

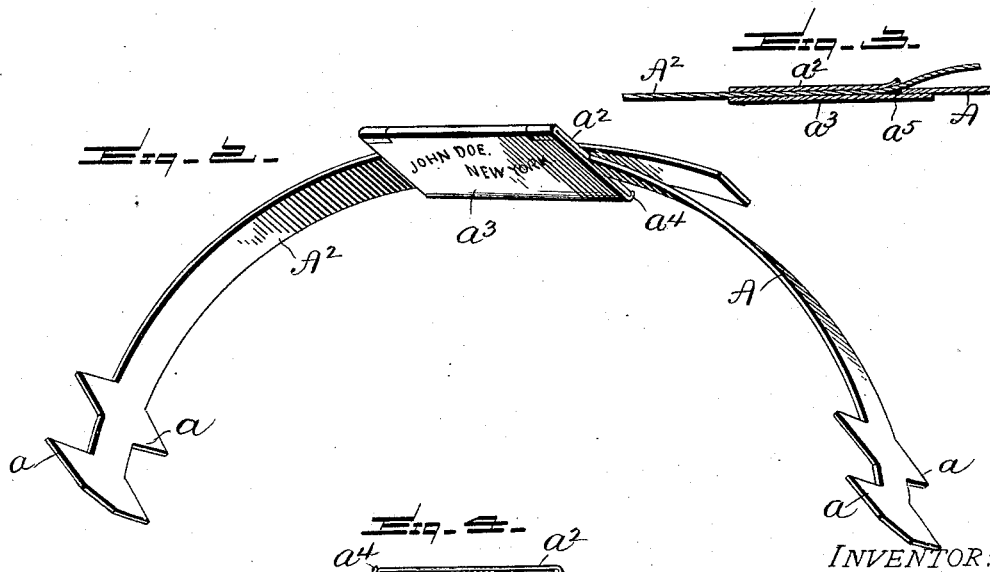
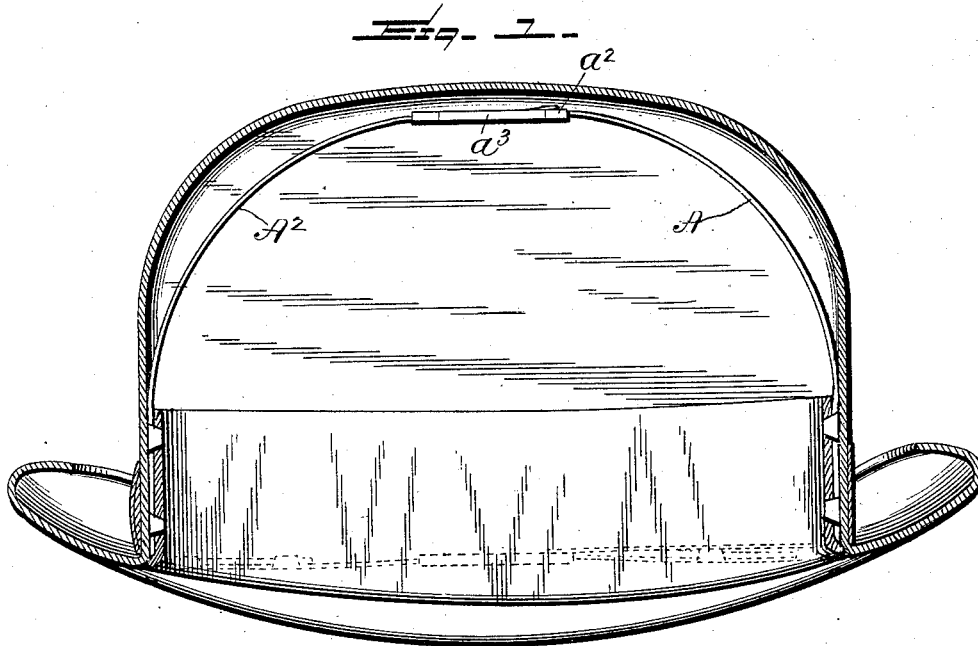
No. 676,293.

Patented June 11, 1901.

J. S. WRIGHT.
COMBINED HAT MARK AND GUARD.

(Application filed Jan. 9, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES SAMUEL WRIGHT, OF BOARDMAN, NORTH CAROLINA.

COMBINED HAT MARK AND GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 676,293, dated June 11, 1901.

Application filed January 9, 1901. Serial No. 42,687. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES SAMUEL WRIGHT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Boardman, in the county of Columbus and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Hat Mark and Guard; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The object is in a simple and positive manner to apprise a person of his mistake should he attempt to don a hat not his own.

With this object in view the invention consists, generally stated, in a combined hat mark and guard, the same comprising both tangible and visual means of indicating the owner of a hat, and, furthermore, by tangible means, without reference to the visual means, to apprise the wearer whether or not the hat is his.

The invention consists, further, in the novel construction and combination of parts of a combined hat mark and guard, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts, I have exhibited one form of embodiment of my invention, it being understood that the salient ideas of invention may be carried into effect in other ways than that shown.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in sectional elevation of a hat, (in this instance a derby,) showing the hat-mark in place therein. Fig. 2 is a view in plan exhibiting the device detached from the hat. Fig. 3 is a detached detail view of the lock or clasp carrying member of the device. Fig. 4 is a similar view of the lock-engaging member.

The combined hat mark and guard characterized by this invention comprises two parts A and A², whereof the member A constitutes the lock-carrying member and the member A² the lock-engaging member. All of the parts of the device are by preference made of thin sheet metal, preferably of brass, which may be nickel-plated and suitably ornamented to prevent the presentation of an unsightly attachment to a hat.

Each of the members A and A² is provided near one end with tangs *a*, which may be integral with the members, as shown, or secured thereto, these tangs, as will be hereinafter described, being inserted through the sweat-band of the hat to keep the device in position. In lieu of the tangs the end portions of the members may be provided with openings through which stitches may be passed, thus to sew the members to the band. The member A carries a lock or clasp, comprising a plate *a*², either integral with or secured to the member A, and a plate or cover *a*³, hinged to the plate *a*², as shown in Fig. 3, the free side of the plate *a*³ being flanged or overturned, as at *a*⁴, to interlock with the side of the member *a*², thereby to hold the two parts of the lock together. The plate *a*², near its point of juncture with the member A, is provided with a transverse slot *a*⁵, through which is passed the free end of the member A², thus leaving a length of the member A lying upon the plate *a*². By this arrangement when the plate *a*³ is locked into engagement with the plate *a*² the length of the member A under the plate *a*³ will be clamped securely in place against being drawn out or pushed in. Instead of having the plates or lock members *a*² *a*³ held together by the flange *a*⁴ other means may be employed—such as spring-catches, turn-buttons, or the like—and as these will be obvious illustration is deemed unnecessary.

Upon the surface of the member *a*³, which will be the outer one in use, will be attached a label bearing the name of the owner of the hat and any other descriptive matter desired, thereby presenting visual means of indicating the owner of the hat. Instead of having a label attached to the plate *a*³, the descriptive matter may be engraved on the plate.

In the use of this device the ends of the members A A² are secured inside the hat-band, as shown in Fig. 1, either by passing the tangs through the sweat-band and firmly clenching them there or by stitching the ends to the hat-band in the manner described. The members when the hat is in use are distended, as shown in full lines in Fig. 1, so that the lock will be at the crown of the hat and free of the head of the wearer; but when the hat is taken off the flange *a*⁴ of the lock is released from the plate *a*², the members are

telescoped, so as to bring them down to the position shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, and the members of the lock are again brought together. When the members of the device are in the position described, should a person attempt to don the hat the device will prevent the hat from sitting on the head, so that the person would naturally remove it to ascertain the cause and attention would at once be directed to the label, as well as the device itself, thus showing him that he has hold of the wrong hat.

It is to be understood that this device is to be made of thin metal, preferably of a very light weight, such as aluminium, which will not add any appreciable weight to the hat and will be constructed in such manner as to be exceedingly cheap and within the reach of every one.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A combined hat mark and guard, comprising two members adapted to be secured to a hat on opposite sides of the crown thereof and having a sliding connection with each other, and positive locking means for holding said members in fixed relative position, whereby said members may be caused to assume a position to obstruct the entrance of a head into the hat, or a position within the crown free of the head of the wearer, substantially as described.

2. A combined hat mark and guard, comprising two resilient members adapted to be secured to a hat on opposite sides of the crown

thereof, and having a sliding connection with each other, and a lock or clasp rigidly secured to and carried by one member for holding the members in fixed relative position, whereby said members may be caused to assume a position to obstruct the entrance of a head into the hat, or a position within the crown free of the head of the wearer, substantially as described.

3. A combined hat mark and guard, comprising two members, tangs integral with each member adapted to pierce the sweat-band of a hat and to conform thereto when bent over, whereby each member may be secured to the sweat-band, said members having a sliding connection with each other, and positive locking means for holding said members in a fixed relative position substantially as described.

4. A combined hat mark and guard, comprising two members of resilient material, each provided at one end with means for attachment to the sweat-band of the hat, a lock carried by one of the members comprising two plates hinged together, one plate having a transverse slot and the other plate being provided with means to hold it in locked engagement with the other, the transverse slot being engaged by the other member, substantially as described.

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

JAMES SAMUEL WRIGHT.

Witnesses:

E. B. WRIGHT,

D. W. McNAUGHTON.