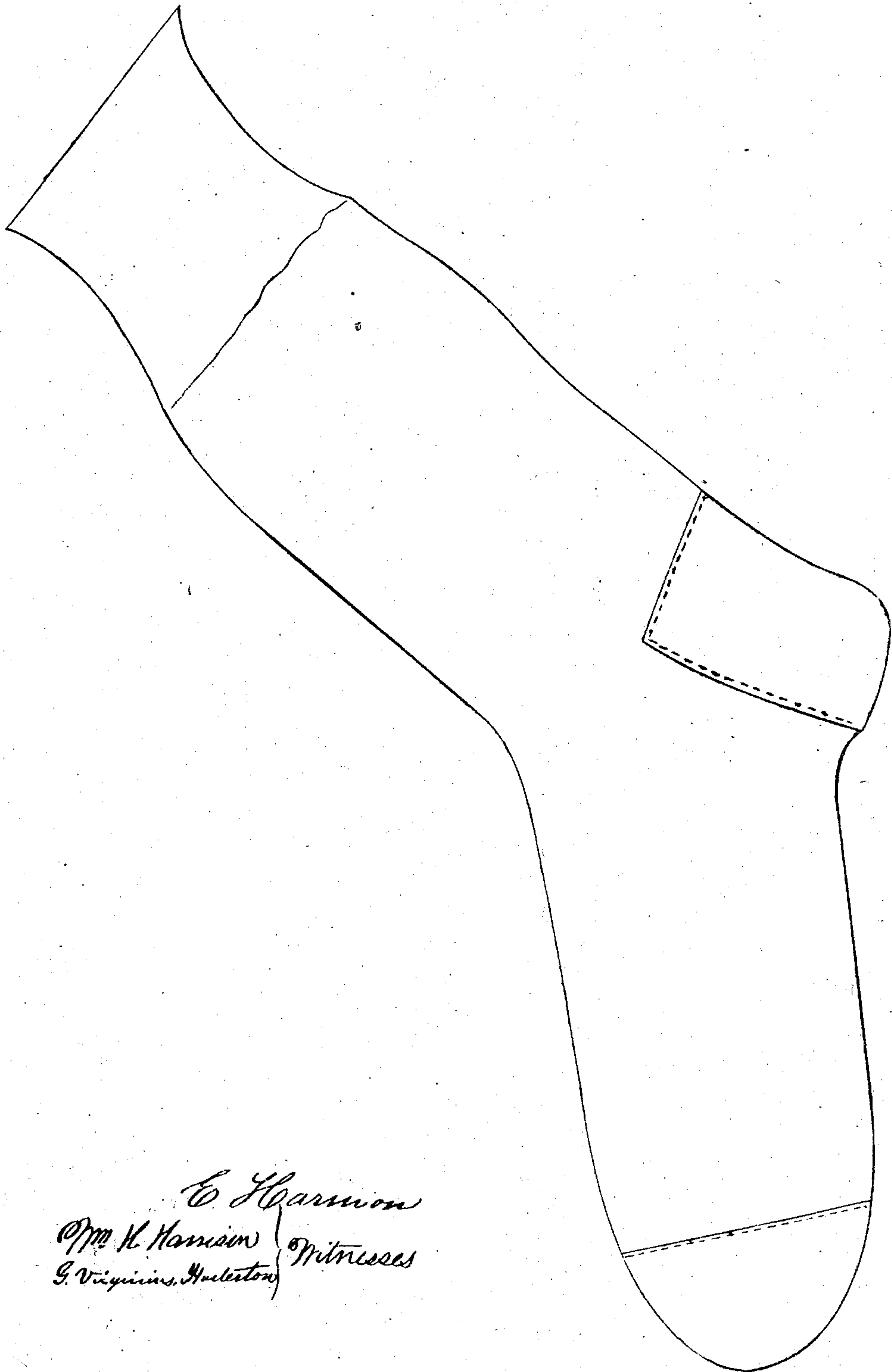


*E. Harmon,
Stocking.*

No 39570.

Patented Aug 18 1863



*E. Harmon
Opp H. Harmon } Witnesses
S. Virginia, Hurlston*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EMANUEL HARMON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN STOCKINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **39,570**, dated August 18, 1863; antedated March 12, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EMANUEL HARMON, of Washington, in the county of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented an Improvement in the Manufacture of Stockings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the principle or character which distinguishes it from all other things before known or used, and of the usual manner of making, modifying, and using the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing.

My invention consists in the preparation of stockings with a covering of buckskin, kid, or other leather, or any harder or tougher material than that of which the stocking is made, so as to protect those portions of the stockings from the undue friction to which they are subject by the operation of walking with them on the foot with shoes or boots.

The drawing represents a stocking the heels and toes of which are thus incased.

It is universally known that the heels and toes of stockings are first worn out, and that unless immediately darned the stocking thus mutilated will have to be discarded before the body of it is affected in the least. The leather or indurated heels and toes protect those portions of the socks from the double friction to which they are subjected by the pressure of the feet which they inclose against the shoes or boots in the act of walking. They will probably increase the capacity of wear and tear of a pair of stockings twofold, if not more, while the expense will be less than one-half the original cost of a pair of stockings. These indurated or leather heels I attach to the stockings in the process of manufacture.

I am aware that I present no new material

for the manufacture of stockings or coverings for the feet, of whatever name; and I am also aware that it is a common right to use the various materials in all convenient combinations, as soft leather has often been used for the lining of boots and shoes and for the legs or for the feet of stockings, at option, and I do not make any claim in conflict with the common rights; but the improvement I have invented presents these peculiarities: First, it adapts the more enduring material to the parts of the stocking most urgently requiring protection from pressure; second, it removes all friction from the woven or knitted stocking and establishes it between the soft leather and the boot or shoe, neither of which can be materially injured from such cause; and, thirdly, and what is of the greatest importance, wholly protects the toes and heels of the wearer from the formation of corns, bunions, and every description of callosity by which civilized man is so much afflicted in complying with the prevailing fashions of boots and shoes. Therefore, disclaiming all title to the simple combination of the materials used, and relying upon the precise adaptation and utility of my invention,

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, stockings made of any textile material, and covered at the heels and toes with flexible leather or its equivalent, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name before two subscribing witnesses.

E. HARMON.

Witnesses:

WM. H. HARRISON,

G. VIRGINIUS HARLERTON.