

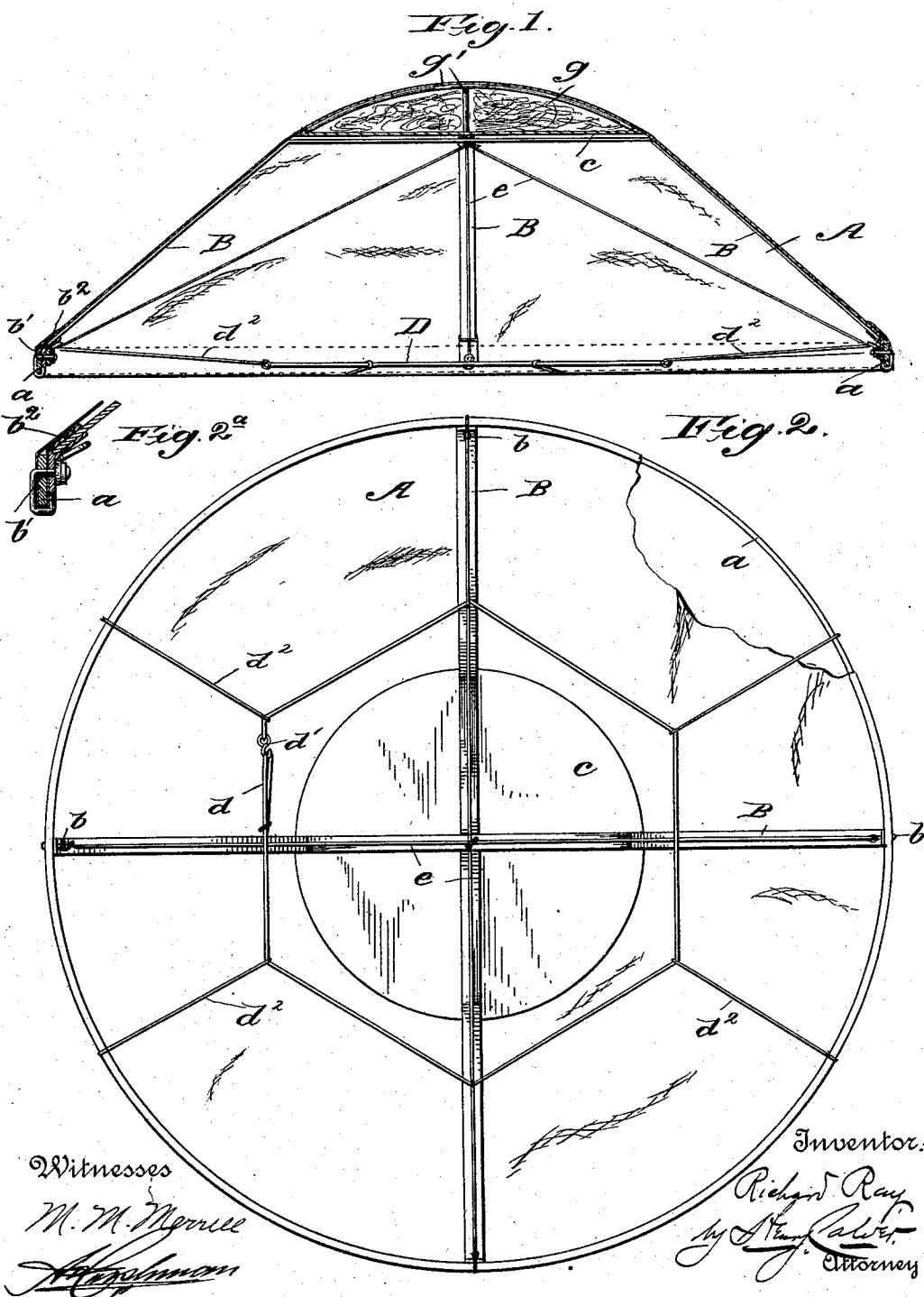
(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 1.

R. RAY.
SUNSHADE HAT.

No. 588,241.

Patented Aug. 17, 1897.



(No Model.)

4 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.

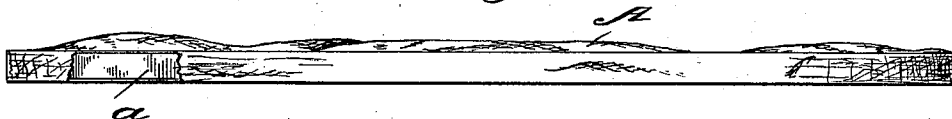
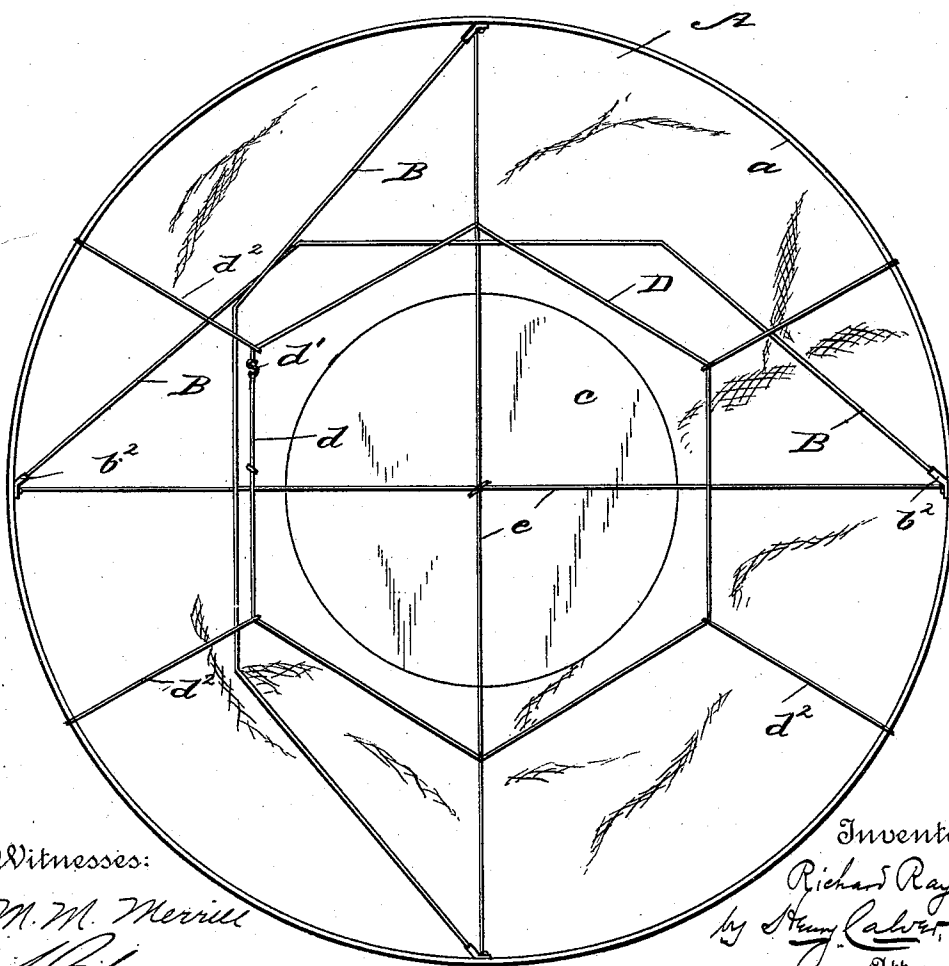


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

M. M. Merrill

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Inventor:

Richard Ray

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Attorney.

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Fig. 5.

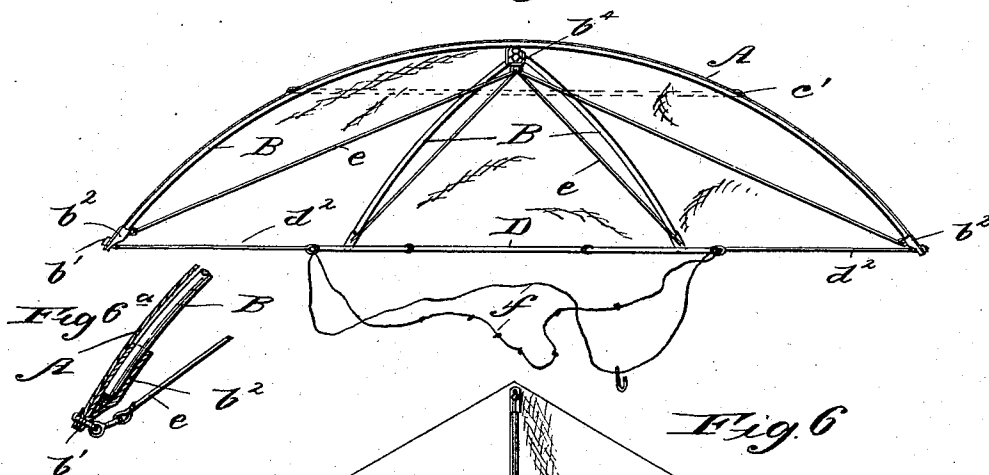
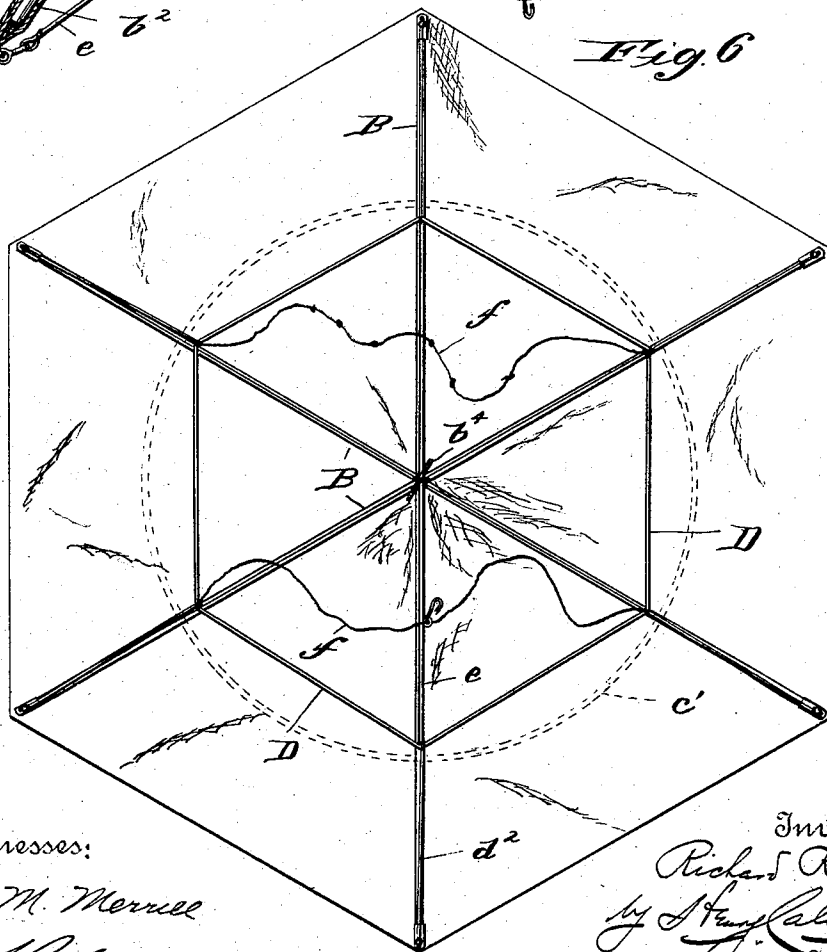


Fig. 6.



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(No Model.)

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Fig. 7.

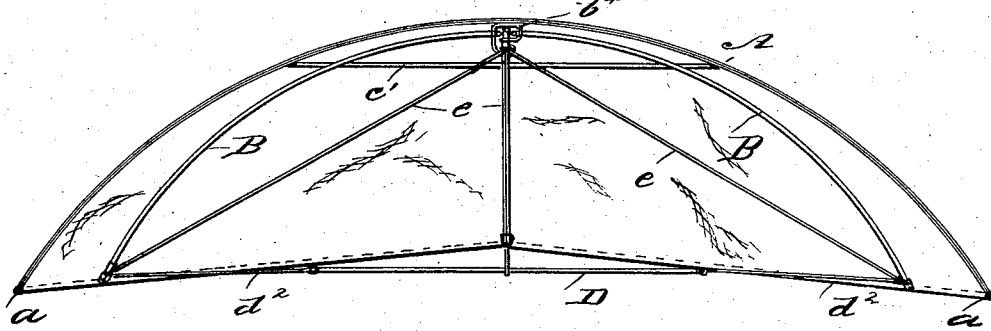
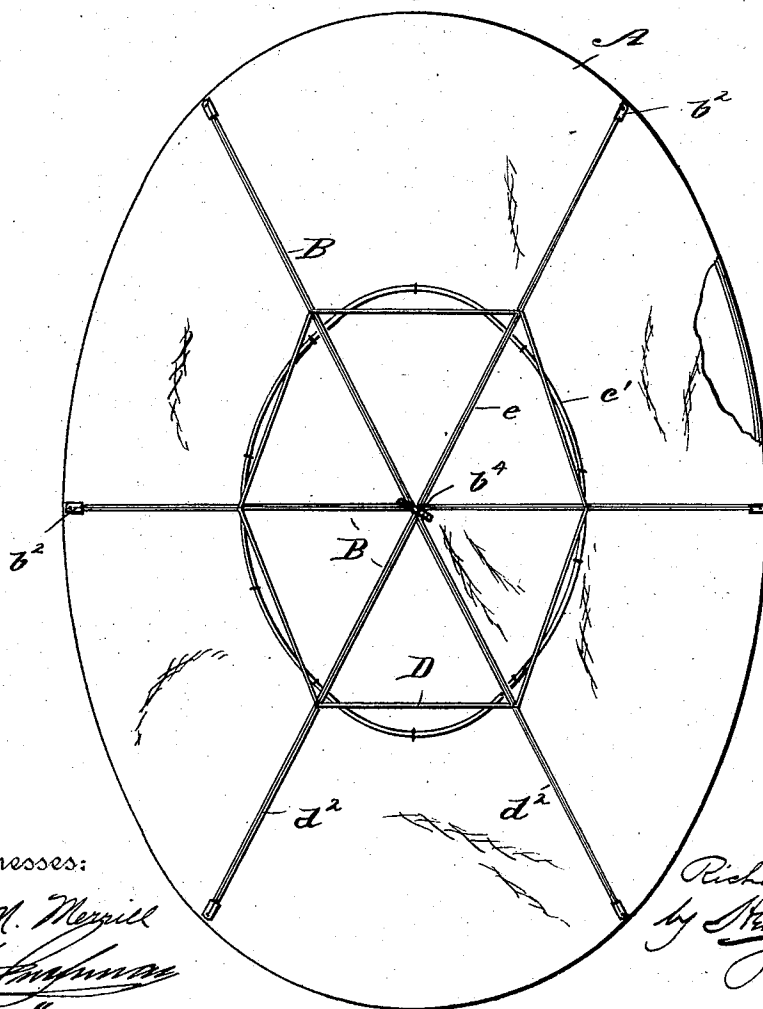


Fig. 8.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD RAY, OF STARKE, FLORIDA.

SUNSHADE-HAT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,241, dated August 17, 1897.

Application filed April 2, 1897. Serial No. 630,458. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD RAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Starke, in the county of Bradford and State of Florida, have
5 invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sunshade-Hats, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention has for its object to provide
10 a cheap and convenient hat which may be worn as a sunshade and which is collapsible, so that it can be folded into comparatively small compass for transportation or when not in use. To this end my improved hat, the body
15 of which consists of one or more thicknesses of suitable textile fabric, preferably comprises a plurality of curved or otherwise-bent distending-ribs, which are pivoted or hinged at their ends to the rim or periphery of the hat-body, so that they may be folded together so
20 as to lie in approximately the same plane when the hat is to be flattened out or may be turned up into operative position to distend the hat into an umbrella-like shape, or the
25 shape of a spread umbrella. These distending-ribs, when placed in operative or distending positions, all cross each other and may be retained in place by a hook or other detachable engaging device, if made of round wire,
30 or if made of slender flattened metal bars they will remain in operative position with sufficient reliability when used in connection with a stiff crown-piece, against which they will press in distending the hat, so that their
35 frictional contact therewith will hold them in position.

For lightness and cheapness of construction the hat-support, which is to rest upon the head of the wearer, consists, preferably,
40 of a head cord or band which is connected with the rim of the hat either by wires or cords and which is preferably made expandible or contractible to suit heads of different sizes by means of a slip-knot loop at one end
45 of the head-cord, passing through a suitable hook or loop at the other end thereof. Thus the hat will rest lightly on the head of the wearer and may be held in place by means of one or more safety-cords attached to the
50 hat and intended to be passed beneath the chin of the wearer or otherwise, said safety-cords being preferably made adjustable as to

length by slip-knots, so as to be readily tightened or loosened. Coöperating with the head-cord referred to I also preferably employ a
55 series of stay-cords, which are attached at their ends to the rim of the hat and which, crossing each other above the said head-cord, pass over the top of the head of the wearer, so that a portion of the weight of the hat may
60 be supported thereby, and these cords will preferably be sufficiently taut so that they will not be pushed upward into contact with the distending-ribs or the top of the hat, and thus the wearer's head will be prevented from
65 coming into contact with the distending-ribs or the inside of the top of the hat. This of course will permit of the free circulation of air over the top of the head of the wearer, contributing to coolness and comfort.

The center or crown portion of the hat-body is preferably provided with a stiffening or bracing device which receives the pressure of the distending-ribs when the hat is to be
70 pressed into shape for use, and this stiffening or bracing device may be either in the form of a circular piece of cardboard or other suitable stiff material placed either between the
75 plies of the fabric constituting the body of the hat or inside thereof, or it may consist merely of a light metal ring formed of wire or other suitable material.

To render my hat a better non-conductor of the heat of the sun's rays, the crown portion or top of the body thereof is preferably stuffed
80 or lined with cotton or other suitable light non-conducting material, and, if desired, this top or crown portion may be held slightly distended above the stiffening or crown piece by means of curved spring-ribs.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section of one form of my improved hat in its distended or wearing shape, and Fig. 2 is an inside plan view thereof. Fig. 2^a is a detail view illustrating the hinge or joint
95 connection of one of the distending-ribs with the rim of the hat. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the hat shown in Figs. 1 and 2 in a folded or collapsed condition, and Fig. 4 is an inside plan view of the same. Figs. 5 and 6 are
100 views similar to Figs. 1 and 2, illustrating a slightly-different form of my invention; and Fig. 6^a is a detail view to illustrate the hinge or joint of one of the distending-ribs of the

form of my hat shown in Figs. 5 and 6. Figs. 7 and 8 are sectional and inside plan views, respectively, of still another form of my invention.

5 The body portion A of my improved hat consists, preferably, of two plies of any suitable textile fabric cut into proper form and preferably distended circularly by a rim-ring
10 a of wire or other suitable spring metal which will give the hat proper form. Suitably pivoted at their ends to the rim of the hat are curved or otherwise-bent distending-ribs B, which when in their operative positions are arranged to cross each other at or
15 near the center of the crown of the hat, so as to give the latter a distended shape like that of a spread umbrella. Any suitable number of these distending-ribs may be employed, but two or three of them only are sufficient.
20 These distending-ribs, being pivoted at their ends to the rim of the hat, may, when desired, be swung down so as to be brought into approximately the same plane, and thus permit the hat to be flattened out when it is
25 not in use. To permit these distending-ribs to operate properly in stretching the hat into wearing shape, the crown of the hat is preferably provided with a stiffening or bracing device, which may be in the form of a disk of
30 cardboard or other stiff material c or may be simply a light ring c' of wire or other suitable material. These distending-ribs may be pivoted directly to the rim of the hat or to the distending rim-ring a thereof by pins or
35 pivots b, passing through both parts thereof, or the ends of these distending-ribs may enter sockets, as b², which are in turn joined by pivot-pins b' to the rim of the hat. When these socket-pieces b² are employed, it is obvious that the distending-ribs may be readily
40 inserted therein or removed therefrom at pleasure, and this construction will be found convenient in putting the hat together.

As the hat-support I preferably employ a
45 head cord or band D, one end of which may be provided with a slip-knot d, passing through a metal hook or loop d', secured to the other end thereof, thereby rendering the said head-cord adjustable as to size to fit different persons. This head-cord is connected with the
50 rim of the hat and is held distended by a suitable number of wires or cords d². In order that the head of the wearer may be prevented from coming in contact with the top of the hat and so as to afford a free circulation of
55 air over the top of the wearer's head, I provide a series of stay-cords e, which are attached at their ends to the rim of the hat and which cross each other at the center of the hat above the said head-cord to form a skeleton support which will rest lightly on the top of the head of the wearer and which will, as
60 just stated, prevent the inside of the hat from coming in contact with the wearer's head, the hat being supported on the head by means of these stay-cords e and the head-cord D. As
65 the hat thus rests lightly upon the head of

the wearer one or more safety or attaching
cords f to pass beneath the chin of the wearer or to be otherwise disposed are preferably employed, these safety-cords being attached at
70 their ends to the head-cord D and being preferably made adjustable as to length by means of slip-knots or otherwise, so that they may be readily tightened or loosened.

In the form of my invention shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4 the distending-ribs B are provided with angular bends, so that the form of the hat in connection with which they are used is approximately that of a truncated
80 cone, but in the form of my invention shown in Figs. 5, 6, 7, and 8 the distending-ribs B are simply curved ribs, which give the hat when distended for use an umbrella or dome like shape. These distending-ribs when
85 made of round wire, as shown in Figs. 5, 6, 7, and 8, have but little frictional hold on the textile body portion of the hat when it is in distended shape, and for detachably fastening them in place I preferably employ a retaining device which may be made in the
90 form of a hook b⁴, which can be engaged with all the ribs at the apex or central crown portion of the hat where they cross each other, and thus said hook will hold all of the said
95 ribs in place.

To prevent the heat of the sun's rays from penetrating the hat, the top of the crown thereof may be stuffed or lined with cotton or other suitable light non-conducting material g, which may be placed between the
100 plies of the body of the hat or between the hat-body and the stiff crown-piece c, and the textile body of the hat above the stuffing or non-conducting material will preferably be held distended or rounded up by curved
105 spring-ribs g', the ends of which brace against the said stiff crown-piece.

It will be understood, of course, that either of the forms of distending-ribs herein shown
110 may be employed either in connection with the stiffening crown-piece or bracing device c or with the bracing-ring c' illustrated, or that these distending-ribs may be used either with or without the socket-pieces in which
115 the ends of the ribs shown in Fig. 6^a are illustrated as being inserted. Also, by employing the stiff crown-piece c in connection with the curved springs g' the distending-ribs B and the crossing stay or supporting cords
120 might be omitted, as in such case the said stiff crown-piece might rest on the head of the wearer or be suitably supported above the head by any sort of a light folding frame or other support. It will also be understood
125 that the details of my invention may be otherwise varied within the province of mechanical skill without departing from the spirit thereof.

Having thus described my invention, I
130 claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A folding sunshade-hat comprising the combination with a suitable body portion, of

bent distending-ribs which are arranged to cross each other and which are hinged or pivoted at their ends to the rim of the hat so that they may be brought into operative position to distend the hat-body, or may be folded down into a common level, or approximately so, when the hat is to be collapsed or flattened out, said ribs extending continuously across the hat-body.

2. A sunshade-hat comprising a suitable body portion provided with a circular rim-ring by which the same is held distended circularly, combined with a head cord or band and a series of cords or connecting devices joining said head-cord with the rim of the hat, and bent distending-ribs crossing each other and extending continuously from one edge to the other of the hat-body and pivoted at their ends to the rim of said body so as to be adapted to be folded down into the same plane when the hat is to be collapsed or flattened out.

3. A sunshade-hat comprising a suitable body portion provided with a circular rim-ring by which the same is held distended, combined with an adjustable head cord or band and a series of cords or connecting devices joining said head-cord with the rim of the hat, a series of stay-cords connected at their ends to the rim of the hat and crossing each other above the said head-cord, and crossing distending-ribs pivoted at their outer ends to the rim of the hat.

4. A folding sunshade-hat comprising the combination with a suitable body portion, of bent distending-ribs crossing each other and hinged or pivoted at their ends to the rim of the hat, so that they may be brought into operative position to distend the hat-body, or may be folded down into a common level, or approximately so, when the hat is to be flattened out, and a head cord or band suitably connected with the rim of the hat.

5. A folding sunshade-hat comprising the combination with a suitable body portion, of bent distending-ribs crossing each other and hinged or pivoted at their ends to the rim of the hat so that they may be brought into operative position to distend the hat-body, or may be folded down into a common level, or approximately so, when the hat is to be flattened out, said ribs extending continuously across the hat-body, a head cord or band suitably connected with the rim of the hat, and a series of stay-cords connected at their ends to the rim of the hat and crossing each other above said head-cord.

6. A folding sunshade-hat comprising the

combination with a suitable body portion, of a series of bent distending-ribs crossing each other and extending continuously across the body of the hat, and a series of sockets pivoted or hinged to the rim of the hat and into which sockets the ends of the said distending-ribs are inserted.

7. A folding sunshade-hat comprising the combination with a suitable body portion, of bent distending-ribs which are hinged or pivoted at their ends to the rim of the hat so that they may be placed either in operative or folding positions, and a stiffening or bracing device in the crown or central portion of the hat which is to receive the pressure of said distending-ribs.

8. A folding sunshade-hat comprising the combination with a suitable body portion, of bent distending-ribs which are hinged or connected at their ends to the rim of the hat so that they may be placed either in operative or folding positions, and which are arranged to cross each other at the apex or crown of the hat when they are in their operative positions, a stiffening or bracing device in the crown or central portion of the hat which is to receive the pressure of said distending-ribs, and a fastening device or hook by which the said crossing distending-ribs may all be held in their operative positions when the hat is distended for use.

9. A sunshade-hat consisting of a textile collapsible body portion provided with folding ribs crossing each other and by which the hat, when in operative shape, is suitably distended, said hat having at its apex or central crown portion a lining of cotton or similar light non-conducting material *g* to serve as a non-conductor to prevent the passage of the heat of the sun.

10. A sunshade-hat consisting of a textile body portion provided at its apex or central crown portion with a stiff crown-piece above which is a lining or stuffing of cotton or similar light non-conducting material *g* to serve as a non-conductor to prevent the passage of the heat-rays of the sun, combined with curved spring-ribs *g'* braced against said stiff crown-piece and serving to distend the crown or central portion of the hat.

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

RICHARD RAY.

Witnesses:

N. W. HACKETT,
E. L. STEWART.