

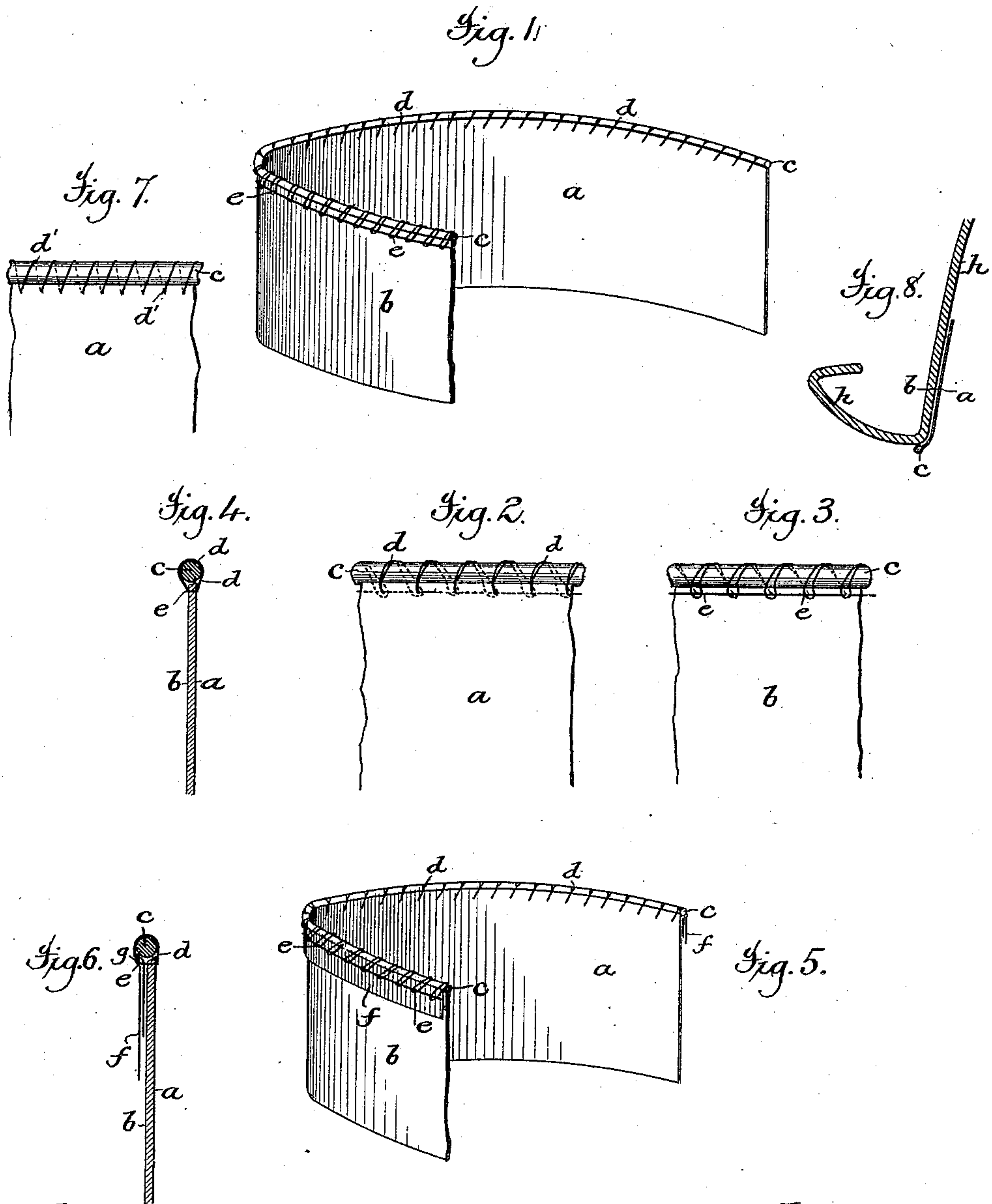
(Specimens.)

G. S. BRACHER.

HAT SWEAT.

No. 296,918.

Patented Apr. 15, 1884.



Attest:

Geo. H. Graham  
Joseph B. Lyman.

Inventor:

George S. Bracher  
By James A. Hudson,

Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE S. BRACHER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## HAT-SWEAT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,918, dated April 15, 1884.

Application filed January 26, 1884. (Specimens.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE S. BRACHER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hat-Sweats, of which the following is a specification.

Heretofore hat-sweats have been provided along one edge with a stiffener, technically known as a "reed," and consisting of a cord, wire, or vegetable splint—usually of rattan. As a means of attachment and for æsthetic reasons, the reed has been inclosed in a covering-strip of some suitable fabric, which in turn has been united to the sweat by stitching, either exposed or concealed. Reeds covered or uncovered have also been attached by stitches which pass over and around said reed. To answer the requirements of the case, this covering material is necessarily of fine quality, frequently of silk, oiled or plain, and in a variety of colors. The use of the covering material involves the expense of the material and the use of more elaborate machinery to place and hold it properly while being sewed. To obviate the trouble and expense of covering the reed, as well as to improve the article intrinsically and in appearance, I employ a reed which has been prepared and finished by dyeing or painting in color as desired and surface finishing with varnish, either lustrous or otherwise, as preferred, and attach the same without covering to the edge of the sweat by any approved mode. I have found it desirable, also, to employ a strip of some suitable fabric behind the reed, but concealed by it, and united to the sweat by some proper means, whereby I form an edge groove on the sweat, wherein the reed may lie, and therefore be more firmly held in position.

My invention therefore consists, first, in a sweat-leather provided at its edge with a prepared and finished reed without covering; and, second, in a sweat-leather provided with a finished but uncovered reed and a concealed backing-strip.

In the drawings, similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all of the figures so far as shown.

Figure 1 shows in elevation and perspective part of a hat-sweat made according to my

invention in its simplest form. *a* is the face of the body, and *b* is its back. *c* is the reed. *d d* are stitches as they appear on the face, and *e e* are the same stitches as they appear on the back when a plain whipping lock-stitch is used.

Fig. 2 is an elevation of part of the face side of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an elevation of part of the back side of Fig. 1, and Fig. 4 is a vertical section of Fig. 1. The Figs. 2, 3, and 4 are on an enlarged scale.

Fig. 5 shows in elevation and perspective part of a hat-sweat also made according to my invention, and differing only from that shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4 in having muslin or other suitable material folded into a narrow strip and so placed against the back of the body that its folded edge will be about in the horizontal plane of the upper edge of the body proper.

Fig. 6 is a vertical section of Fig. 5 on an enlarged scale. In Figs. 5 and 6 the strip of folded material is indicated by the letters *ff*, and its folded edge in Fig. 6 by the letter *g*. This strip *ff* may be pasted to the body before the reed is put in place; or it may be simply held in place while the reed is being stitched in its proper relative position. It is well in all cases to bevel the edge of the body proper, so as to leave its face edge more or less of an acute angle, that the joint between that face edge and the reed may be closer. The folded edge *g g* of the strip *ff*, under the tension of the stitching, which passes just below its fold, will have a tendency to cause that fold to diverge a little from the body proper, and so to form a trough or groove into which the stitches passing around the reed will, to some extent, draw the reed and seat it more firmly. When this strip is not used, the edge of the body proper may be beveled, as described, for the purpose suggested; or it may be grooved or split to a slight degree, or both beveled and split, to give the reed a firmer setting than it otherwise would have. This splitting or grooving, however, in practice has not been found to be essential, as the stitches hold the reed sufficiently firmly upon the edge of the body without any such aid.

Fig. 7 shows in elevation, on an enlarged scale, part of a sweat made according to my



invention, wherein the reed is held in place on the edge of the body by single-thread overhand stitches  $d' d'$ . In such case the stitch will present the same appearance (except that its diagonal lines relative to the reed will be reversed) on both sides of the sweat. This method of stitching is also applicable to the sweat when composed of the parts shown in Figs. 5 and 6, and, indeed, it is this appearance of overhand whipping that is sought to be produced by the machine-stitching shown in Figs. 1 to 6; but as the appearance of the stitches is entirely a matter of taste, I do not limit my claims to any particular kind or class of stitching shown, but desire to be understood as covering in the combination any kind of stitch by which the thread is carried through the body or body and strip (when the strip is used) and around the reed to hold it in its place.

Fig. 8 shows in section part of a hat and its brim and the position of a finished sweat relative thereto, that the thing herein described and called a "hat-sweat," and its sides respectively called "face" and "back," may be clearly identified. In that figure,  $h h$  are the body and brim of the hat, and  $a b c$  the sweat in place therein,  $a$  being the face of the sweat,  $b$  its back, and  $c$  its reed.

To carry my invention into practice, I take the ordinary reeds sold in the market for hat-sweat makers' use and finish them by ordinary wood filling, color and varnish to any desired color and degree of luster. The body of the sweat, with or without the folded strip, as the case may require, and the reed, are then placed in their respective relative positions, as shown in the figures, and stitched together in one operation, by machine or hand, the thread being always brought over the reed, where it re-

mains exposed, and through the sweat-body materials, on which the reed rests just below the line of contact, and all drawn closely together; or, as shown in the Figs. 1 to 6, a loop of thread from the back passes over the reed and is caught and drawn tightly in place by the thread on the other side of the sweat.

Various colors of reeds or of threads, or of both, may be employed to produce pleasing effects in the finished article; and wires or hard-finished cord or equivalent may be substituted for the reed without departing from the spirit of my invention; hence I desire to be understood as including all of such matters in my use of the single word "reed" in the claims.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A sweat-leather provided with a reed dressed and finished with an application of varnish, attached to said sweat-leather without a covering, substantially as set forth.

2. A sweat-leather provided at its edge with a reed dressed and polished with an application of varnish, without covering, except the inclosing-stitches whereby it is united to the sweat.

3. A sweat-leather provided with a dressed and finished reed,  $c$ , without covering, and the backing-strip  $f$ , united to said sweat, but concealed behind the reed, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 23d day of January, 1884.

GEORGE S. BRACHER.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH S. MICHAEL,  
JOSEPH B. LYMAN.