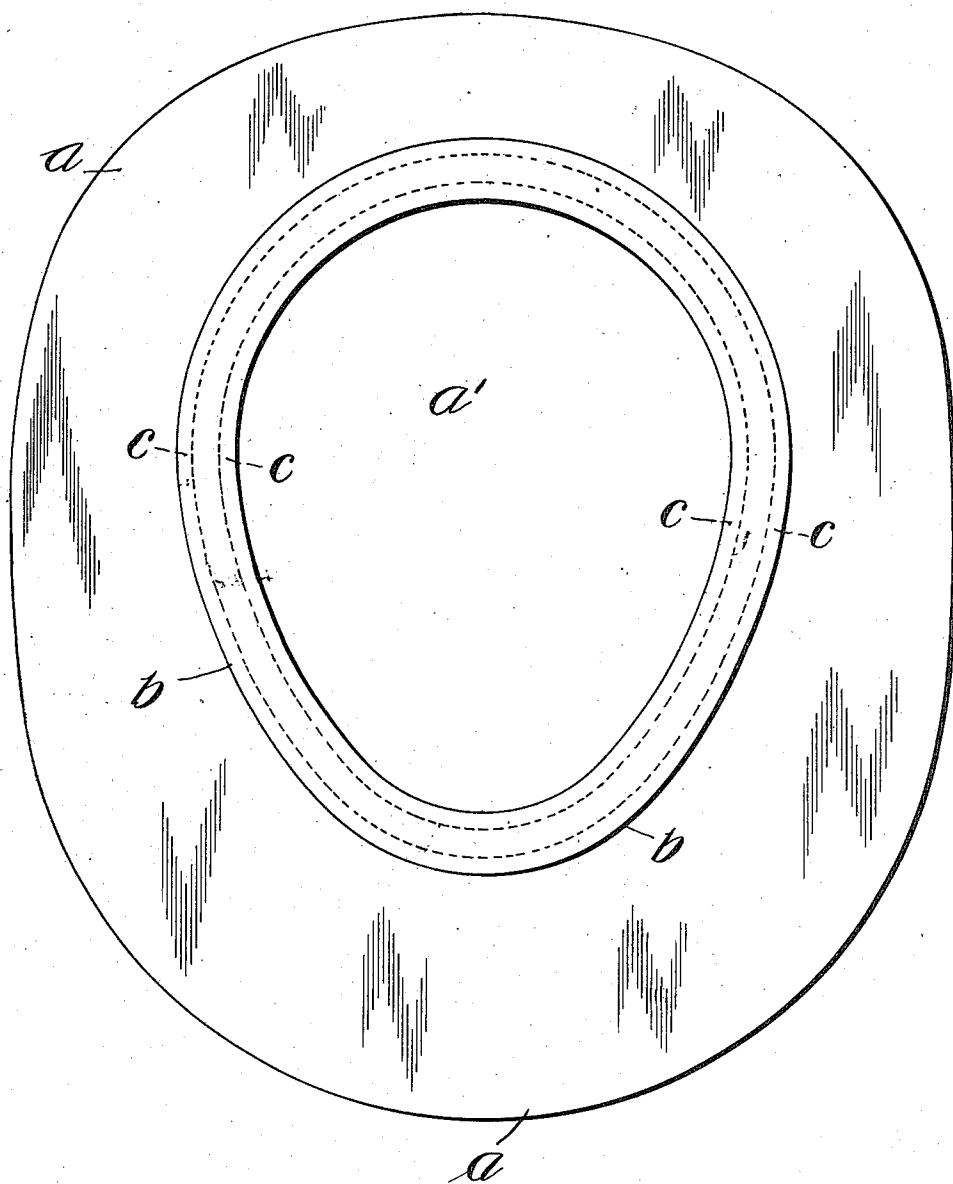


G. E. W. MILLER.
TOILET SEAT PROTECTOR.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 18, 1909.

963,792.

Patented July 12, 1910.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GUSTAF E. W. MILLER, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

TOILET-SEAT PROTECTOR.

963,792.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 12, 1910.

Application filed August 18, 1909. Serial No. 513,391.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GUSTAF E. W. MILLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Toilet-Seat Protector, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a protector adapted to be used on closet-seats and the like for the purpose of preventing the spread of disease or vermin thereby when used particularly in public places, such as hotels, railway stations, office buildings, and the like.

The principal objects of the invention are to provide a construction in which the inner edge of the protector will be rendered strong so as not likely to be torn, and at the same time to provide a construction in which the inner edge will keep in shape and not be likely to become distorted either by use or storage.

It is also an object of this invention to accomplish these results in an article of manufacture of inexpensive form so that it can be used once and then discarded.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawing, in which the figure is a plan of a preferred embodiment of the invention.

In the form illustrated the protector is shown as comprising a thin sheet *a* preferably formed of tissue paper and having an opening *a'* therethrough of a general oval or ovate form. Around the edge of this opening is secured a reinforcing strip *b* which is cut from a sheet of thin material preferably of tissue paper and is continuous all around the opening. This reinforcing strip, of course, has an opening of similar size and shape to the opening *a'*, and one is superposed on the other so that their inner edges coincide. Although the reinforcing strip can be placed on either side of the sheet or one on both sides, I prefer to place a single one on the lower side as indicated in the drawing. This leaves a top surface without seams or irregularities.

It is well known that ordinary tissue paper has a slight grain so that a tear started at any point tends to turn in a certain direction, or at least it is easier to tear it longitudinally with respect to the grain than across it. I prefer to take advantage of this state of affairs by placing the reinforcing strip *b* with its grain at right angles, or at least at some material angle to the grain of the sheet *a*.

By doing this it will be seen that when a tear is started at the edge of the opening the grain of one sheet or the other will form considerable resistance to the spread thereof, and if the tear spreads it will tend to spread in two different directions, so that the slits thus formed will not coincide with each other throughout their length, therefore the surface of the seat will not be exposed. In addition to this also it is preferred to secure the reinforcing strip to the main sheet by means of two parallel lines *c* of paste or other adhesive material preferably extending entirely around the openings. These two lines take the shape of the central opening, and the inner one is substantially coincident with the edge thereof, while the outer one is spaced therefrom so as to leave a continuous space around the opening in which the two sheets do not adhere to each other. This feature is of importance even when the grains of the two sheets are parallel or when sheets are employed not having any grain, because any tear that may start at the inner edge will tend to diverge in the two sheets after it enters the space where they do not adhere, whereas if they adhere to each other throughout their contacting surfaces the tear would ordinarily have to follow a single line, thus exposing a portion of the seat. This feature is particularly valuable when paper is used not having a grain or when the grains are crossed as specified hereinbefore. The reason for the advantage in the latter case will be obvious from the above description, and it will be seen that there will be a similar result in the former case, because the paper not having a grain will not tear along straight or regular lines.

While I have illustrated and described a preferred embodiment of the invention and specified certain materials and relations thereof, I am aware that many modifications can be made therein by any person skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the invention as expressed in the claims. Therefore I do not wish to be limited to all the details of construction, material, and arrangements set forth, but

What I do claim is:—

1. As an article of manufacture, a toilet seat protector comprising a sheet of paper having an opening therethrough, and a continuous reinforcing strip of paper of a substantially uniform width along the edge thereof, the inner edges of both pieces being

substantially coincident, said reinforcing strip being pasted to the sheet along two substantially parallel lines spaced apart.

2. As an article of manufacture, a temporary toilet seat protector consisting of a thin sheet of paper having an opening therethrough, and an uninterrupted reinforcing strip of substantially the same thickness pasted to the sheet along two parallel lines spaced apart, said sheet and strip being free from each other along the space between said lines and said space extending entirely around the opening.

3. As an article of manufacture, a toilet seat protector comprising a sheet of tissue paper having an opening therethrough and a reinforcing strip cut from a sheet of tissue paper having an opening of similar shape and size, placed with the grain at an angle to the grain of the first named sheet, so that the openings are superposed, and secured to the sheet by two parallel lines of paste surrounding the openings and spaced apart.

4. As an article of manufacture, a toilet seat protector comprising a sheet of tissue

paper having an opening therethrough and a reinforcing strip cut from a sheet of tissue paper having an opening of similar shape and size, placed with the grain at an angle to the grain of the first named sheet, so that the openings are superposed, and secured to the sheet, said strip being of substantially uniform width and continuous entirely around the opening in the sheet.

5. As an article of manufacture, a toilet seat protector comprising a sheet of tissue paper having an opening therethrough and a reinforcing strip cut from a sheet of tissue paper having an opening of similar shape and size, placed with the grain at an angle to the grain of the first named sheet, so that the openings are superposed, and secured to the sheet.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GUSTAF E. W. MILLER.

Witnesses:

HAROLD P. WILLIAMS,
LOUIS C. DOYLE.