

W. D. BUTZ.
HOSIERY.

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915,551.

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Fig. 2.

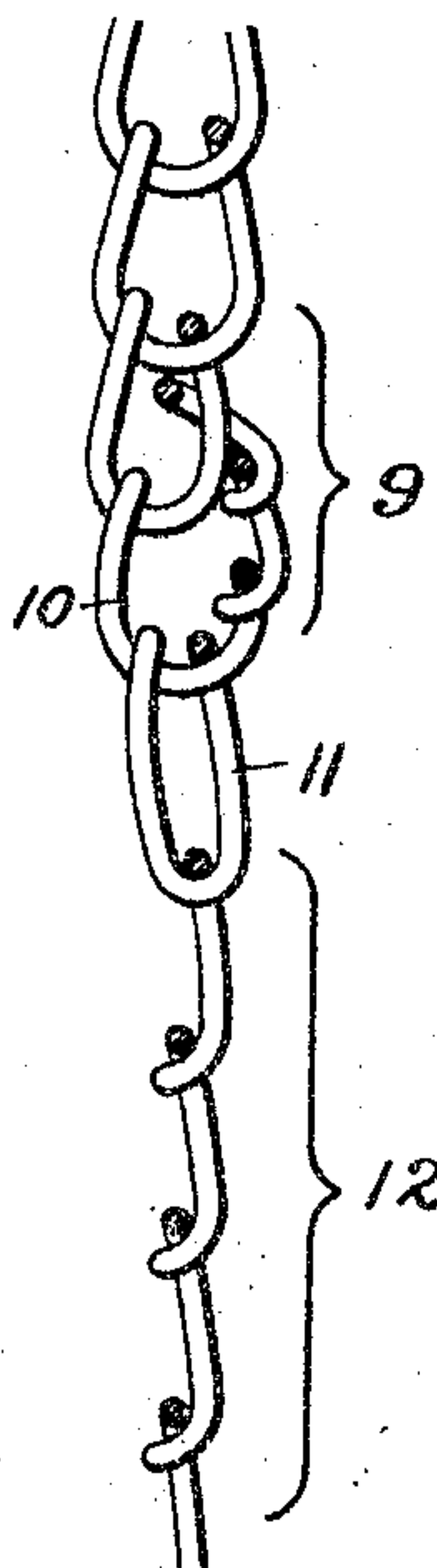
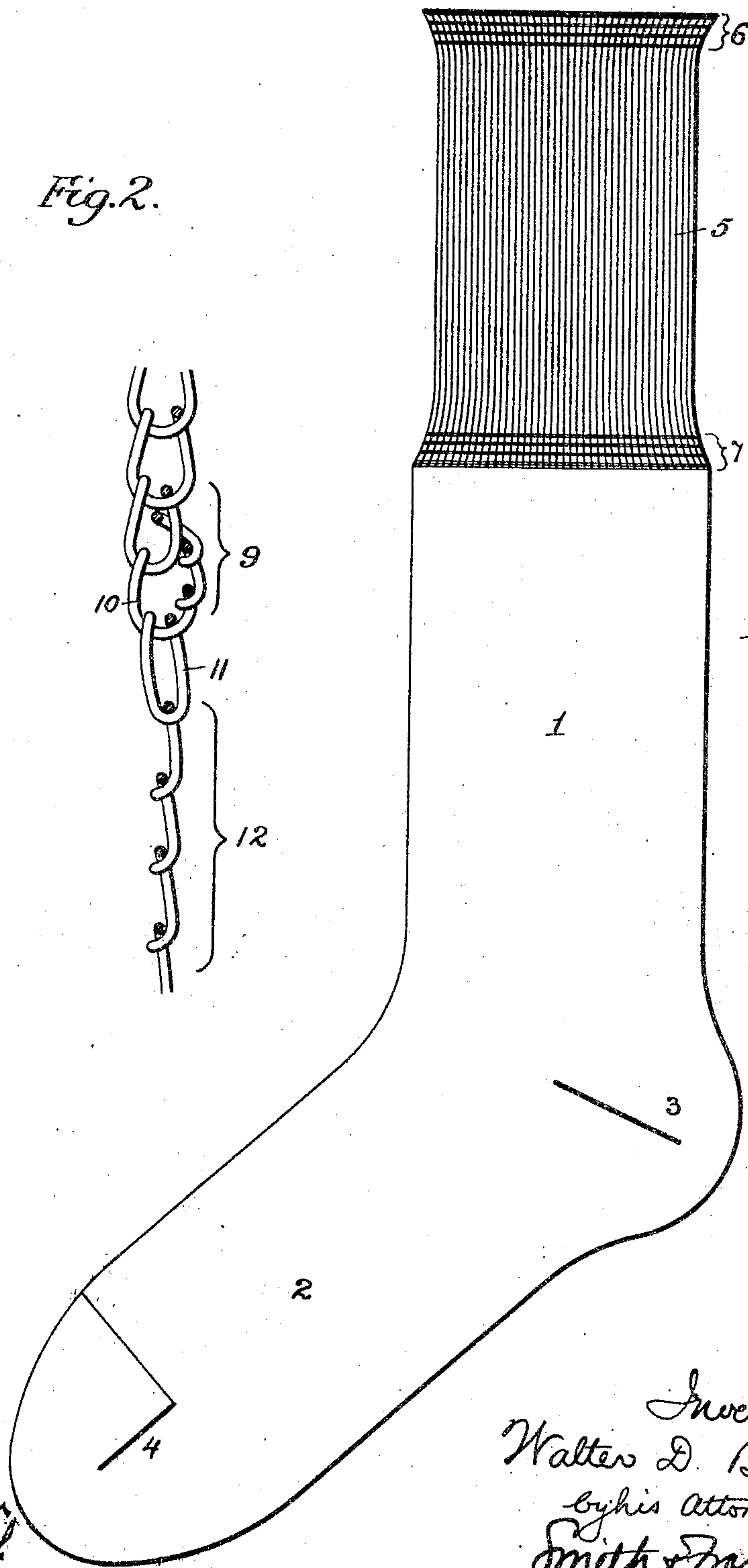


Fig. 1.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOSIERY.

No. 915,551.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER D. BUTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing in Norristown, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Hosiery, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to full or half hose having a leg of plain knitted web and a top of ribbed knitted web, the object of my invention being to prevent excessive stretching of the ribbed web and consequent eventual loss or serious impairment of its elasticity. This object I attain in the manner herein-after set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 represents a knitted sock illustrating my invention, and Fig. 2 is an exaggerated sectional view of the stitches in that portion of the sock where the plain leg joins the ribbed top.

It is common to provide many forms of full hose or half hose having legs and feet of plain knitted web with tops composed of ribbed web, in order that said top portions of the hose may be of a more elastic and contractible character than the web constituting the leg and foot. After the hose has been in use some time, however, these ribbed webs, because of repeated stretching, lose either all or the greater portion of their elasticity. It is also customary to provide the upper end of a ribbed top with one or more of what are termed "welt courses" in order to prevent the web from raveling. I have found that if one or more similar welt courses, are formed in the ribbed top just above the junction of the same with the plain web leg, the undue stretching of the ribbed web will be prevented, and the ribbed top will preserve its elasticity for a much longer time than in the absence of such preventive means.

In Fig. 1 of the drawing, 1 represents the leg of the stocking, 2 the foot, 3 a seamless heel, and 4 a so-called seamless toe, all produced in accordance with methods which have long been in use in the manufacture of this class of hosiery.

5 represents the top composed of ribbed tubular web having, at its upper end, a series of welt courses 6, and just above the junction of the ribbed top with the plain foot another series of welt courses 7. These so-called welt courses are produced by arresting the knitting operation upon one of the sets of

needles with which the rib knitting is provided, continuing to knit one or more courses of stitches upon the other set of needles of said machine, and then resuming the knitting of ribbed web. The ribbed tops are usually knitted in succession in long webs, and adjacent to each welt course or series of welt courses, there is what is termed a "slack course" produced by drawing longer stitches in said course than in the others, this slack course being the one which is transferred to the needles of the plain machine upon which the leg and foot of the stocking are knitted, and the lengthening of the stitches in said slack course being intended for the purpose of facilitating such transfer. The ribbed web is severed at points between the slack and welt courses, so that in each ribbed top thus produced, the welt courses are at the upper end and the slack course at the lower end.

In carrying out my invention, welt courses or series of welt courses, are produced in the continuous ribbed web at a distance apart equal to the desired length of the ribbed top, and the slack course is formed adjacent to that one of the welt courses which is at the bottom of said ribbed top.

In Fig. 2 of the drawing, 9 represents the stitches produced upon one set of the needles of the rib machine, while the stitch 10 is being held upon the needles of the other set.

11 represents the long or slack course, and 12 the plain courses produced upon the needles of the machine to which said long or slack course of the ribbed web has been transferred.

I claim:—

1. Hosiery having a leg of plain knitted web and a top of ribbed web, said ribbed top having one or more welt courses adjacent to the top of the plain web constituting the leg.

2. Hosiery having a leg of plain knitted web and a top of ribbed web, said ribbed top having a slack course interknitted with the first course of the plain web constituting the leg, and also having, adjacent to said slack course, one or more welt courses.

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

WALTER D. BUTZ.

Witnesses:

HAMILTON D. TURNER,
KATE A. BEADLE.