

(No Model.)

G. H. STEDWELL.
GARMENT BINDING.

No. 587,879.

Patented Aug. 10, 1897.

Fig. 1.

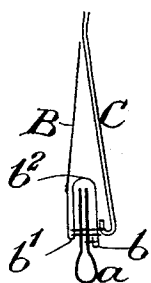


Fig. 2.

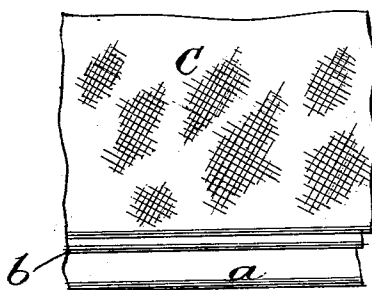


Fig. 3.

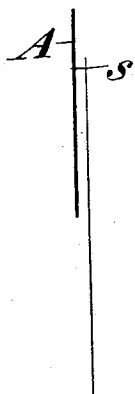


Fig. 4.

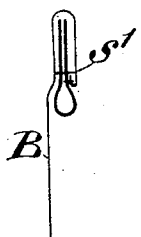
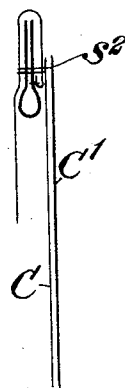


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:-
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. STEDWELL, OF HACKENSACK, NEW JERSEY.

GARMENT-BINDING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 587,879, dated August 10, 1897.

Application filed July 24, 1896. Serial No. 600,394. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. STEDWELL, of Hackensack, in the county of Bergen and State of New Jersey, have invented new and useful Improvements in Edge-Bindings for Garments, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in the structure of the edges of wearing-apparel, with the object in view of preventing them from fraying under frictional contact with surfaces with which they are liable to rub in use.

A further object is to form an edge which shall be sightly and in which the seams shall be concealed from view.

A practical embodiment of my invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a cross-section of the edge of a garment, in the present instance the lower edge of a skirt. Fig. 2 is a front view of the same. Fig. 3 is a view in transverse section, showing the first step on the construction of the edge. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing the position of the parts at the end of the second step in the construction of the edge, and Fig. 5 is a similar view showing the position of the parts at the end of the third step of the construction of the edge.

In the several transverse views which I have presented the distance between the adjacent layers of fabric or material is exaggerated in order to distinguish them, it being understood in practice that the several layers above the extreme edge will be pressed into close contact with one another, forming a total thickness not much, if any, greater than the thickness of the bight of material which forms the extreme edge.

The extreme edge, which serves to protect the layers of fabric back from it from wear and moisture, is preferably formed of a strip of rubber fabric A, having a tough and durable nature similar, for example, to the rubber-fabric weather-strip in common use, and this strip is folded over upon itself, forming a bight *a* at a point preferably about midway of its width, the fabric being secured to the opposite sides of the said folded strip A at points above or back from the bight *a*, so that the latter will be free to assume a rounded

shape (shown clearly in Figs. 1, 4, and 5) to give it a resiliency when receiving pressure upon the crown of the bight and at the same time giving it a width or thickness which will approach that of the several thicknesses of fabric attached to it, and thereby serve to effectually prevent them from coming in contact with any surface which may press upon the crown of the bight *a*.

In my preferred form I utilize the facing-strip B to form a welt below the bottom of the skirt or garment goods C and also to form a finish for the edges of the folded strip A, as well as to form a facing on the inside of the garment edge. It is to be understood, however, that the continuous strip B from the welt on the exposed side of the edge over to the position of the facing on the inner side of the edge is a matter of choice and for purposes of concealing the edges of the folded strip A and not a matter of necessity in forming the essential features of the garment edge, since the bight which forms the welt may be separate from the facing—as, for example, by assuming a separation of the present continuous facing-strip at the point *b*².

The welt (denoted by *b*) is formed by stitching the edge of the facing to the outer part of the folded strip A (shown in Fig. 3) by a line of stitching *s*, then turning it over upon itself, as shown in Figs. 1, 4, and 5. When continued to form the facing, as preferred, it is carried over the edges of the folded strip A, and downwardly into the position shown in Fig. 4, where a second line of stitching *s'* is passed through it and also through the two parts of the folded strip A and through the upwardly or backwardly folded part which formed the welt. This completes the second step in the forming of the edge strip.

The third step consists in attaching the skirt or garment material C and such stiffening or lining C' as may be required to the structure previously made at a point on the outside of the welt preferably corresponding to the position of the line of stitching *s'* by means of a third line of stitching *s*². This line of stitching *s*² is shown slightly back from the line of stitching *s'* in the drawings in order to differentiate it therefrom, but it is to be understood that it is preferably made

to coincide with the line of stitching s' as nearly as can conveniently be done. The position which the skirt or garment goods C and stiffening or lining C' occupy when secured to the strip previously formed is clearly shown in Fig. 5 and completes the third step in the formation of the edge structure.

The final step consists in turning the garment and stiffening or lining goods over upon itself to conceal the line of stitching s^2 and at the same time the line of stitching s' , and also to turn the facing B back upon itself, all as shown in Fig. 1, and sewing the facing B to the lining or garment goods, or to both, at such a distance back from the edge as may be desired, the position of the parts when so folded back being shown in Fig. 1.

It will be observed that the first line of stitching s is concealed from both front and back by the folding of the piece which forms the welt b and the folding of the strip A, which forms the extreme edge. The folding of the garment goods and lining and the folding of the facing at the point b' serves to completely conceal from both front and back the seams s' s^2 , so that the completed edge of the garment presents no seam to view, but has, in addition to the protecting elastic rounded edge a , the welt b to form a complete protection for the garment goods C.

The fold or bight a at the extreme edge of the garment causes the latter to spread laterally when its crown is pressed upon, so as to become wider than the goods themselves at the moment when they would be liable to frictional wear, thereby temporarily adjusting itself to the demands made upon it and at the same time preventing wear upon itself by its yielding action.

By first uniting the piece of material which is to form the welt with the rubber or other elastic strip, as shown in Fig. 3, I am enabled to get the bight of the folded welt piece close down to the round portion of the protecting-strip, as shown in Fig. 4, while the line of stitching which secures the facing on the inner side of the protector is higher up or farther away from the rounded bight of the protecting-strip. This serves to make the

protector slightly from the outside by means of the welt finish close down to the rounded edge and at the same time leaves the facing on the inner side quite a distance from the rounded edge of the protector, where it is out of sight and where it will not be so liable to catch mud and moisture as the garment—such, for example, as a dress—is trailing along the surface of the ground or floor.

The structure completed to the point shown in Fig. 4, with the folded strip A, the welt b , and facing, may be sold as a garment-protector independent of the dress goods and applied as occasion may require.

What I claim is—

1. A protector for the edges of garments comprising a folded strip of waterproof material, a welt sewed primarily to one part of the folded strip of material and turned back upon itself to conceal the seam, the fold at the edge of said welt being located in proximity to the rounded bight of the folded strip of material and a facing sewed to the two parts of the folded strip of material and to the welt by a line of stitching located above the line of stitching which primarily secures the welt to one part of the folded strip of material, whereby the said facing when turned back to conceal the seam will present its lower edge above the lower edge of the welt, substantially as set forth.

2. A protector for the edge of a garment, comprising a folded strip of waterproof material, a welt sewed to one part of the folded strip and folded back upon itself to conceal the stitching, the said material which is folded back upon itself to form the welt being continued over the edges of the folded strip of waterproof material and sewed to the two parts of the folded strip of waterproof material and to the welt at a point above where the welt was first sewed to one part of the folded strip of waterproof material, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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