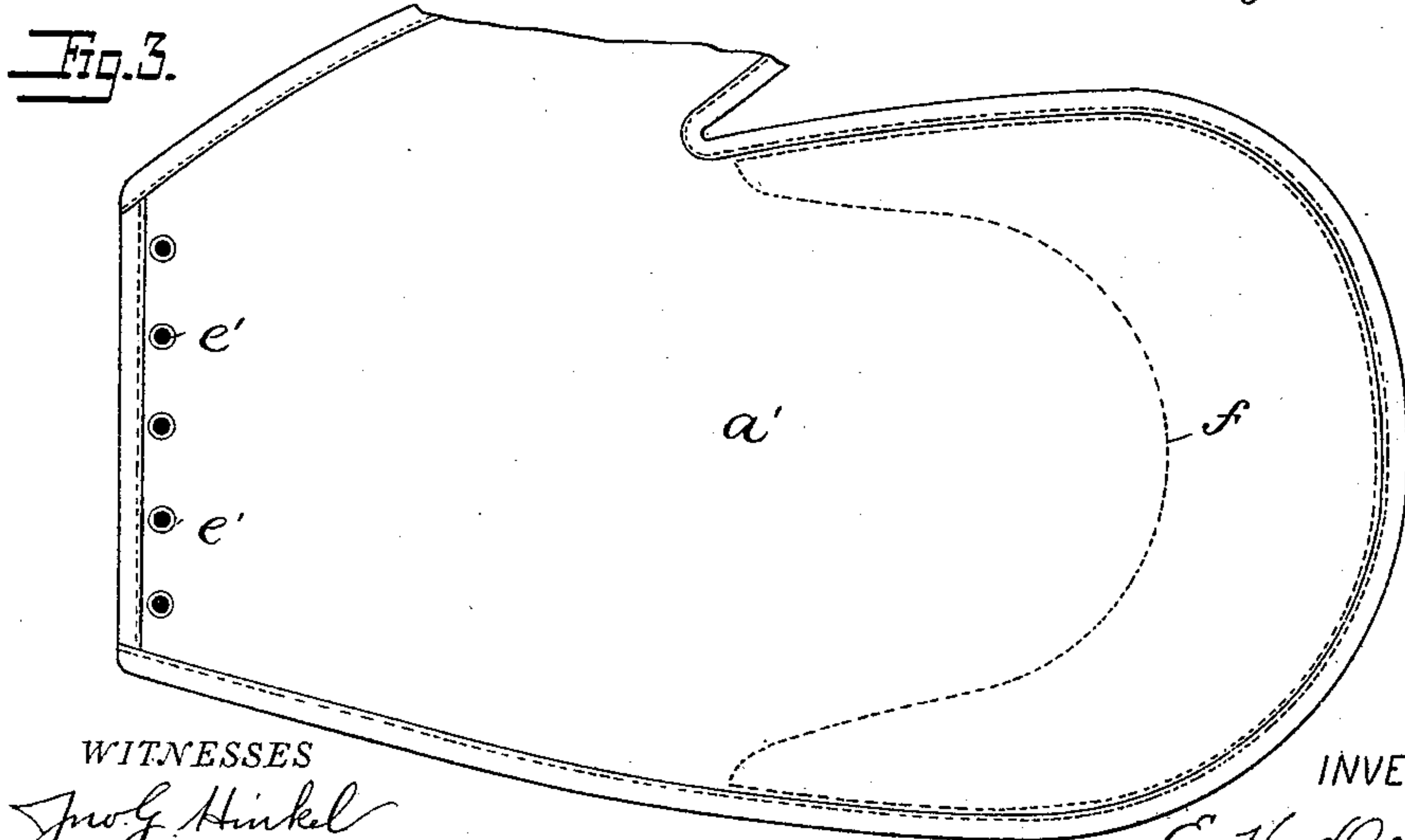
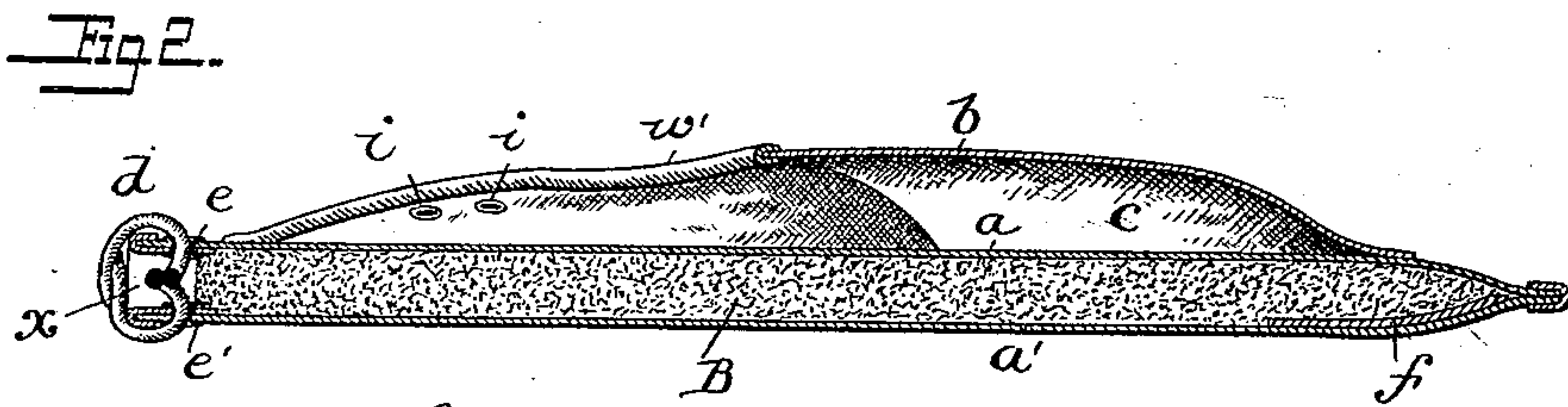
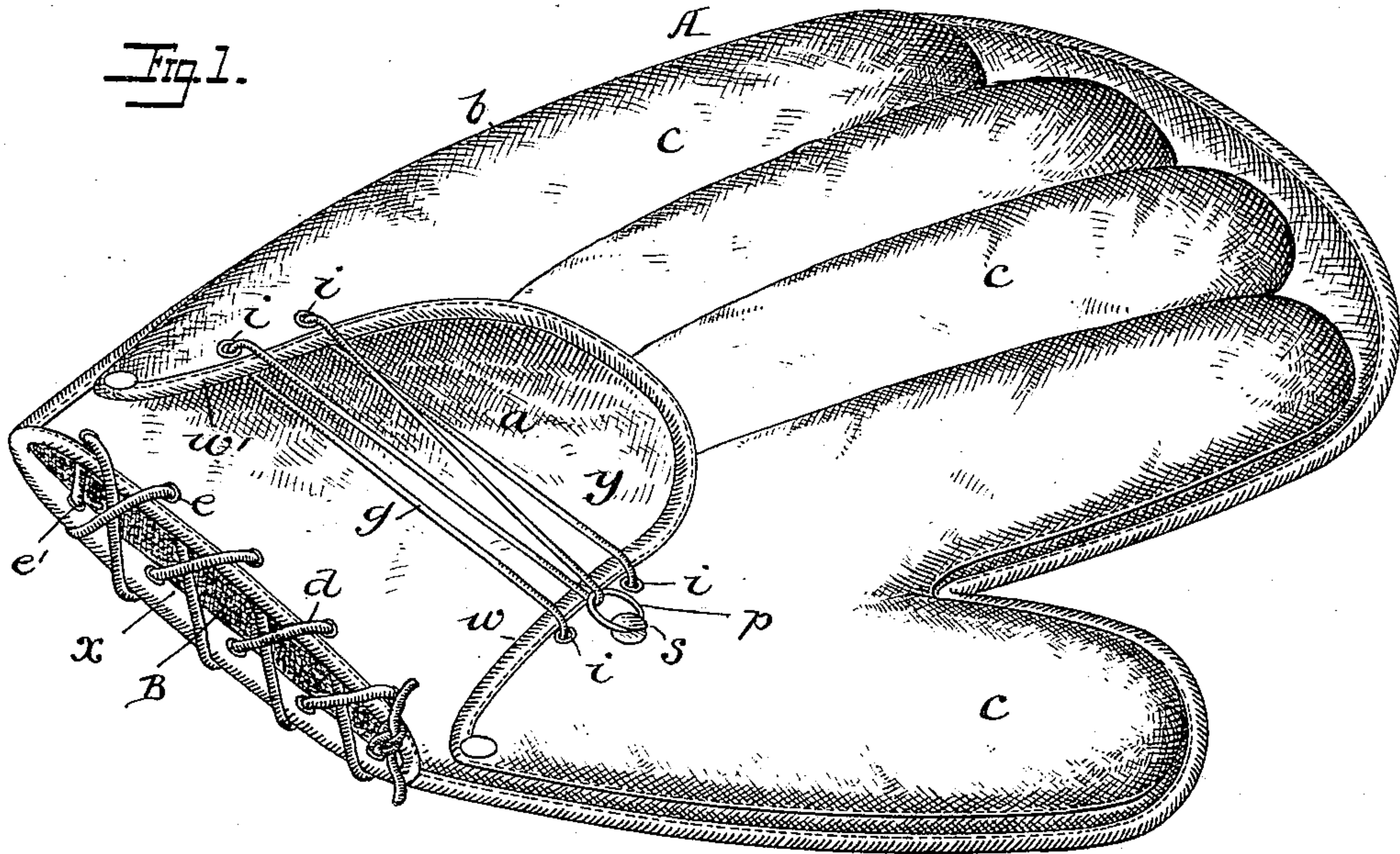


(No Model.)

E. H. DECKER.  
CATCHER'S GLOVE.

No. 450,366.

Patented Apr. 14, 1891.



WITNESSES  
*John G. Hinkel*  
*Chas. S. McArthur*

INVENTOR  
*E. H. Decker*  
By *Foster Freeman*  
Attorney



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EARLE HARRY DECKER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR, BY  
DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO ALFRED J. REACH, OF SAME PLACE.

## CATCHER'S GLOVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 450,366, dated April 14, 1891.

Application filed May 10, 1890. Serial No. 351,293. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EARLE HARRY DECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catchers' Gloves, of which the following is a specification.

In that class of gloves used in playing baseball and like games in which hard and comparatively inelastic balls are employed it is necessary to pad the palm of the hand to protect the same against abrasion by the balls, and for this purpose padded gloves have been employed.

An objection to the gloves heretofore made has been the rapid deterioration of the padding, which is generally made of wool or felt, and which becomes compressed, felted, and condensed by the repeated hard blows to which it is subjected, thereby rendering the glove quickly worthless. In order to obviate this objection and to otherwise improve the glove, I construct the same as fully set forth hereinafter, and as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a base-ball glove embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 3 is a face view.

The body A of the glove in its general construction does not differ from that of the body of an ordinary base-ball glove, consisting of the palm portion *a* and the back portion *b*, sewed together at the edges, and preferably formed in pockets *c* for the reception of the fingers and thumb.

Instead of applying the padding permanently to the palm portion *a*, as heretofore, the latter is formed with a pocket *x*, extending practically and preferably over the greater portion of the palm of the glove, so as to receive a padding B of wool, felt, or other suitable material, which may be introduced into said pocket through a suitable opening at the wrist of the glove, and withdrawn from time to time to pick it over to compensate for the effects of the blows it has received or to discard it to give place to a new padding.

The pocket may be formed by constructing the glove in any suitable manner; but, as shown, the palm of the glove is double, con-

sisting of two sheets *a a'*, connected at the edges, except near the wrist, and capable of being slightly separated to receive between them the detachable padding B. To secure the padding in its place, the opening through which it is introduced may be temporarily sealed by any suitable closing and fastening device—as, for instance, by a cord *d*, passing through eyelets *e e'* in the opposite strips *a a'*, as shown. By thus constructing the glove with a pocketed palm adapted to receive a detachable padding, I am enabled to renew the latter as often as necessary, or treat it so as to restore it to its effective condition without, as heretofore, discarding the more durable portions of the glove.

In order to increase the durability of the body of the glove, protect the fingers, and impart a stiffness not heretofore possessed at the edge of the glove, I provide the latter with a re-enforce *f* of any suitable material, but which, as shown, consists of a crescent-like strip of sole-leather, suitably secured, as by sewing, to the outer or palm sheet of the glove. As shown, the re-enforce *f* is inserted so as to lie against the inner face of the palm-strip *a'*; but it may be applied to the outer face of said strip, or to the strip *a* in that class of gloves which are not provided with pockets.

The back of the glove is cut away at *y* to leave an opening for the insertion of the hand, and in order to hold the glove upon the hand I extend a retaining device across the back of the hand. Such device may be constructed in any of the well-known ways; but I prefer to make the same as illustrated, and consisting of a cord secured at its opposite ends near one edge *w* of the opening *y*, forming a loop each portion of which passes through an eyelet *i* at the opposite edge *w'*, said loop also passing through a ring *p*, that can be readily hooked upon a button or hook *s* adjacent to the edge *w*. By seizing the ring, drawing on the cord, and placing the ring over the button the glove is secured, and by slipping the ring from the button it is at once released. The cord *g* may be flat, in the form of a tape or band, passing through a suitable perforation *i* and hooking directly onto the hook or button *s*.

Without limiting myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts shown, I claim—

1. A glove provided with a pocketed palm, and with a padding fitting detachably in said pocket.

2. A glove the palm of which consists of two strips *a a'*, inclosing a receptacle for a padding B, open at one side for the insertion and withdrawal of said padding, substantially as set forth.

3. A glove provided with a pocket for receiving detachable padding, said pocket open at one side and provided with means for clos-

ing and securing said opening, substantially as set forth. 15

4. The combination, with a glove, of a comparatively stiff re-enforcing strip *f* at the edge of the palm adjacent to the finger-tips, for the purpose set forth. 20

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

EARLE HARRY DECKER.

Witnesses:

WM. F. ZEHNDER,

WM. J. SHETTSLINE.