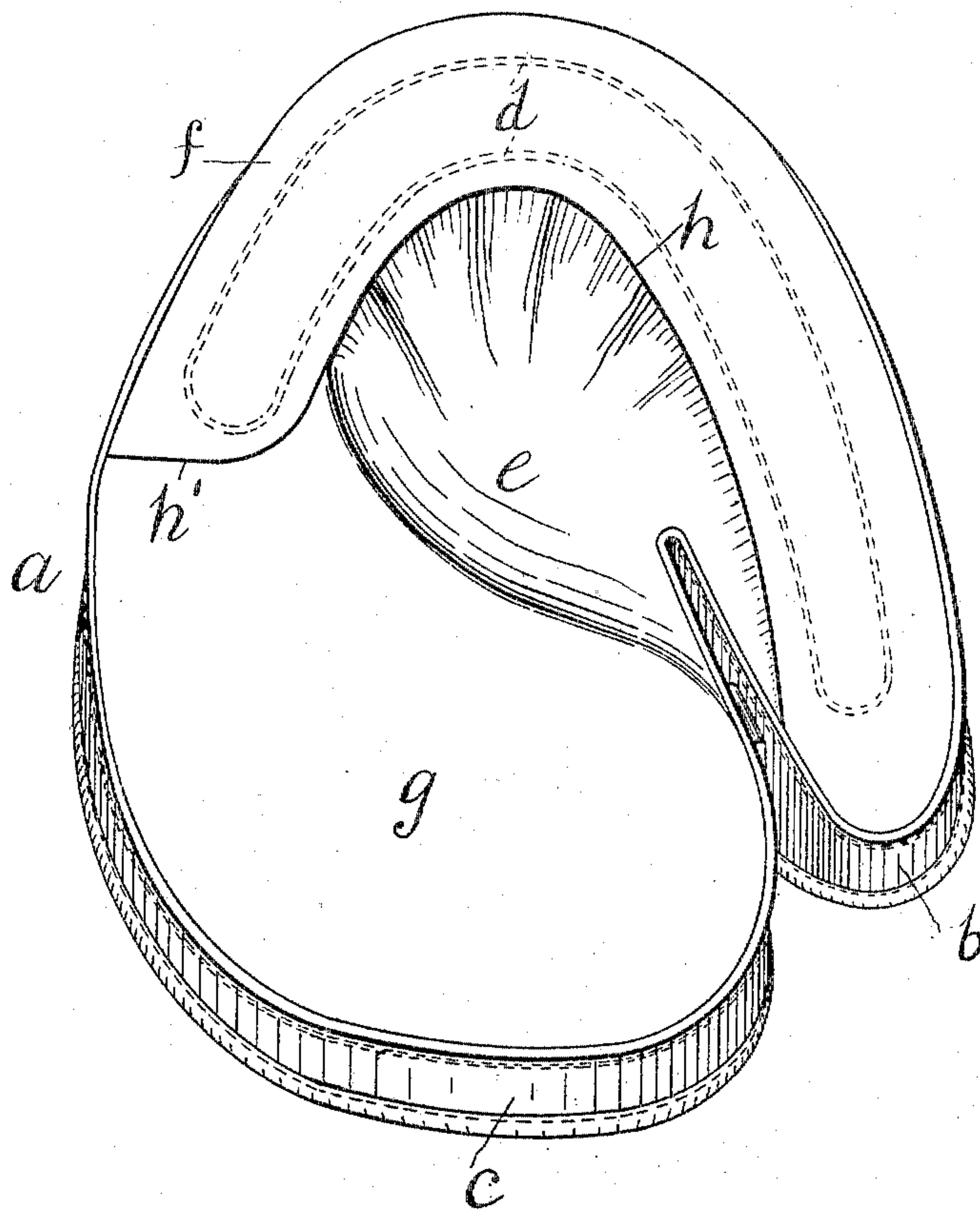


No. 780,306.

PATENTED JAN. 17, 1905.

B. T. ROGERS.  
CATCHER'S MITT.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 2, 1904.



Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BURT T. ROGERS, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

## CATCHER'S MITT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 780,306, dated January 17, 1905.

Application filed January 2, 1904. Serial No. 187,509.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BURT T. ROGERS, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Springfield, in the county of Hampden and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Catcher's Mitt, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to gloves or mitts used by catchers in playing base-ball in which a pocket is formed in the manner hereinafter set forth; and the object of my improvement is to provide a pocket in a catcher's glove or mitt in such manner as to enhance its usefulness. I not only furnish the glove or mitt at the outset with a pocket which is of the desired shape, size, and location, but at the same time provide against displacement of the padding and make an article in which no air-cushion is likely to form between the bottom of the pocket and the adjacent padding. This last is a valuable consideration, for the reason that when the bottom of the pocket does not come into contact with the padding an air-cushion is the result, in consequence of which it is more difficult to hold the ball.

A further object is to furnish a glove or mitt which does not need to have the pocket pounded into the same or to be distorted and drawn out of shape with straps in order to form the pocket. My mitt always retains practically the same shape given it when manufactured.

I attain these objects by the means illustrated in the accompanying drawing, which shows, in perspective, a mitt embodying a preferred form of my invention.

Generally my invention consists in making the front of the glove or mitt in at least two pieces and fastening them, usually by sewing or stitching, so as to leave more or less slack in one of such pieces, which provides for the formation of the pocket.

In the drawing a mitt *a* is shown, which does not differ in general appearance from other mitts in this class. There are the finger and thumb portions *b* and *c*, respectively, the heel outlined by the stitches *d* and the pocket *e* in the palm portion; but it will be observed that the front of this mitt is in two pieces *f* and *g*, united along a line *h*, repre-

senting a seam. By cutting out the pieces *f* and *g* so that their abutting edges are unequal and require more or less puckering adjacent the pocket *e* to unite them sufficient slack is left in the piece *g* to allow for the pocket. Provision is thus initially made for the formation of a pocket around which the filling or padding of the mitt is properly placed during the process of manufacture, and the presence of this pocket serves to keep such padding in place. In short, it is in contact with it at all interior points, so that the impact of the ball does not disturb the internal arrangement. The foregoing being true, it will be readily seen that no air-cushion can form beneath the pocket or any part thereof, as is the case when no provision is made for slackness in the palm portion of the front without stretching or distorting the front of the mitt or the mitt as a whole. The direction of the line of separation may vary more or less. For example, the line or seam *h*, instead of turning to the left, as shown at *h'*, may continue forward onto the finger portion of the front of the mitt or follow the edge of the pocket, a departure which necessarily changes somewhat the shape of the pieces *f* and *g*, but does not alter the essential feature of the invention, and other modifications of a similar nature may be made or the front of the mitt may be originally cut into more than two pieces, which are afterward united, all without departing from the nature of my invention, provided the pocket is formed in the manner substantially set forth.

It is to be understood that the mitt *a*, aside from the special feature of novelty hereinbefore fully described, is made up in the usual and well-known manner both interiorly and exteriorly.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a catcher's glove or mitt, a front comprising two pieces joined to each other along contiguous edges, one of said pieces being provided with a fullness adjacent one edge to provide a pocket in the palm of the glove, substantially as described.

2. In a catcher's glove or mitt, a front comprising a heel and a palm and finger-piece, said



pieces being joined to each other along their contiguous edges, and said palm and finger-piece being provided with a fullness adjacent the line of juncture with the heel-piece to provide a pocket, in the palm of the glove, substantially as described.

3. In a catcher's glove or mitt, a front comprising a heel-piece and a palm and finger-piece, the latter piece being provided with a fullness adjacent one edge to provide a pocket

and being united by a seam along said edge to the contiguous edge of the heel-piece, substantially as described.

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

BURT T. ROGERS.

Witnesses:

F. A. CUTTER,

A. L. STEVENS.