

(No Model.)

S. E. FOREMAN.  
CREASE RETAINING DEVICE FOR HATS.

No. 419,653.

Patented Jan. 21, 1890.

Fig. 1

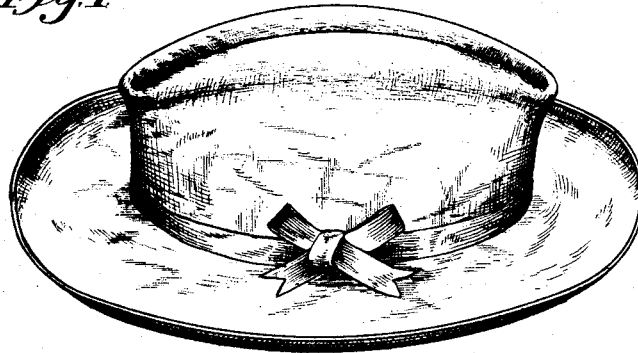


Fig. 2.

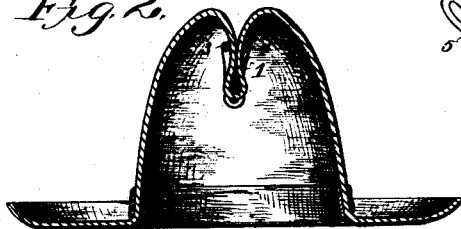


Fig. 4.

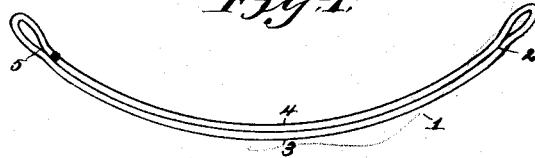
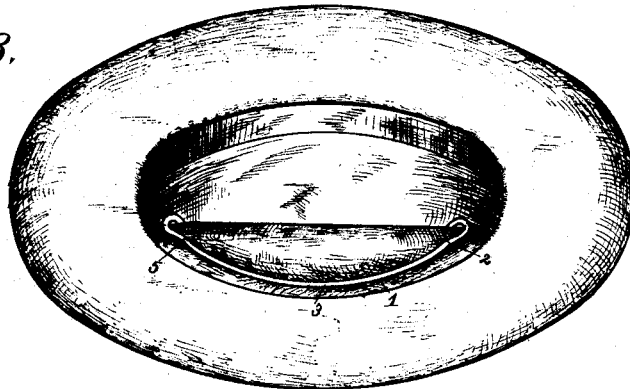


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL E. FOREMAN, OF GREENLEAF, KANSAS.

## CREASE-RETAINING DEVICE FOR HATS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 419,653, dated January 21, 1890.

Application filed August 24, 1889. Serial No. 321,817. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, SAMUEL E. FOREMAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenleaf, in the county of Washington and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Hat-Former, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to a hat-former, and is adapted for use in connection with felt and other hats that are provided with a crease across the crown thereof.

Among the objects in view are to provide a simply and cheaply constructed clasp or former adapted to be applied to the inside of a hat the crown of which has been creased and to embrace said crown at each side of its crease, thus maintaining the crease against accidental displacement.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view of a hat provided with a crease-former constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse section; Fig. 3, a bottom plan; Fig. 4, a detail in perspective of the former.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In practicing my invention, for the purpose of simplicity and cheapness, I prefer to form the former, hereinafter described, of suitable spring-wire and in a single piece, though, as will be apparent, other forms will suggest themselves to those skilled in hat-making.

1 represents the former, which consists of a single piece of wire bent near its middle in a large loop, as at 2, forming the long and short arms 3 and 4. The free end of the long arm 3 is bent, as at 5, to form a corresponding loop, and the two terminals of the wire are soldered or otherwise connected. The two arms are then given a uniform curve, as shown. Each of the loops of the former thus constructed is preferably slightly opened or flared, as shown.

In applying the former the desired depth of crease is made and the arms spread and inserted within the hat and over the crease, so as to embrace the crease at both sides. The ends of the crease will therefore stand within the flared ends or loops of the former, and by reason of the flaring of the ends exterior of the crease is slightly rounded and the felt prevented from breaking at that point. The interior of each loop being large is out of contact with the bottom of the crease where the latter is folded, and the felt is not, therefore, liable to be broken or even permanently creased at that point, because the former presses the sides of the creased portion together at all points throughout its length except at its ends, where the bowed loops do not touch the felt.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The combination, with a soft hat the crown of which is provided with an inwardly-disposed crease, of the herein-described former constructed of spring-wire, the same comprising parallel arms 3 4, normally following the curve of the top of the crown and pressing the depressed portions thereof together, and open bowed ends 2 5, spanning but out of contact with the base or fold of the crease, the outer rounded faces of these ends normally exerting a longitudinal expansive tension upon the crown, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SAMUEL E. FOREMAN.

Witnesses:

A. LEWIS,

P. D. WILLIAMS.