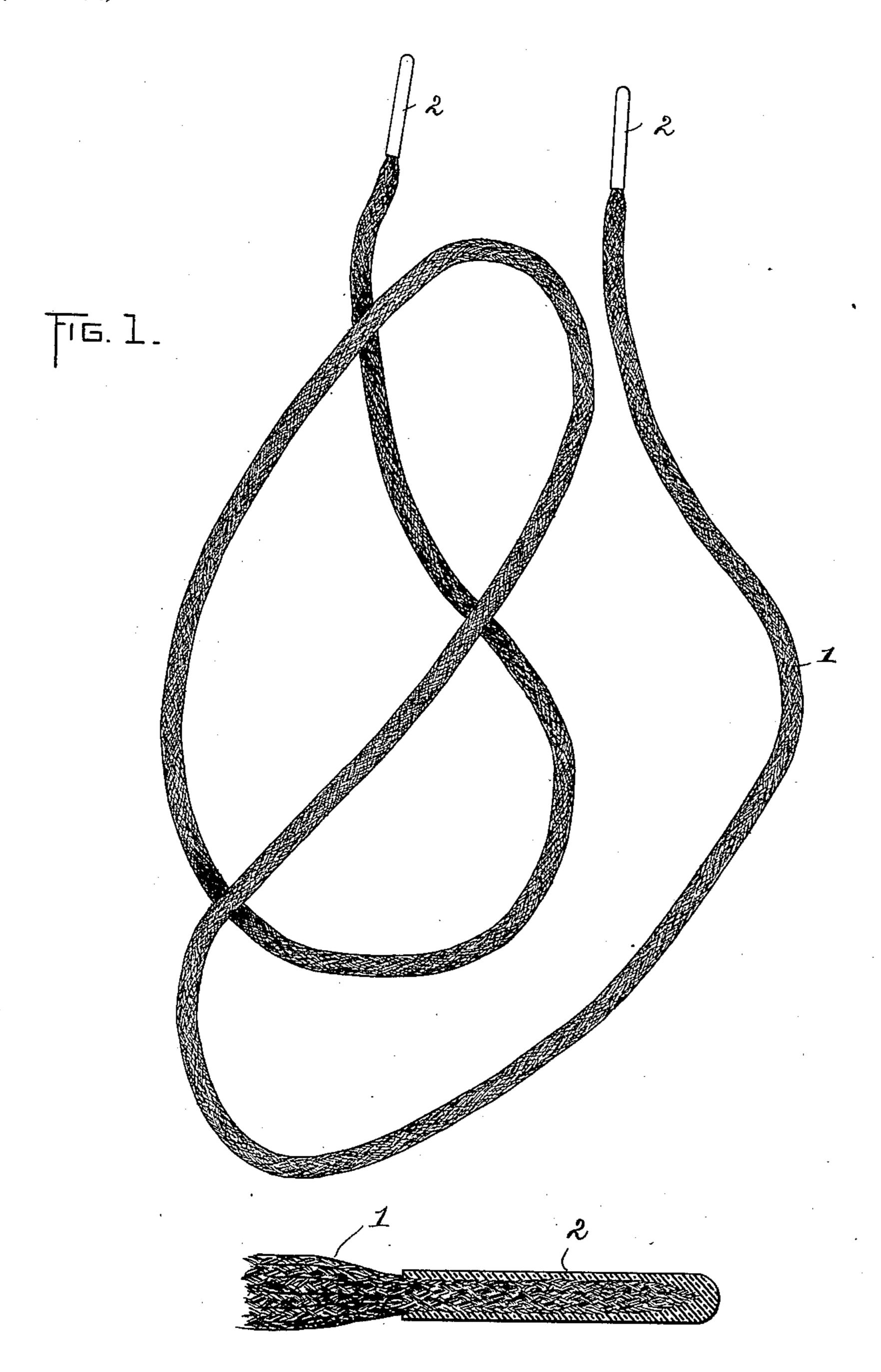
No. 639,998.

Patented Dec. 26, 1899.

## E. KEMPSHALL. RUBBER TIPPED LACING.

(Application filed Aug. 24, 1899.)

(No Model.)



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## United States Patent Office.

ELEAZER KEMPSHALL, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO THE NEVERBREAK SHOE STRING COMPANY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## RUBBER-TIPPED LACING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 639,998, dated December 26, 1899.

Application filed August 24, 1899. Serial No. 728,318. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELEAZER KEMPSHALL, of Newton, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rubber-Tipped Lacings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a rubber-tipped lacing; and it consists in the novel features of construction and relative arrangement of parts hereinafter fully described in the specification, clearly illustrated on the accompany-

ing sheet of drawings, and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, and to the figures marked thereon, forming a part of this specification.

Of the drawings, Figure I is a perspective view of the lacing made in accordance with 20 my invention. Fig. 2 is a detailed sectional

Referring to the drawings, which represent the best embodiment of my invention now known to me, 1 represents a lacing. This may be of any preferred kind and may or may not be provided with a central stiffening-cord.

2 represents the tip of flexible rubber applied to the end of the lacing. Preferably this

tip is molded upon the end of the lacing by suitable dies, sufficient pressure being em- 30 ployed to make the tip intermesh more or less with the fabric of the lacing.

My improved lacing may be used for all purposes where a lacing is required. The flexibility of the tip enables the same to be bent 35 at sharp corners without breaking, while at the same time, the material of the tip being flexible and of soft rubber, the tip does not scratch or abrade the surfaces with which it comes in contact.

Having thus explained the nature of the invention and described a way of constructing and using the same, although without attempting to set forth all of the forms in which it may be made or all of the modes of its use, 45 I declare that what I claim is—

A lacing comprising a cord or lacing member and a tip of soft rubber applied to the end of said lacing member.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my sig- 50 nature in presence of two witnesses.

ELEAZER KEMPSHALL.

Witnesses:

E. BATCHELDER, CORNELIUS BEARD.