

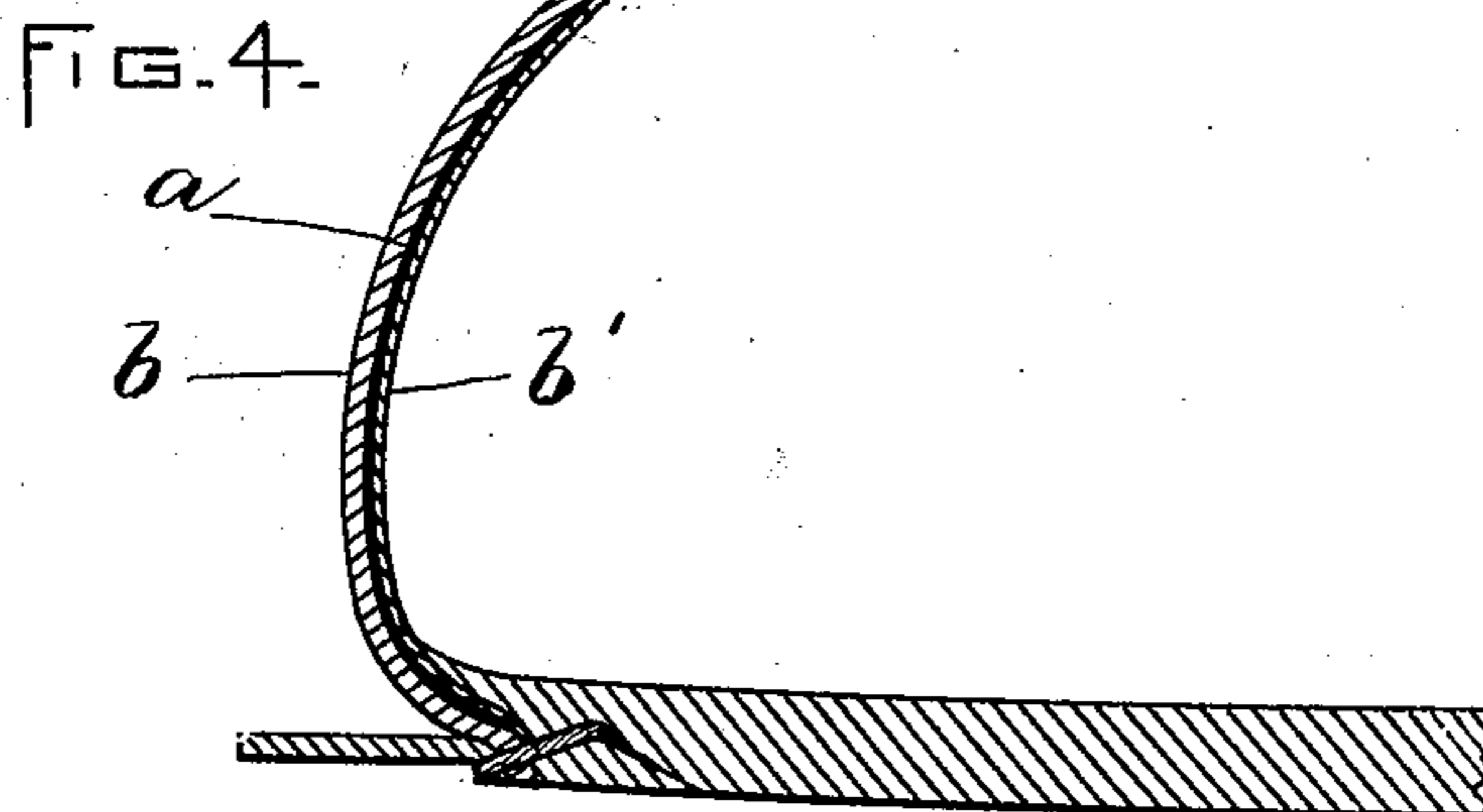
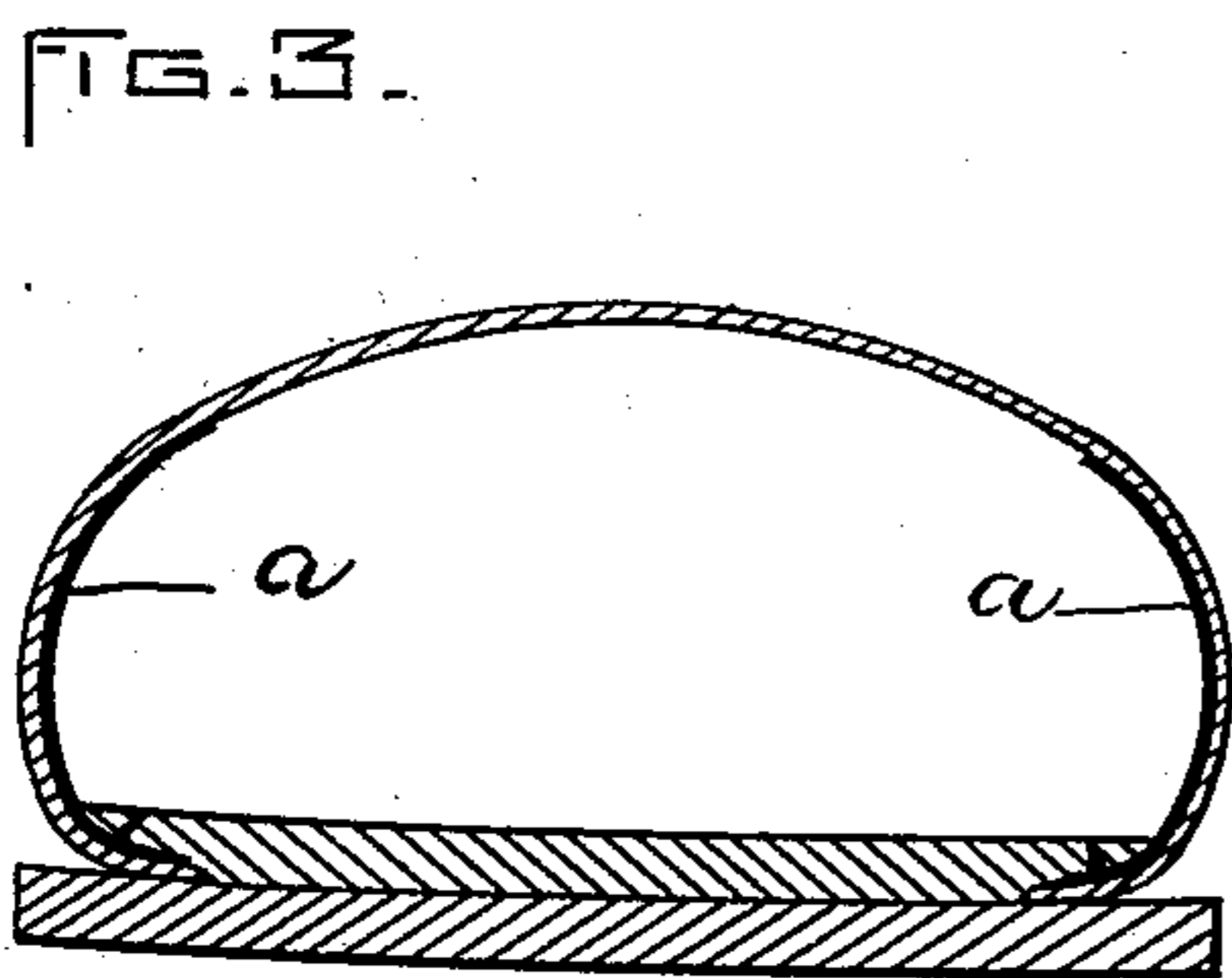
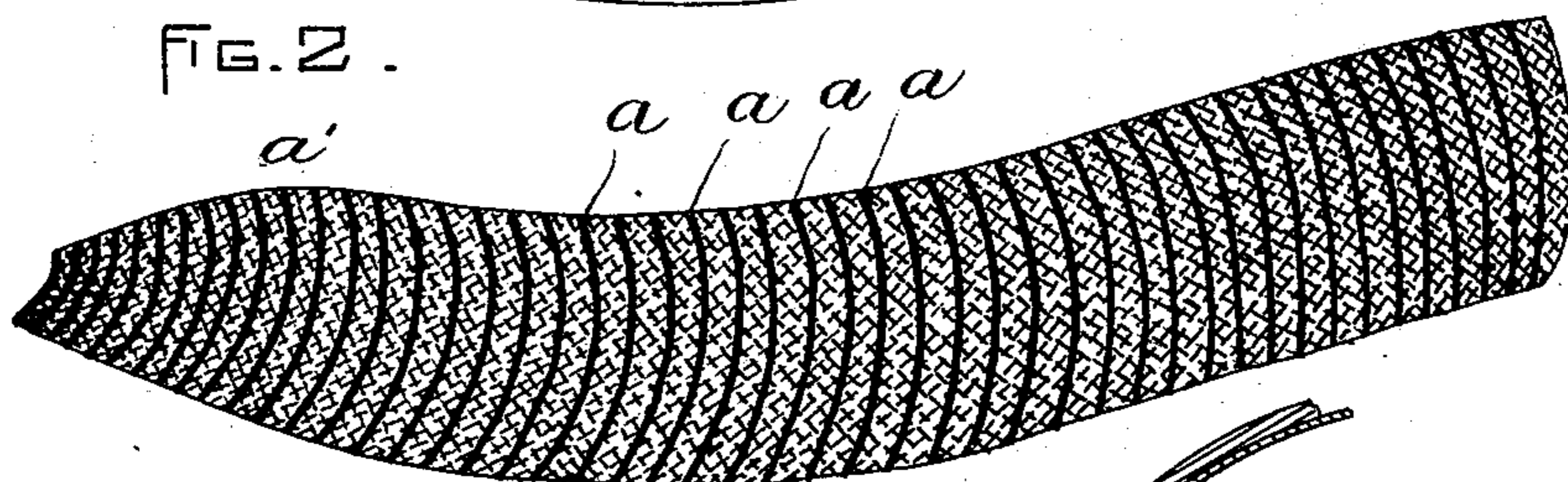
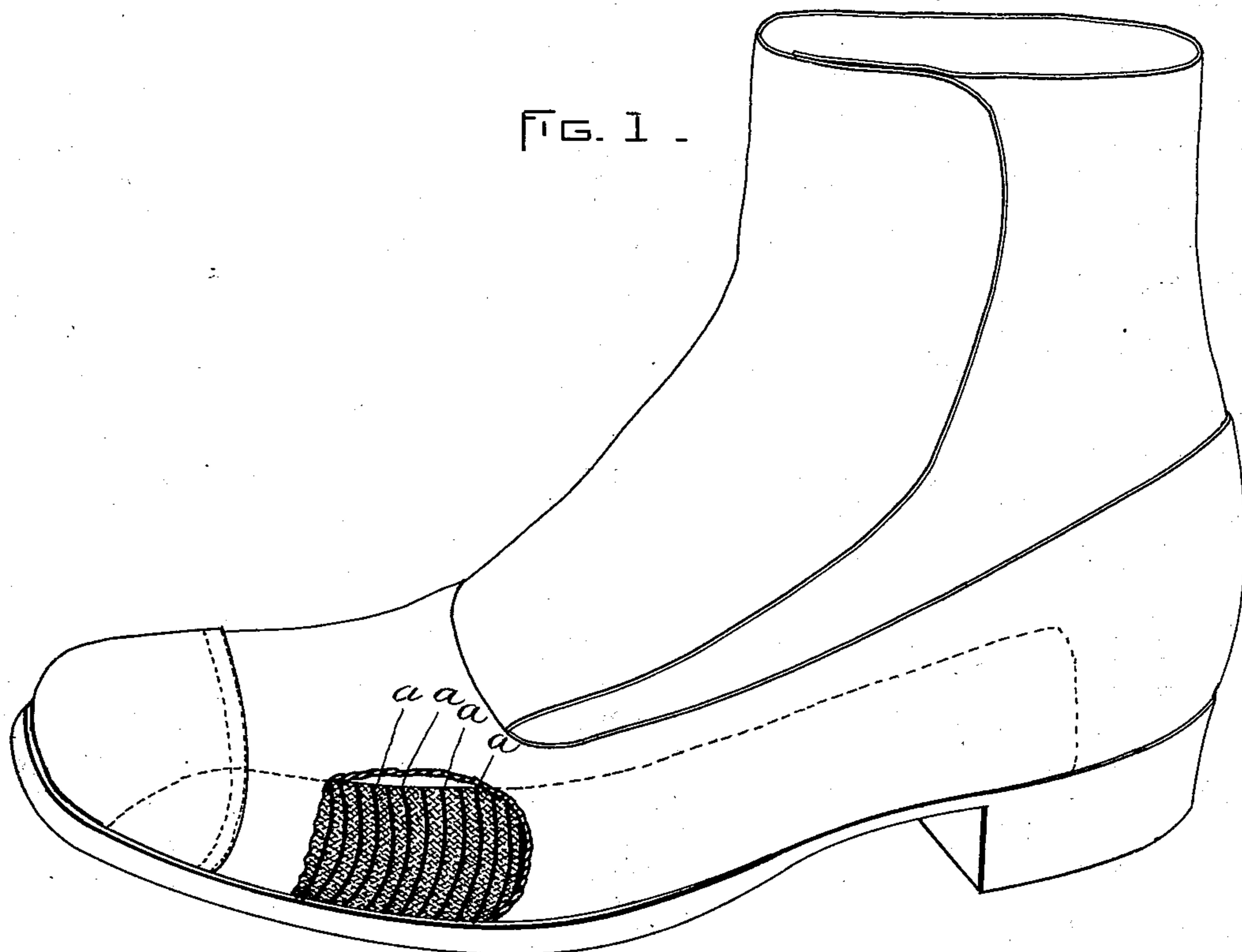
(No Model.)

J. W. PACKARD.

BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 509,241.

Patented Nov. 21, 1893.



WITNESSES:

M. D. Jackson
H. S. McLeod

INVENTOR:

J. W. Packard
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Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES W. PACKARD, OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE
BOUVÉ, CRAWFORD & COMPANY CORPORATION, OF SAME PLACE.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 509,241, dated November 21, 1893.

Application filed January 6, 1893. Serial No. 457,465. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. PACKARD, of Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boots or Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has for its object to provide means for supporting the side portion of the upper of a boot or shoe, meaning by side portions those parts of the upper which extend from the counter forward to the toe and are united to the sole.

As boots and shoes are generally constructed, the side portions of the upper have no support except that afforded by the ordinary lining of textile fabric, so that the said side portions are liable to become wrinkled, so that they do not possess the desirable full and rounded appearance.

My invention consists in a boot or shoe provided with a series of resilient filaments extending along the inner sides of the upper, the lower ends of said resilient filaments being attached to the sole or bottom of the shoe, the springs extending upwardly from the sole and exerting an outward pressure upon the portions of the upper with which they are in contact, so that they prevent the side portions of the upper from sinking inwardly, as I will now proceed to describe.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification: Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a boot provided with my improvement, a part of the upper being broken away to show the resilient filaments. Fig. 2 represents a perspective view, showing one of the series of resilient filaments before attachment to the boot or shoe. Fig. 3 represents a transverse section of a boot or shoe, showing the resilient filaments applied thereto. Fig. 4 represents an enlarged view of a portion of Fig. 3.

The same letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In carrying out my invention, I apply to the side portions of the upper *b* of a boot or shoe, two series of filaments *a*, one series at each side of the upper, said filaments being connected at their lower ends with the sole or bottom of the shoe in any suitable way and

extending upwardly from the sole in contact with the inner surface of the upper, the elasticity of the filaments being such that they exert an outward pressure upon the upper. In practice, the filaments *a* are threads or strands of elastic material, such as horse-hair or the vegetable fiber used in making the fabric known as "fiber cloth," said filaments being connected in a series by means of longitudinal threads of any suitable textile material, not necessarily elastic, such as cotton. Each series of filaments is therefore composed of the transverse elastic threads or strands *a*, and said filaments are retained in place relatively to each other by suitable longitudinal threads or filaments, the whole constituting a sheet or strip *a'* of fabric (see Fig. 2) adapted to be conveniently incorporated into a boot or shoe.

In securing the filaments to the boot or shoe, I place the sheet or strip *a'* above described between the upper *b* and the ordinary cloth lining *b'* (Fig. 4) and connect the said parts with the sole or bottom of the boot or shoe by any of the methods usually employed in connecting the upper and lining with the sole, so that, in the completed boot or shoe, the lower ends of the filaments will be securely attached to the sole or bottom, the upper portions of the springs being free to press outwardly against the inner surface of the upper, the cloth lining *b'* being interposed between the filaments and the wearer's foot, so that no inconvenience or discomfort is experienced by the wearer owing to the presence of the filaments.

I find that filaments applied and arranged as shown greatly improve the appearance of the boot or shoe, by preventing it from sagging or wrinkling along the side portions of the upper.

I claim—

1. A boot or shoe, provided with resilient filaments extending along the inner sides of the upper, the lower ends of said resilient filaments being attached to the sole or bottom, while their upper portions press outwardly on the inner surface of the upper, as set forth.

2. A boot or shoe, provided with strips of fabric extending along the inner sides of the

upper and composed of resilient transverse
filaments constituting springs and longitudi-
nal threads or filaments connecting said
springs, the said strips being secured at their
5 lower edges to the bottom of the boot or shoe
with the said springs extending upwardly
from the sole, and free at their upper portions,
as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my
name to this specification, in the presence of 10
two subscribing witnesses, this 29th day of
December, A. D. 1892.

JAMES W. PACKARD.

Witnesses:

E. H. FLETCHER,
F. M. BIXBY.