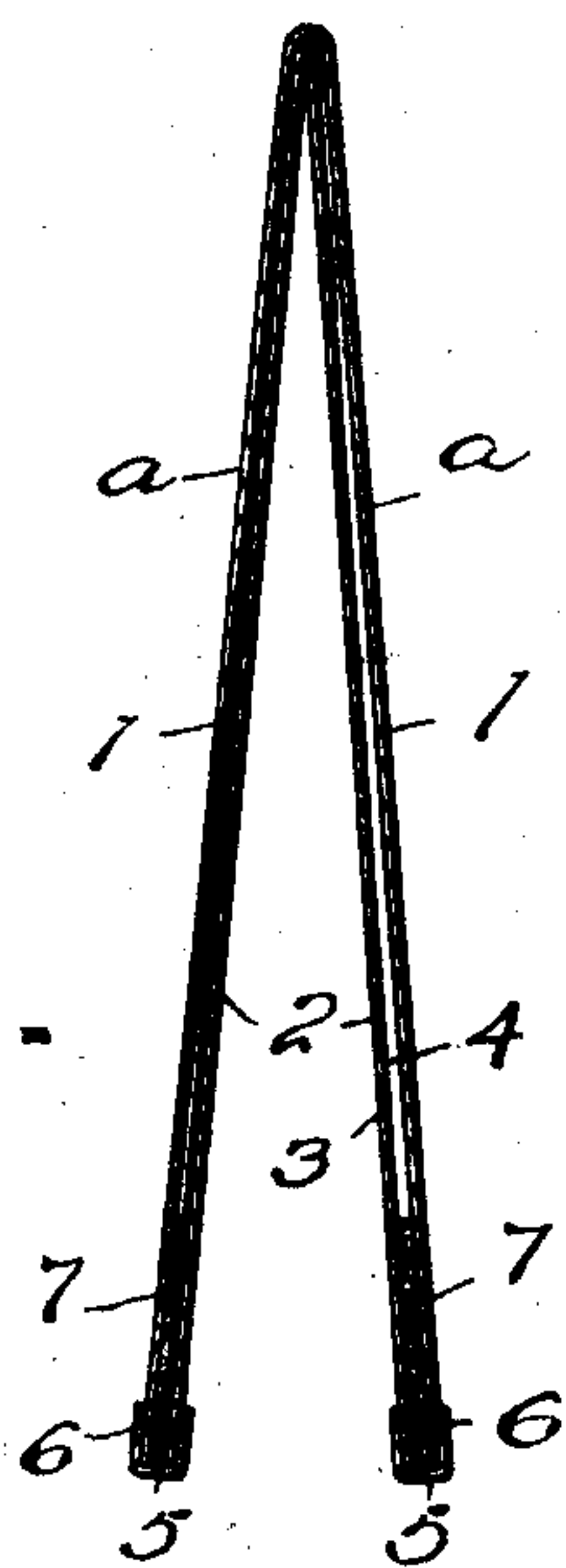
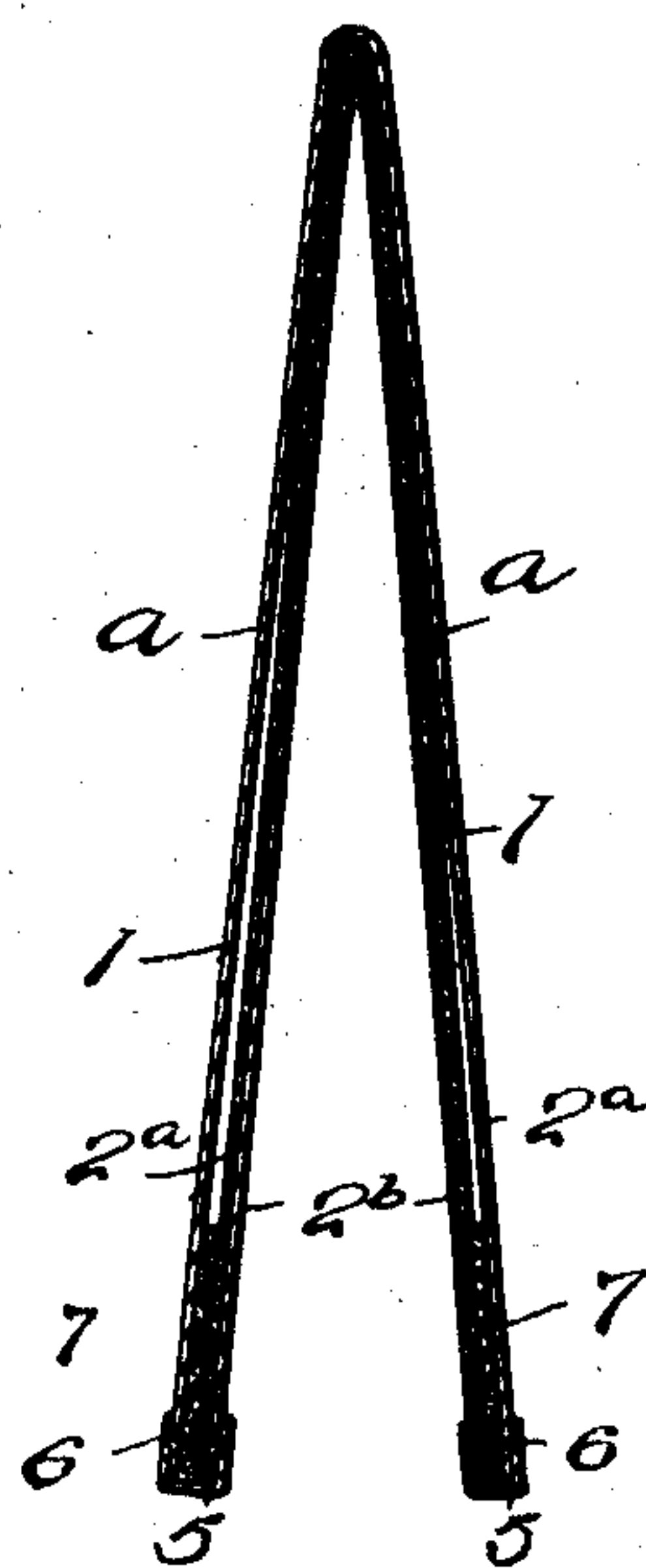


FIG. 3.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM HENRY SIMMONS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## DRESS-SHIELD.

No. 906,825.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Dec. 15, 1908.

Application filed April 6, 1908. Serial No. 425,297.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HENRY SIMMONS, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Dress-Shields, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is, in a dress shield, to provide efficient means for absorbing the perspiration, without effectively increasing the bulk or warmth of the shield.

To this end, the invention consists in a dress shield, comprising two wings of customary shape, each of which consists of a pervious outer layer, a substantially impervious inner layer, and a narrow strip of absorbent material secured between the layers, extending from one upper corner of the wings around the lateral and lower margins thereof to the other upper corner.

Heretofore, one of the difficulties with dress shields has been the running over of the perspiration, not only from the lower marginal regions, but also very largely from the lateral marginal regions adjacent the upper corners; the result being staining of the clothing to greater or less degree. To correct this defect, the outer layer of the shield has been made of absorbent material, or a sheet of absorbent material has been placed between an outer pervious layer and an inner impervious layer; but both these constructions so add to the thickness and warmth of the shield, that there is more loss than gain in the matter of preventing staining of the clothing. Another construction heretofore proposed is one in which a comparatively broad segmental absorbent piece is placed between pervious and impervious layers; but in this case the segmental piece occupies too much of the area of the shield, and, most important, terminates at both ends considerably short of the upper corners of the shield. As I have already stated, perspiration runs over, not only from the lower marginal regions of the ordinary shields, but also to large extent from the upper lateral marginal regions adjacent the corners. As a matter of fact, there is a peculiar tendency for perspiration to run out into the clothing from these regions. This tendency is due in part to the swinging of the arm, which, as it were, pumps the moisture off the lateral margins of the shield at the corners, and in part to the folding-over of the corners, which so

often occurs and which induces an extra flow of perspiration at these regions. According to this invention, the absorbent material is in the form of a narrow strip or trap extending around the lower and lateral marginal regions from one upper corner to the other, whereby the perspiration passes through the outer pervious layer, spreads over the impervious layer, and is trapped by the strip. Of course, while I refer to the absorbent trap as a marginal strip, it will be understood that it is not necessarily of any particular form, or necessarily secured immediately between the edges of the layers; the important thing being that the absorbent material be restricted to a region at or near the margins, so that the major portion of the shield has neither increased thickness nor increased warmth.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a face view of a shield embodying my invention, showing the pervious outer layer torn away in two places to reveal the absorbent trap; Fig. 2 is a section on the line 2—2, Fig. 1; Fig. 3 is a similar section, showing the invention applied to a different style of shield, known as the "double cover" shield; and Fig. 4 is a fractional sectional view, showing a conventionalized representation of a fabric for the inner impervious layer.

In Fig. 1, showing a single cover shield, *a, a*, indicate the two wings of the shield; 1 the outer layer of each wing, which may be of the sheerest nainsook or silk, or any other desired pervious material; and 2 the inner layer, consisting of a textile backing 3 with a facing 4 of rubber or rubber composition, or any waterproof or perspiration-proof material. 5 is a folded binding strip, which embraces the lateral and lower edges of the layers 1 and 2, and 6 the stitching passing through the binding and the layers. These parts will be recognized as those of an ordinary shield, except that it has not been practicable heretofore to make the layer 1 of such sheer material as my improved construction enables me to use if I so desire.

In Fig. 3, showing a double cover shield, the layer 1 may be as in Figs. 1 and 2; while the inner layer 2<sup>a</sup> may be a sheet of rubber, and an inmost layer or cover 2<sup>b</sup> of suitable cloth is provided. These parts, also, will be recognized as customary. These two forms of shield are illustrated to emphasize the fact that the improvement constituting the



present invention is not restricted in its applicability to any one style of shield. It will be observed that, in both of the forms illustrated, there is a pervious outer layer 5 and a substantially impervious inner layer. I wish it to be understood that this impervious layer may be of any material or materials suitable for preventing the passage of perspiration therethrough. In the various 10 makes of shield on the market there is a wide range of such materials.

Coming now to the present improvement, the numeral 7, in all the views, indicates the narrow marginal absorbent trap, which extends from corner to corner of each wing of 15 the shield and which is preferably in the form of a curved strip secured between the marginal regions of the pervious outer layer and the impervious inner layer, by the stitching 6. This trap may be of any suitable 20 absorbent material, such as, for instance, fine French flannel. The absorbent trap, thus, lies against the face of the impervious layer, at or near the lower and

lateral marginal region thereof, so that it 25 is adapted to catch the moisture that otherwise might drip and run over the edge of the shield. It will be noted that the absorbent trap occupies but a very small portion of the interior of the shield; so that 30 the thickness, and consequent warmth, of the article are not noticeably increased.

What I claim as new is:

A dress shield, comprising two wings of customary shape, each of which consists 35 of a pervious outer layer, a substantially impervious inner layer, and a narrow strip of absorbent material secured between the layers, extending from one upper corner of the wing around the lateral and lower mar- 40 gins thereof to the other upper corner.

Signed at New York, N. Y. this 3d day of April 1908.

WILLIAM HENRY SIMMONS.

Witnesses:

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