

J. VAN GELDER.
Hats and Caps.

No. 203,220.

Patented April 30, 1878

Fig. 1.

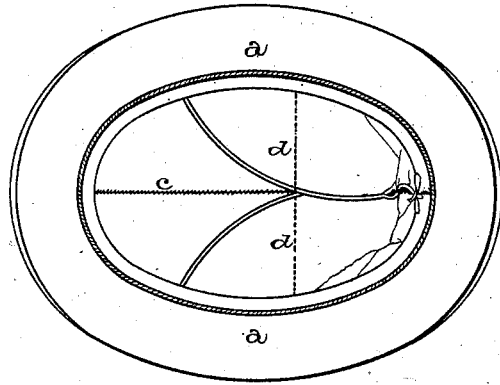
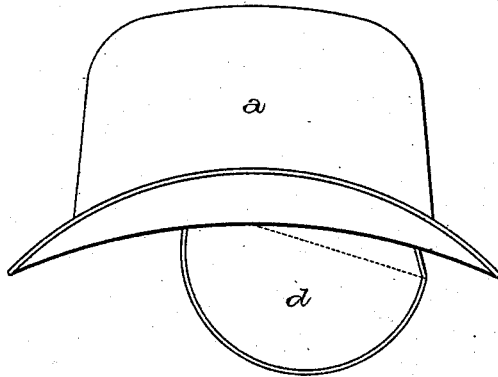


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

W. Garner
W. H. Kern

Inventor:

Jno. Van Gelder,
per
F. W. Lehmann,
att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN VAN GELDER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HATS AND CAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **203,220**, dated April 30, 1878; application filed April 23, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN VAN GELDER, of New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hats and Caps; 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in hats and caps.

It consists in the combination of a tip or lining and an ear-protector, the lining being made in two separate and distinct parts, the rear one of which can be folded neatly into the hat, so as not to be noticed when the weather is not cold; but as soon as it is desired to muffle or protect the ears from the cold, this rear lining can be dropped down, so as to form ear-muffs, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a hat, looking down upon its inside. Fig. 2 is a side elevation, showing the lining drawn down so as to form ear-muffs.

a represents a common hat, of any desired shape, size, or construction, as my invention is equally applicable to high and low hats and caps of all kinds.

The lining or tip of the hat is not made in one piece, as is usually the case, but is divided into two separate and distinct parts, for the sake of economy of material, the front part, *c*, extending back only to the dotted line just back of the center of the top of the head.

The rear portion of the lining is formed into the two padded ear-mufflers *d*, which, when not in use, can be folded down into the top of the hat, as shown in Fig. 1, so as to scarcely be noticeable, and yet give the lining a very novel and pretty effect.

Whenever desired, these mufflers *d* may be

drawn down, as shown in Fig. 2, so as to protect the ears. After having been used they can be folded back again, and by catching their front ends under the sweat-leather they form a part of the lining again.

The main object of my invention is to provide the more elegant dress hats with a means of protection for the ears, without in any manner detracting from their appearance, and this I accomplish by combining the tip and mufflers in a single piece.

Of course, the lining may be made of silk, satin, velvet, or any other material that may be preferred; and, if so desired, the lining and mufflers may be made in a single piece, though in this case a larger quantity of material will be found necessary.

The shape of the rear part of the lining and muffs will differ slightly in different-shaped hats; but these changes will readily suggest themselves to all experienced hatters.

I am aware that a cap has been made in which a muff is attached to the inside of the cap and adapted to be let down over the ears.

I am also aware that a cap has been made for firemen, and which is provided with a lining that extends down over the whole head, and is provided with a means for tying it around the neck to protect the firemen from smoke, and these I disclaim.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

A hat or cap provided with a lining or tip, having the muffs *d* made as a part of it, and which muffs can be folded into the hat so as to form a part of the lining, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 23d day of April, 1878.

JOHN VAN GELDER.

Witnesses:

R. M. BARR,
F. A. LEHMANN.