

(No Model.)

C. B. HALSTEAD.
HAT.

No. 567,234.

Patented Sept. 8, 1896.

Fig. 1.

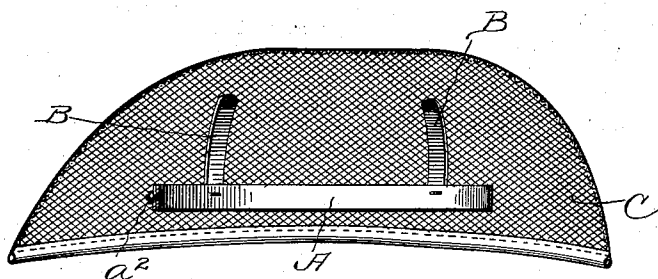


Fig. 2.

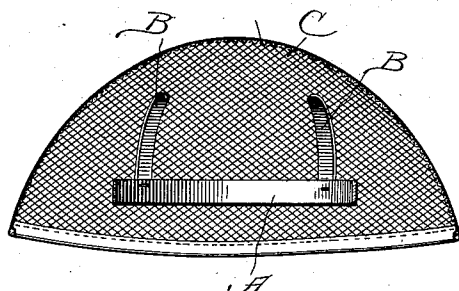
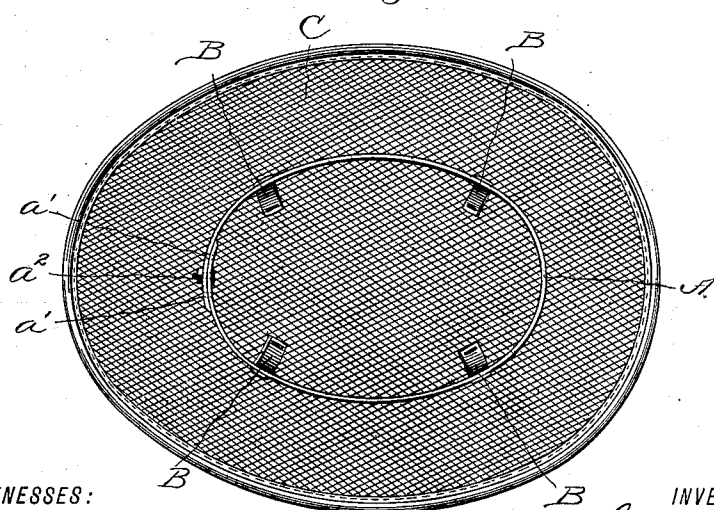
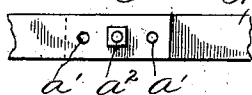


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 567,234, dated September 8, 1896.

Application filed March 7, 1896. Serial No. 582,260. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES BULLOCK HALSTEAD, of Humboldt, in the county of Allen and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hats; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to furnish a light, flexible, durable, cool hat for summer wear, which will well protect the face and neck, be a good protection against sunstroke, and admit of free circulation of air all around the head; and the special construction will appear in the following specification.

Figure 1 illustrates a longitudinal section of a hat made according to my invention; Fig. 2, a cross-section; Fig. 3, an under side view or plan; and Fig. 4, a detail, enlarged, showing one means for adjusting the length of the band.

That portion of the structure which comes in contact with the head consists of a leather band A, which is provided with several, say four, short leather standards B. The upper end of each of these standards is connected to a woven-wire frame C, which has substantially the form of half an egg-shell cut lengthwise, the under edges of this semioval being somewhat curved inward, as shown, and the narrower end being at the rear. This frame on all sides, as also at its top, stands far off from the head and from the band A, being about twice or more the circumference of the band, and thus leaves ample clear air-space all around the head, and affording a free circulation for breezes from any direction, and also a ready escape for any heat of the head. The location and size of the band A relatively to the large wire frame are such that the frame at its lowest lines projects considerably below the lower edge of the band, thus not only protecting the sides of the neck from the sun's rays, but at its front and back projecting not only a considerable distance beyond the head, but also by its curves projecting considerably downward to protect both the

face and the back of the neck. The standards B may be fastened to the frame C by stitching, or by clamps or rivets, or any convenient means, and may be stitched, clamped, or riveted to the leather band A. The frame I cover with any desired muslin, cloth, silk, or other suitable material which will serve to screen from the sun or protect from rain, snow, &c. The frame may be of common wire gauze or netting, of any degree of open mesh, or of galvanized wire. Aluminium I also find very desirable on account of its lightness and non-liability to rust or corrode. This covering over the wire-gauze also covers and protects the ends of wire of the under edge of this frame, and it is secured there by stitching or otherwise; and thus it prevents the spreading or separating of such ends and holds the meshes of the wire frame in place.

Another important feature of my invention is that its construction is such that any one hat is adapted to be fitted to any size of head. This is effected as follows: The band A is not endless, but has its two ends connected so as to permit its being let out or shortened up, as may be needed. This may be effected in various ways, but by way of illustration I have shown the band as having a series of holes $a' a'$ at one end and a small bolt and nut a^2 on its other end. This permits the bolt to be engaged with any one of the holes, as desired. It will be evident that other and equivalent means may be used, as, for instance, a hook on one end of the band and a series of eyes, eyelets, or holes on the other end, or by means of a slanting or cross slot in one end and a hook at the other end, which, on being inserted in such slot and turned part way around, will make a good fastening.

The hat has no brim and needs none.

It will be observed that there is absolutely free, open, uninterrupted space all around the head, between it and the frame, the body of this frame serving to perform in a measure the duty of a sun-umbrella, but supported by the head instead of the hands. It will also be seen that the mesh of wire-gauze permits of sheet-gauze being pressed to the ultimate oval shape required, and without any seams, irregularities, or doubling up; and that the bending up of its raw edge serves also to give the frame a strong selvage in addition

to the reinforcing which it also acquires from the securing of the covering around such bent or upturned edge.

I make no claim, broadly, for the mere use
5 of wire-gauze in the fabrication of a hat, and I am also aware that sheet metal has been used for hat-bodies; but,

What I claim is—

The described ventilating hat, having in
10 combination the following features, namely: the brimless, wire-gauze body having substantially the form as set forth, and of a size to extend above the head and to stand off from it in every direction, and having short leather
15 standards pendent from such gauze, an ad-

justable leather head-band fastened to such standards and located and held above the lower edge of the body of the hat, and this body having such edge bent over or retroverted, and having a textile covering over it 20 and over and around such bent edge, and stitched to itself through the mesh of the gauze and thus serving as a binding to protect and strengthen the cut wire edge and also to conceal it.

CHARLES BULLOCK HALSTEAD.

Witnesses:

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