

(No Model.)

J. H. ENGELHARDT, Jr.
WATER CLOSET SEAT PROTECTOR.

No. 347,586.

Patented Aug. 17, 1886.

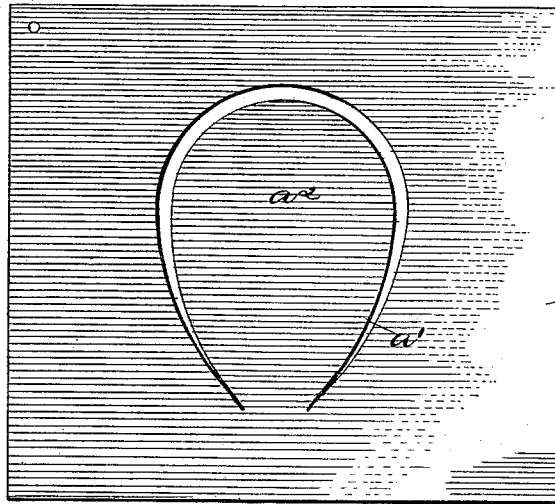


Fig. 1.

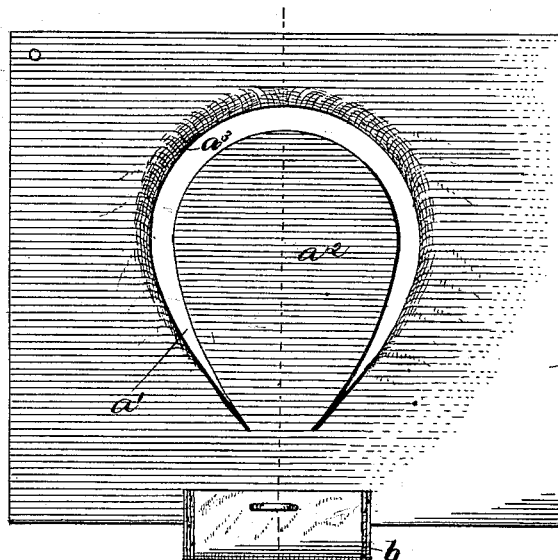


Fig. 2.

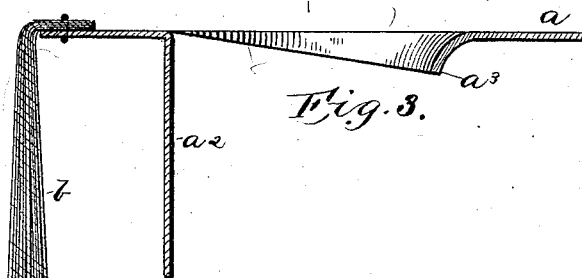


Fig. 3.

Witnesses
R. C. Lammie
S. Specht

Inventor
John H. Engelhardt, Jr.
By R. S. H. Lacey atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. ENGELHARDT, JR., OF MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

WATER-CLOSET-SEAT PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,586, dated August 17, 1886.

Application filed May 11, 1886. Serial No. 201,816. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. ENGELHARDT, Jr., a citizen of the United States, residing at Montgomery, in the county of Montgomery and State of Alabama, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Water-Closet-Seat Protectors; and I do 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in protectors for the seats of water-closets.

It has for its object to provide a protector free from the objections which obtain against those of ordinary construction.

It consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts hereinafter described, and specifically pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan of a blank as it is first prepared. Fig. 2 is a top plan of my improved protector complete and toilet attachment; and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section on the line *x x* of Fig. 2, showing the flap bent down.

In manufacturing my device I employ any suitable material—fibrous textile, &c.—which can be cut and pressed into form.

Machinery by which a complete protector is made by a single action or movement thereof is employed by me in the manufacture of my device. I use heavy paper which is not easily torn, and which has a sufficient flexibility to permit it to yield or bend under the weight of the person using it. It is not my intention to use thin, light paper, because such paper is too easily torn and rendered useless. Besides, very light paper would not answer for the complete protector and toilet attachment hereinafter described.

Each protector is made from a single sheet of paper, *a*, of any suitable contour to adapt it to the closet-seat. A wide slit, *a'*, of approximately oval form is made in the paper, whereby a flap, *a''*, is formed. The contour of the opening formed by this slit is wider at its rear than at its front end, corresponding to the usual shape of openings in closet-seats.

In constructing my protector I prefer to re-

move a portion of the paper, so as to leave a space between the flap *a''* and the body of the sheet, as shown in Fig. 1. This reduces the size of the flap, so that all possible interference between it and the main body is obviated. When the protector is laid flat upon the closet-seat, the flap drops at once into a vertical or nearly vertical position. The edge of the body *a*, next the slit, is pressed down, so as to form a tapered flange, *a'''*, which is widest at its rear portion, and gradually diminishes in width till it runs out to nothing at its forward ends next the junction of the flap *a''* with the said body. The purposes of tapering the flange are, that it permits the use of the protector on different sizes of openings, and that its rear wider portion will brace against the flap, and thus hold the said protector in place. When used on smaller or round openings, the flap will bend at a point inward from its junction between the extreme points of the slit, while the narrowness of the flange at its front ends permits the protector to lie practically flat upon the seat. The flange turned down in the tapered form shown provides protection to all portions of the person which would touch the seat in the absence of a protector. When placed upon the seat, the rear or wider end of the flange lies against the rear portion of the opening therein, while the flap bends down against the front end thereof, and the protector thus held cannot be moved or easily displaced.

A further improvement is a bunch of toilet-paper, *b*, secured at or near the middle of the front end of the body *a*. I attach it at the middle for convenience, so that it can be permitted to remain attached till after the protector has been used, and can then be detached without inconvenience to the person. It can be attached at the side or near one corner. When attached at the middle, as shown, it will drop over the outer front edge of the seat, and aid in maintaining a firm position to the protector. This toilet-paper may be secured by any well-known means. I find it more easily done by a staple which can be driven through and clinched by the same machinery which cuts the slit *a'* and crimps the flange *a'''*. This toilet-paper may be medicated, if desired.

The protectors are detached from each other and are hung up in bunches in the closet, so

that one of them may be readily taken, when desired.

I am aware that it is not new to have a seat-protector provided with a hole having a downwardly-projecting flange extending entirely around the hole, and that it is not new to have a sheet provided with a series of perforations surrounding or nearly surrounding the central portion, which central portion is to be detached or broken loose by the user, so as to provide the necessary opening to correspond with the opening in the seat.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A seat-protector consisting of a sheet having an approximately U-shaped slot cut therein, widened at its rear and gradually reduced near its front ends, as shown, and for the purpose set forth, forming the flap a^2 , and having the portion of the sheet opposite the flap formed into a depending flange, a^3 , widened at its middle and tapered to the plane of the sheet, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A seat-protector having a flap depending therefrom and a bunch of toilet-paper depending from the outer edge of the protector

and acting in opposition to the flap to hold the protector in position.

3. A seat-protector provided with an opening, a flap depending from the forward portion of the opening, a flange depending from the rear of the opening, widened at its middle and tapered to the plane of the protector at its ends, and a bunch of toilet-paper depending from the outer edge of the protector and acting in conjunction with the flap and flange to hold the protector in place, substantially as set forth.

4. The herein shown and described seat-protector, as an improved article of manufacture, a sheet provided with an approximately U-shaped slot, widened at its rear and tapered at its ends, forming the flap a^2 , the flange a^3 , formed at the rear of the slot and widened at its middle and reduced to the plane of the sheet at its ends, and a bunch of toilet-paper depending from the front edge directly opposite the flap, for the purpose set forth.

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

JOHN H. ENGELHARDT, JR.

Witnesses:

G. P. KRAMER,
T. N. GRIFFIN.