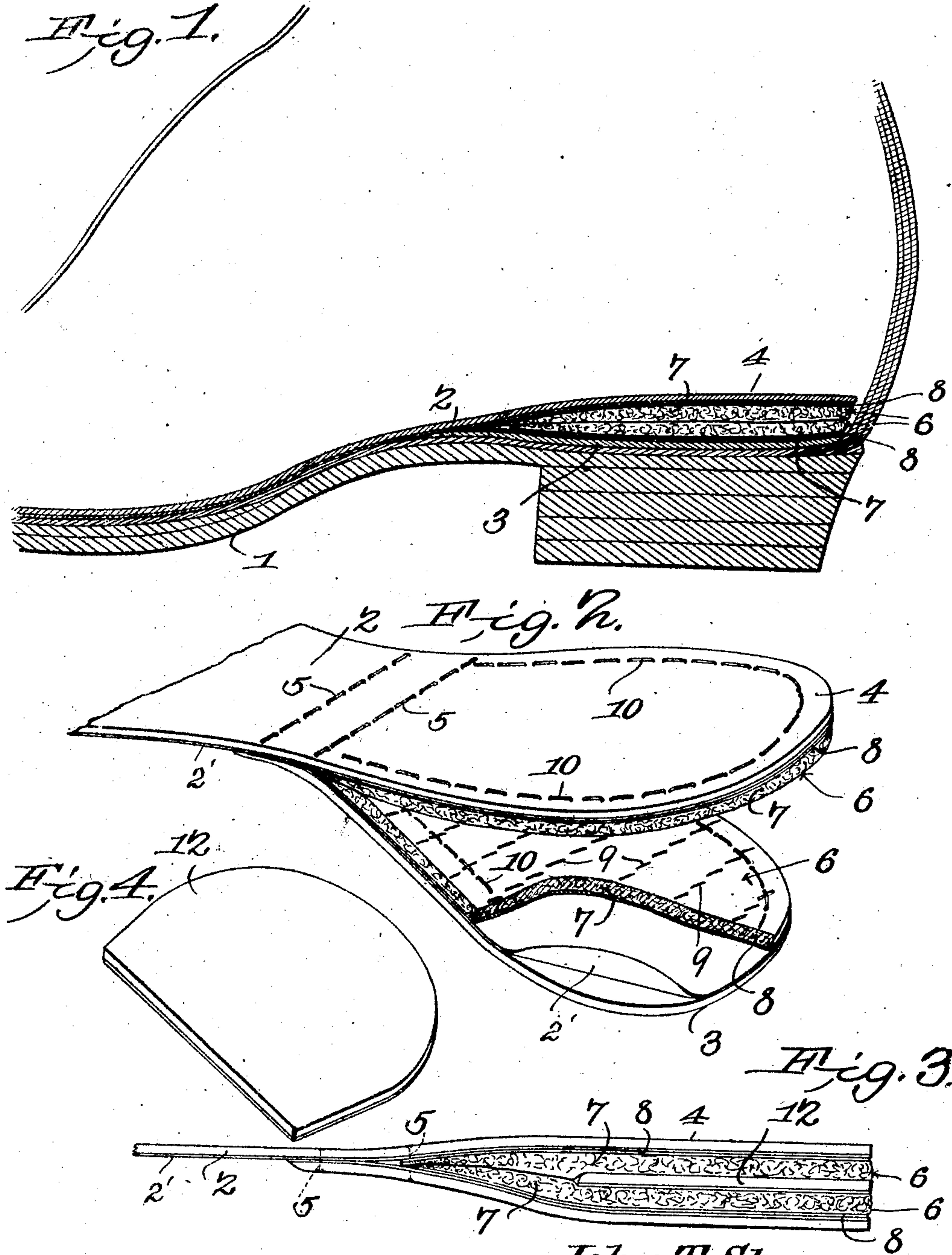


No. 840,170.

PATENTED JAN. 1, 1907.

J. T. STORY.
HEEL CUSHION.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 7, 1906.



WITNESSES:
E. J. Stewart
Chas. H. Bradway

John T. Story,
INVENTOR.

By *Chas. H. Bradway*
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN THOMAS STORY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

HEEL-CUSHION.

No. 840,170.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 1, 1907.

Application filed May 7, 1906. Serial No. 315,639.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN THOMAS STORY, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Heel-Cushion, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to cushions for footwear, and has for its object to improve the construction of heel-cushions of that character intended to be used inside a boot or shoe for cushioning the shocks incident to walking and to ease the feet when standing for any considerable length of time.

The invention consists in the various details of construction and arrangements of parts, as will be more fully described hereinafter and finally pointed out in the claims appended hereto.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate an embodiment of the invention, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section through a shoe with my improved heel-cushion applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the heel-cushion. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section showing a filler-piece applied to the cushion, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the filler-piece.

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a shoe of ordinary construction having the heel-cushion 2 fitted therein. The cushion comprises an innersole made of a suitable flexible material—as, for instance, a web of hair, felt, or a piece of cork composition—as shown, having a backing of cloth 2' and provided at its heel portion with a member 3, preferably of the same material. This member 3 underlies the heel portion 4, which constitutes the other member of the heel-cushion and is shaped to correspond thereto.

If desired, the sole portion of the cushion can be dispensed with, so that the cushion device is composed simply of two members of suitable shape to conform to the heel of the shoe. Furthermore, if it should be desired the lower member 3 may be provided with a sole portion and be used in conjunction with the sole portion of the inner sole or exclusive of the same. In this instance the member 3 is secured at its front end to the innersole 2 by one or more rows of transverse threads 5 or in any other suitable manner. The side and rear edges of the lower member are free, so as to permit of the two members spreading apart during the act of walking, and thus produce ventilating-currents of air.

On each of the opposed surfaces of the members 3 and 4 is a cushion or padding 6, both paddings being of substantially the same elasticity and preferably made of hair, although various other materials can be employed for this purpose. These pads are cut from sheets of hair which comprise a backing of cloth, on which the curled hair is made in the form of a web and secured thereto by rows of stitches. As shown in Fig. 2, 7 represents the hair, 8 the cloth, and 9 the rows of stitches that comprise the cushions or pads. These pads are attached to the flexible members of the heel-cushion in any desired manner. By preference, however, the cloth sides of the pads are presented to the members, and the pads are attached by means of one or more rows of stitches 10, that pass through the cork composition, the cloth glued thereto, and the cloth backing and hair of the cushions or pads.

As will be seen in Fig. 2, the securing-stitches 10 pass over the ends of the stitches 9, so as to retain the hair intact on its backing-cloth. It will thus be seen that by facing both of the members 3 and 4 the cushion effect is increased and a considerable degree of resiliency between the members is produced, in virtue of which when the two members are compressed by the heel they immediately spread apart when the weight is relieved, so that currents of air are produced which ventilate the cushion and shoe.

In connection with the heel-cushion I may employ filler-pieces, at least one or more, as may be desired. The purpose of these filler-pieces is to increase the total thickness of the cushion according to the requirement for producing a better fit, it being understood, of course, that with ready-made shoes the fit may be more or less perfect with different persons, and by means of the filler-pieces the fit of the shoe can be improved. As shown in Figs. 3 and 4, the filler-piece 12 comprises a piece of flexible material shaped to correspond to the contour of the members 3 and 4 and is adapted to be loosely held between the said members. These parts of the heel-cushion may also be faced with a padding of hair, if desired.

The innersole has been illustrated without a cushion at the ball and instep portions thereof, but I desire to have it understood that the whole under side of the innersole may be provided with a cushion, if desired. This may be separate from the cushion 7 at the

heel portion, or it may form a part thereof and attached to the insole 2 by the same row of stitching that secures the heel-cushion 7 to the insole, as will be readily understood.

5 What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A heel-cushion, comprising two connected flexible members, pads on the adjacent surfaces of the members, and a row of
10 stitches around the edge of each member for securing the pad thereto, each pad comprising a web of cushioning material, a backing of cloth presented to its respective member, and stitches securing them together.

15 2. A heel-cushion, comprising two flexible members, pads on the adjacent surfaces of the members, and a row of peripheral stitches on each member for securing the pad thereto, each pad comprising a web of cushioning material, a cloth backing therefor, and rows of
20 stitches holding the two together and the ends of which are secured by the peripheral row of stitches.

3. A heel-cushion, comprising two flexible
25 members, stitches for uniting them, pads on the adjacent surfaces of the members, and a row of peripheral stitches on each member for securing the pad thereto, each pad comprising a web of curled hair, a cloth backing
30 therefor, and rows of stitches holding the two

together and the ends of which are secured by the peripheral row of stitches, in combination with a filler-piece of flexible material substantially like the said members and adapted to be loosely held between and in
35 contact with the pads on the latter.

4. A heel-cushion, comprising two flexible members, stitches for uniting them, pads on the adjacent surfaces of the members, and a filler-piece loosely arranged between the said
40 member and in contact with said pads.

5. As an article of manufacture, an insole, a cushion attached thereto, a member secured at the heel portion of the insole, a cushion on the said member presented to the cushion on
45 the insole, stitches for securing said member on the insole, a filler-piece loosely arranged between the heel portion and said member and disposed in contact with the cushions thereof, and stitches for securing the cushions
50 on the said member and the insole, said cushions comprising webs of suitable fabric of substantially the same elasticity.

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

JOHN THOMAS STORY.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM GEO. STORY,
HOWARD H. STORY.