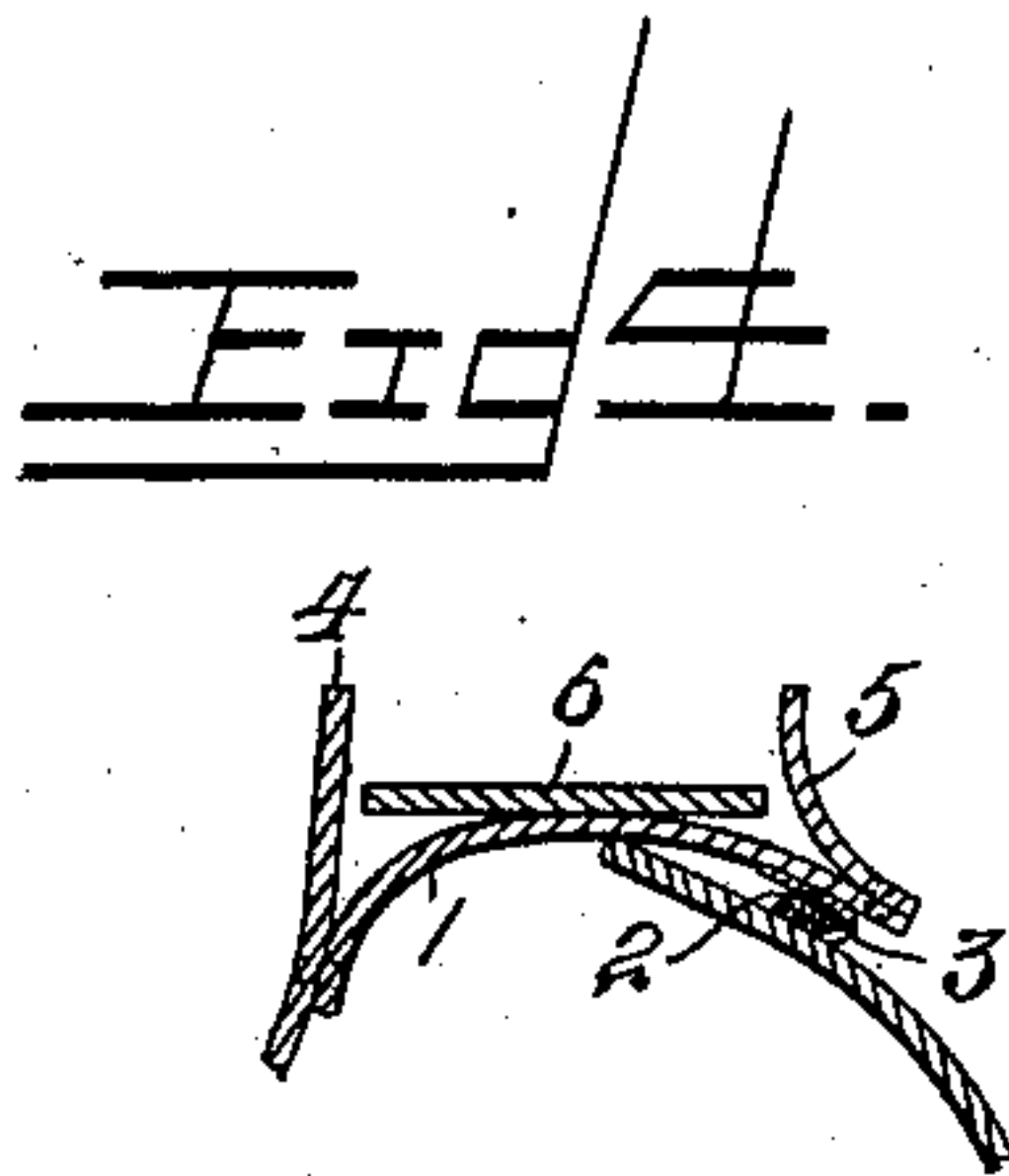
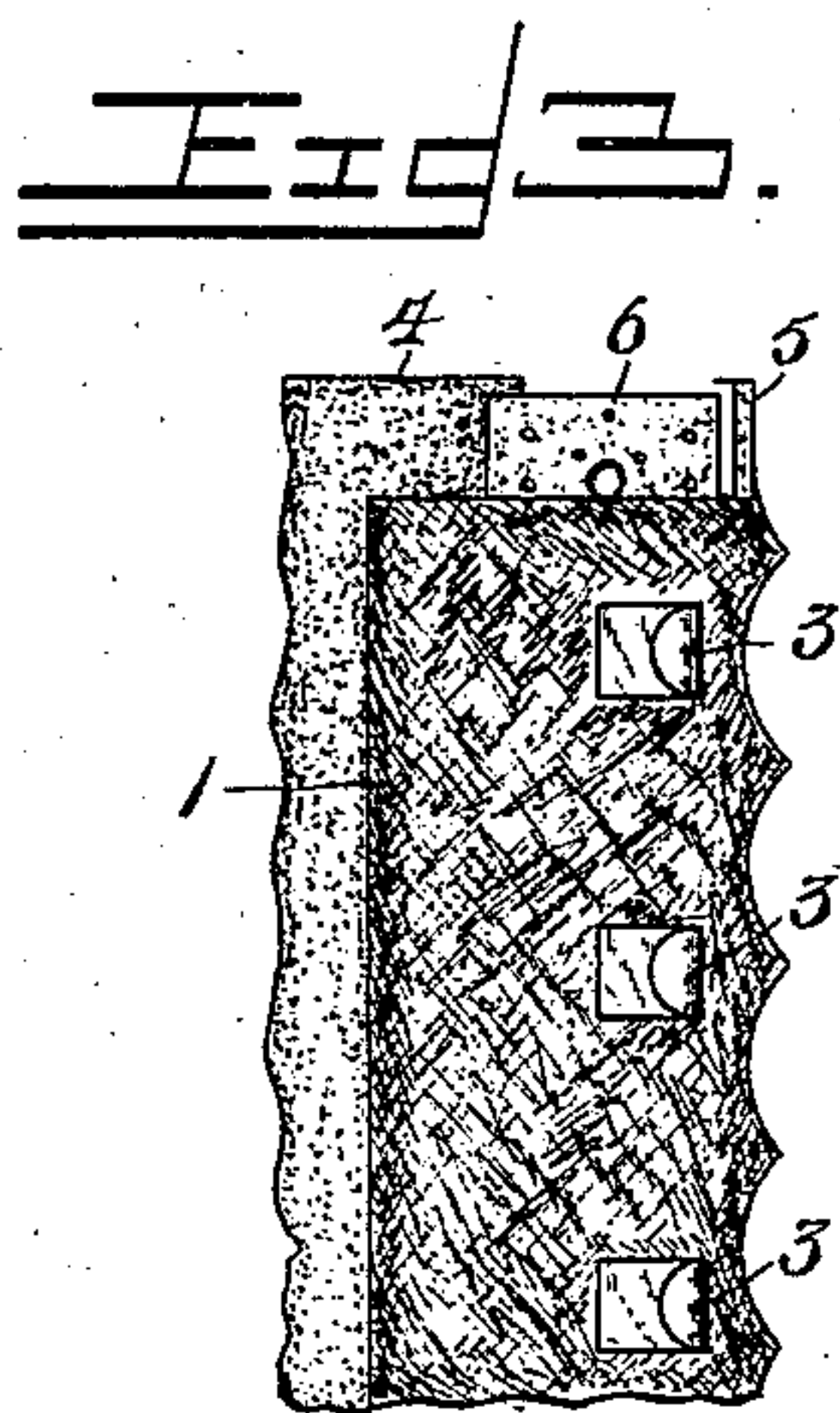
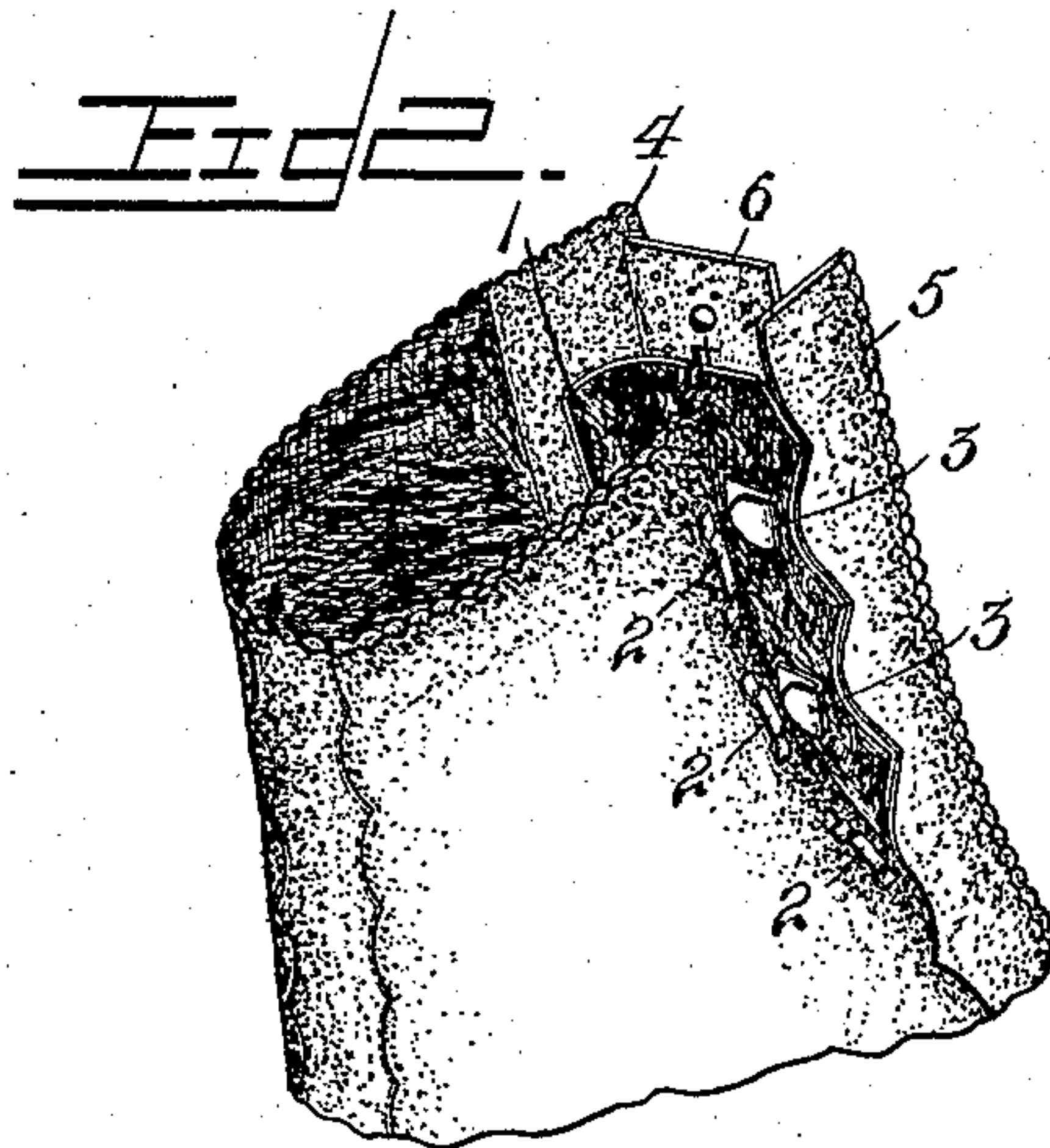
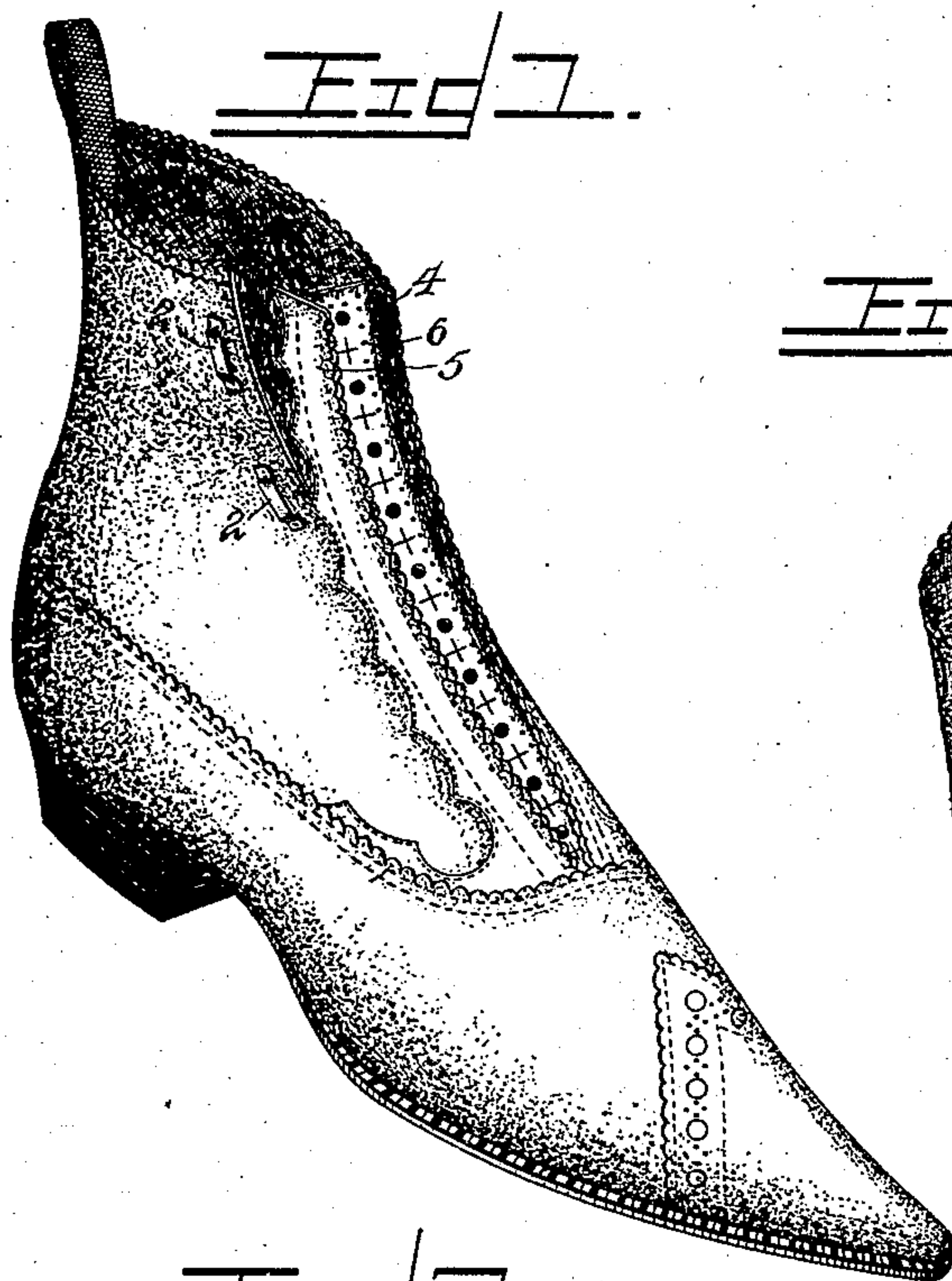


(No Model.)

T. D. GADDIE.
SHOE FASTENING.

No. 577,020.

Patented Feb. 16, 1897.



Witnesses
H. J. L. L. L.
U. B. Tillyard.

By his Attorneys,

C. A. Snow & Co.

Inventor
Thomas D. Gaddie.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS D. GADDIE, OF CLINTON, KENTUCKY, ASSIGNOR OF THREE-FOURTHS
TO J. H. SHELTON, J. C. SPEIGHT, AND JERRY M. PORTER, OF SAME PLACE.

SHOE-FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 577,020, dated February 16, 1897.

Application filed May 19, 1896. Serial No. 592,140. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS D. GADDIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clinton, in the county of Hickman and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Shoe-Fastening, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to shoes of that class having the upper provided with a fly, which is secured by buttons, laces, buckles, or other like fastenings.

The purpose of this invention is to close and secure the fly by means of an elastic strip, which may be permanently secured along one edge to an edge of the fly and detachably connected at the opposite edge by means of suitable fastenings with the other edge of the fly, or which may be attached at both edges to the edges of the fly by removable fastenings, as desired.

The principal objects resulting from the invention are neatness, closeness of fit, ease and comfort to the wearer, adaptation to the size of the foot, a yielding to the various movements, and provision afforded for ornamentation and embellishment, ease and rapidity in fastening.

For a full understanding of the merits and advantages of the invention reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings and the following description.

The improvement is susceptible of various changes in the form, proportion, and the minor details of construction without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof, and to a full disclosure of the invention an adaptation thereof is shown in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe having the invention applied. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the fly portion of the upper, showing the relation of the connecting flexible or elastic strip. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the upper portion of the elastic strip as seen from the rear side. Fig. 4 is a detail section showing the invention operatively related.

The shoe illustrated is of the type having a fly, the latter being closed by an elastic strip 1, which has connection at one edge with an edge portion of the fly by means of stitching or other suitable fastening, and

which is adapted to be attached at its opposite edge to the other edge of the fly by suitable fastenings, such as eyes 2 and hooks 3. The lower end of the elastic strip is stitched to that portion of the upper adjacent to the lower end of the fly and reinforces the latter.

The elastic strip 1 is secured to the edge portions of the fly a short distance from the edges thereof, thereby leaving a projecting lip 4 to hide the edge portion of the elastic strip when the latter is distended. A stay 5 is stitched to the free edge of the elastic strip 1 and corresponds to the lip 4 and has a projecting edge portion corresponding to the said lip 4, and this stay is adapted to be gripped when fastening and unfastening the shoe, thereby providing a convenient means for the fingers to obtain a grip upon for expanding the elastic strip when required. A strap 6 is attached to the elastic strip at a point intermediate of its edges and comes between the projecting parts 4 and 5 and receives a suitable ornamentation to give a neat finish and attractive appearance to the shoe. The stay 5 is ornamented in any desired manner and is secured at its lower end to a portion of the upper to one side of the fly and has a corresponding part at the opposite side of the fly to cause both sides of the shoe to appear alike.

The elastic strip 1 may be of rubber or a combination of rubber and fabric, or otherwise constructed so as to attain the desired end, namely, of yieldingly connecting the edge portions of the fly.

While the invention is designed especially for shoes, it will be understood that it may be applied to wearing-apparel having the equivalent of a fly, such as gloves, corsets, &c., so as to connect the separated parts after they are brought together.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. The combination with a shoe having a fly, of an elastic strip secured at one edge to the fly a short distance from its edge, forming a projecting portion or lip, a strip secured to the free edge of the said elastic strip and having a projecting part forming a lip to correspond with the aforesaid lip, and corresponding fastenings along the free edges of

the fly and elastic strip, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination with a shoe having a fly, of an elastic strip for connecting the edge
5 portions of the fly, projecting portions at the edges of the said strip, forming extensions of the fly, and a strap secured to the outer side of the elastic strip and having its edge portions extending beneath the aforesaid projecting
10 portions at the edges of the elastic

strip, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

THOMAS D. GADDIE.

Witnesses:

T. K. TAYLOR,

J. L. DODGE.