

975,667.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.

Fig. 1.

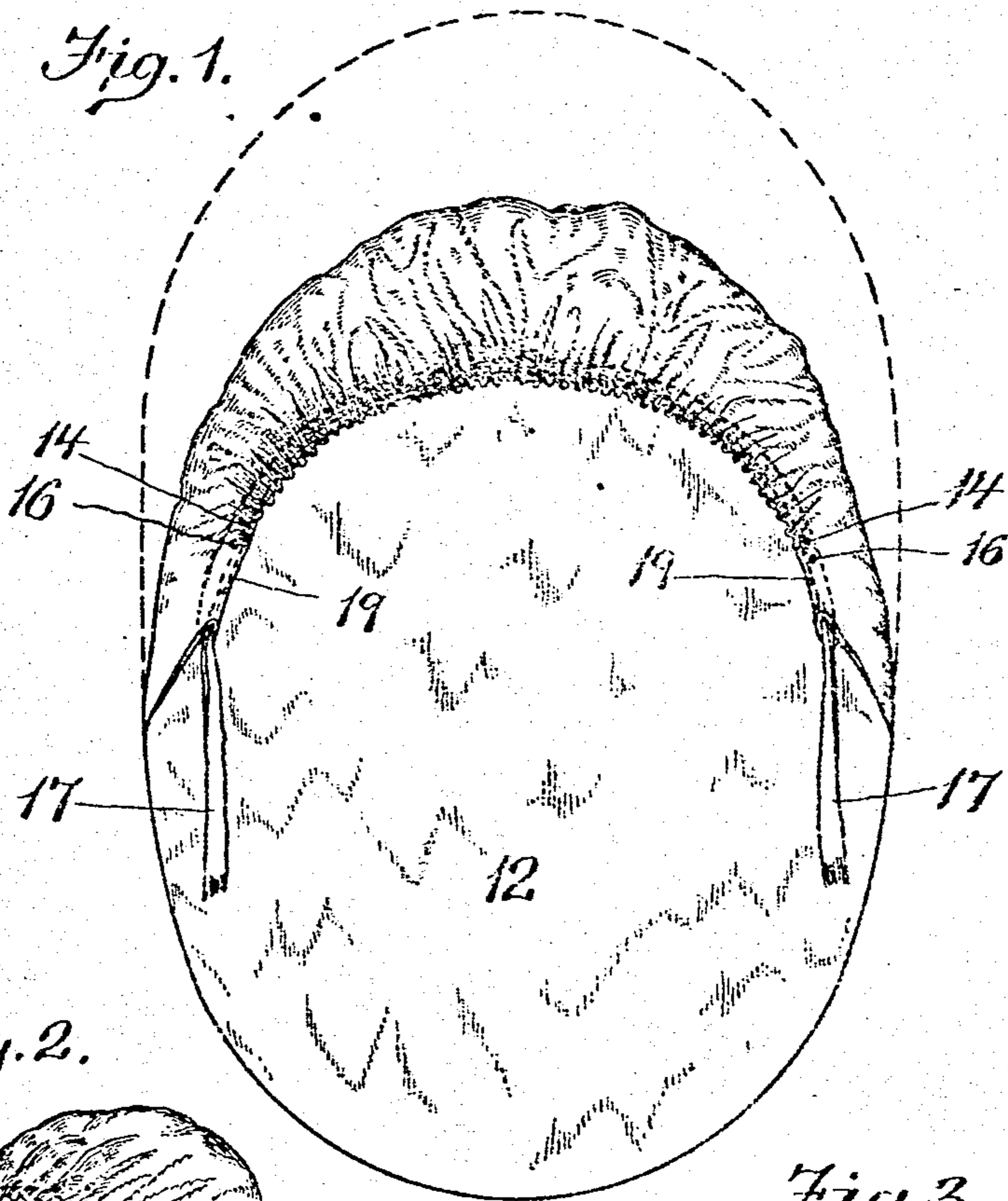


Fig. 2.

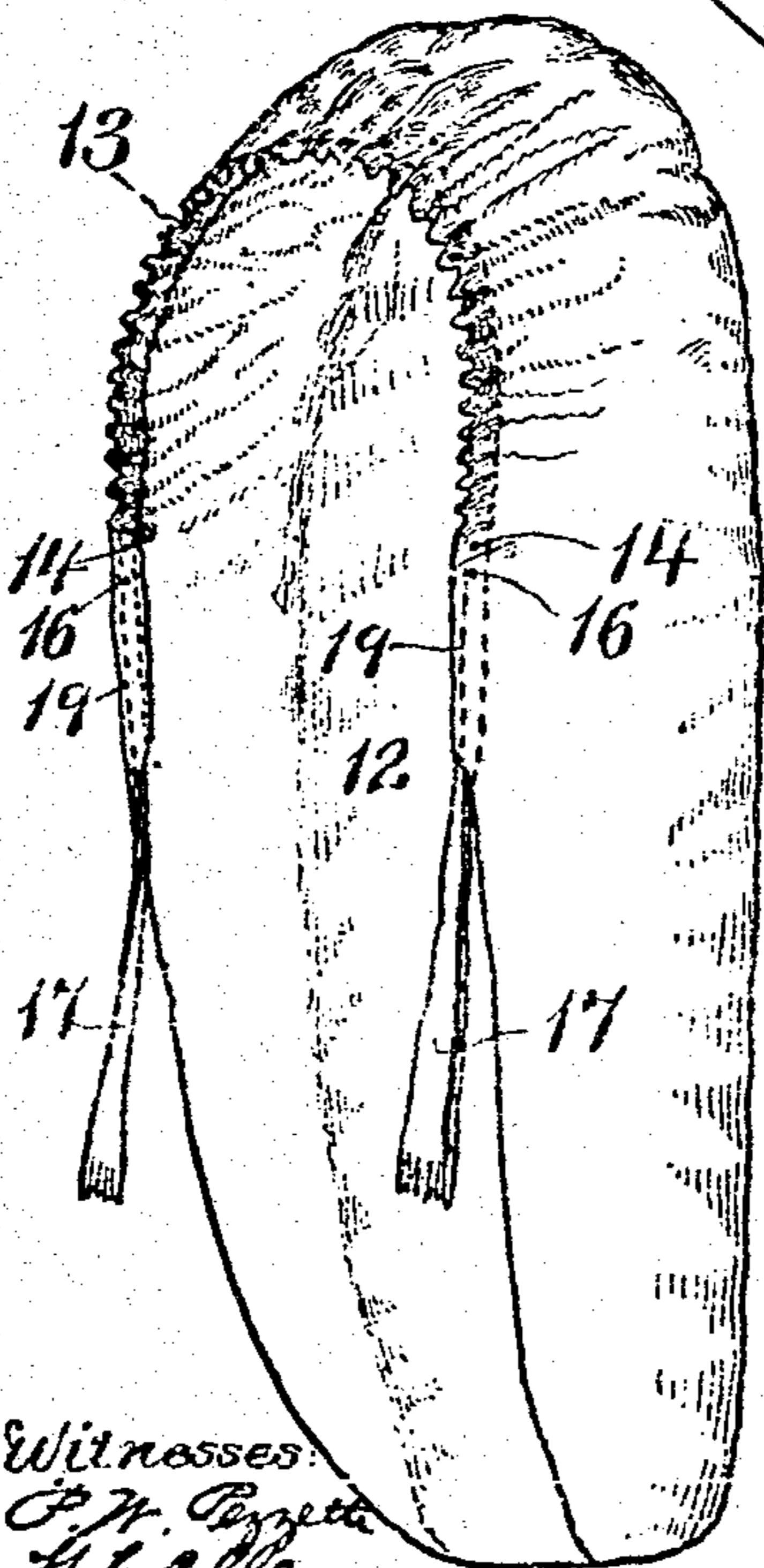
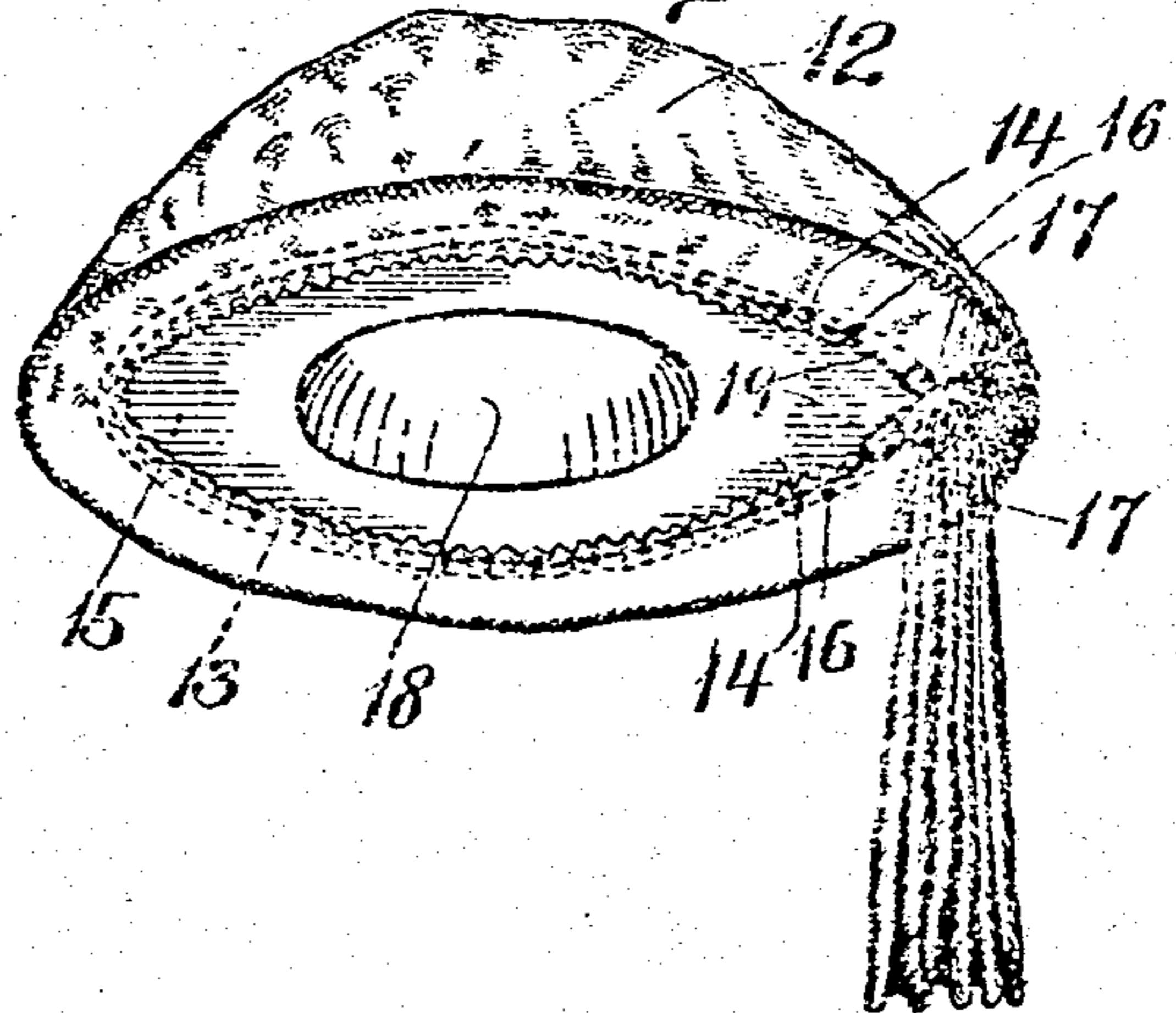


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEONARD E. WOLFE, OF WEYMOUTH, MASSACHUSETTS.

HAT-PROTECTOR.

975,667.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 15, 1910.

Application filed November 27, 1909. Serial No. 530,193.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONARD E. WOLFE, of Weymouth, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hat-Protectors, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to protectors for application to ladies' hats to exclude rain and dust therefrom.

The invention has for its object to provide a protector for the purpose stated adapted to be quickly and conveniently applied to a hat while on the wearer's head, and to cover all exposed parts of the same, the protector being conformable to wide varieties of size or shape without injury to the hat or its ornamentation, and presenting an attractive appearance when in use.

The invention consists in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification,—Figure 1 represents a side view of a protector embodying my invention, spread out approximately flat. Fig. 2 represents a perspective view of the protector ready for application to a hat. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view showing the protector in place on a hat.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the preferred embodiment of my invention, illustrated in the drawings, the protector is composed of a single oblong sheet 12 of suitable flexible and preferably waterproof material, such as rubber-backed silk. The form of the sheet prior to the application of the elastic contracting cord, hereinafter described, is preferably as indicated by full and dotted lines in Fig. 1, the dotted marginal lines indicating the form of the forward end of the sheet before a portion of its margin is contracted, said end having preferably a semi-circular curvature.

In adapting the sheet 12 for use as a hat protector, I apply to its curved forward end an elastic cord or tape 13, the end portions of which are attached to the sheet at 14, 14, the said end of the sheet being hemmed in such manner as to provide a pocket for the cord 13 extending along the margin of the sheet. The cord 13 is first attached to the sheet at one end, and is then stretched before its opposite end is attached, so that when both ends are attached and the cord is allowed to

contract, the material forming the cord-receiving pocket is contracted and gathered, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 2, the portion of the margin of the sheet occupied by the elastic cord being thus yieldingly contracted to form an elastic flange adapted to bear on the under side of the front portion of the brim 15 of a hat.

17, 17 represent fastening members which are preferably inelastic strings or tapes attached at 16, 16 to the protector at opposite ends of the elastic cord 13, said fastening members being adapted to be tied around the rear portion of the sheet under the rear portion of the hat brim.

It will be seen that the protector constructed as shown, has its margin yieldingly contracted at one end, said contracted portion forming an elastic flange portion which bears on the under side of the brim, said flange including and being completed by the portions of the edge of the sheet which are engaged with the strings 17. The said flange therefore has an elastic portion and inelastic portions, and is adapted by said elastic portion to conform automatically to the diameter of the hat brim, the flange as a whole extending continuously around the under side of the brim. The main portion or body of the sheet is adapted to cover the crown 18 and the upper side of the brim of the hat, the rear end portion of the sheet being adapted to depend from the rear portion of the hat brim.

In applying the protector to a hat, the elastic flange portion of the sheet is placed under the forward end of the brim, the body portion is carried over the top of the crown, and downwardly across the rear end of the brim, portions of the margin of the sheet adjacent to the ends of the elastic cord 13 being drawn backwardly against the under side of the brim and brought together at the rear end of the brim to form the inelastic portions of the flange, as indicated in Fig. 3. The said inelastic flange portions, which are indicated by the numerals 19, are preferably hemmed in such manner as to form pockets through which the strings 17 extend, the said pockets being adapted to slide upon the strings toward and from the points 16 where the strings are attached, so that the inelastic portions of the flange are adjustable. The protector is secured in place by tying the strings 17 together where they emerge from the pockets, and then carrying

the outer portions of the strings around the depending portion of the body of the protector to constrict said portion just below the rear end of the hat brim, the strings being tied together at the back side of the constricted portion. In applying the protector to the hat and tying the strings 17 together, the elastic cord is stretched more or less, according to the diameter of the hat brim.

10 The portions of the margin of the sheet forming the inelastic flange portions are gathered or contracted upon the strings 17 by the tying operation in case the hat brim is of relatively small diameter requiring such

15 contraction of the margin as would be afforded by the gathering of the said pockets.

It will be seen that the operation of applying the protector as above described, conforms the body of the protector to the general shape of the hat crown and the ornamentation thereon, the strings or fastening members 17 and the elastic cord 13 cooperating in holding portions of the margin of the protector against the under side of the

20 brim. Owing to the fact that the marginal

portions of the rear end of the body of the protector are free and uncontracted, said rear end is adapted to hang gracefully as a pendant from the rear end of the brim without presenting a baggy appearance. The pendant may be of any desired length, its length depending on the length of the sheet.

I claim:

A hat protector comprising a sheet of flexible material having one edge provided with a pocket, an elastic cord having its ends permanently secured within said pocket whereby the material is caused to gather between said ends to form a brim engaging hood which is adjustable for hat brims of different sizes, and nonelastic strings secured to said material at opposite sides thereof and adapted to constrict the body portion of said material at the rear of the hat brim.

In testimony whereof I have affixed my signature, in presence of two witnesses.

LEONARD F. WOLFE.

Witnesses:

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