

(No Model.)

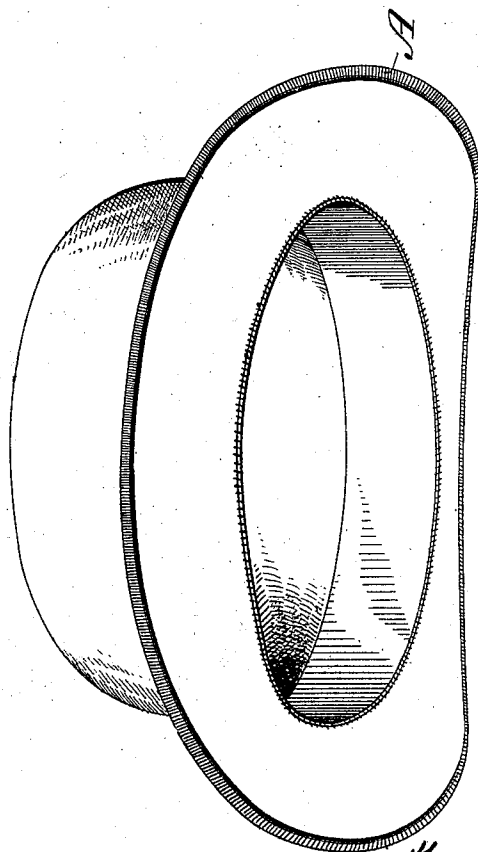
T. W. BRACHER.  
HAT AND EDGE BINDING THEREFOR.

No. 576,973.

Patented Feb. 9, 1897.



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS W. BRACHER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## HAT AND EDGE BINDING THEREFOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 576,978, dated February 9, 1897.

Application filed April 2, 1896. Serial No. 585,874. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS W. BRACHER, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Hats and Edge Bindings Therefor, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide an improved edge-binding strip for hats, by means of which the hat is finished with less cost and labor and is very much improved in appearance and rendered more marketable.

Heretofore soft, stiff, and silk hats have been bound in such a way that the edge-lines of the binding-strip vary from the lines or curves of the curl of the hat-brim, so that the result is inartistic and awkward, and by the use of my improved binding-strip this objection is overcome.

I provide a binding-strip which may be made of any suitable material and in any desired manner and which is of varying width, the broad portions being adapted to parts of the hat-brim and the narrow portions adapted to the other parts of the brim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a strip embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of a hat having such a strip applied as a binding to its edge, and Fig. 3 is a transverse section of a strip of a preferred construction enlarged.

A designates the binding-strip, which may be made in any desired manner, but preferably so that it shall have a selvage woven at one longitudinal edge  $a$  and such edge made straight, while the other edge  $a'$  is sinuous. This may be produced in any desired manner, but preferably by cutting, and the cut edge protected by applying thereto any suitable adhesive material, as, for instance, shellac, in such manner as to impregnate the edge of the fabric with such material to thereby give a more substantial edge.

In Fig. 2 there is shown a hat provided with a binding-strip of varying width, the narrow part of the binding-strip being applied to the relatively narrow turned portions of the brim, and the broad part of the binding-strip to the relatively broad turned portions of the brim, and it will be observed that the sinuosities of the strip suit different conditions along the hat-brim.

While my invention contemplates a binding for hat-brims consisting of a strip having broad portions and narrow portions adapted to different parts of the brim, there are certain peculiar advantages incident to such a binding when made with a woven edge and with a sinuous edge protected by adhesive material, in that the strips may be cheaply made, because two such strips may be made by weaving a ribbon with two selvages, cutting the same longitudinally, and applying adhesive material to both the cut edges, so that such a strip is more yielding along the sinuous edge when that is produced by cutting and protected by an adhesive material than if it had been protected by weaving a selvage along it, and is more yielding than the other edge, which is straight and provided with a woven selvage. Furthermore, a hat provided with my improved binding-strip, however made, will be improved in appearance, because the strip conforms to the variations of the brim and may be applied without puckering, because its sinuosities are better adapted to the variations of the hat-brim, and the edge of the strip may be parallel with the edge of the brim.

I do not herein claim, broadly, a ribbon or strip having one longitudinal edge straight and protected by a woven selvage and the other longitudinal edges sinuous and protected by an adhesive material, which I have described and illustrated as one form of binding-strip, as this is claimed in my application, Serial No. 556,112.

What I claim is—

1. A binding adapted to the wide and narrow turned portions of a hat-brim, and consisting of a continuous strip having broad portions adapted to parts of the hat-brim and narrow portions adapted to other parts of the brim, substantially as specified.

2. As a new article of manufacture, a hat whose brim is provided with a binding of varying width, a broad part covering the edge of a wide turned portion of a hat-brim, and a narrow part covering the edge of a relatively narrow turned portion of the hat-brim, substantially as described.

3. As a new article of manufacture, a hat whose brim is provided with a binding of

varying width, the narrow part of said binding being applied to a narrow turned portion of the brim, and the broad part to a relatively broad turned portion of the brim, the overlapping edge of said binding being on the top of the brim and substantially uniform throughout the length of the binding, substantially as described.

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

THOMAS W. BRACHER.

Witnesses:

ANTHONY GREF,  
WILLIAM A. POLLOCK.