T. W. BRACHER.

Sweat-Band for Hats and Caps.

No. 222,233. Patented Dec. 2, 1879.

Fig. 1.

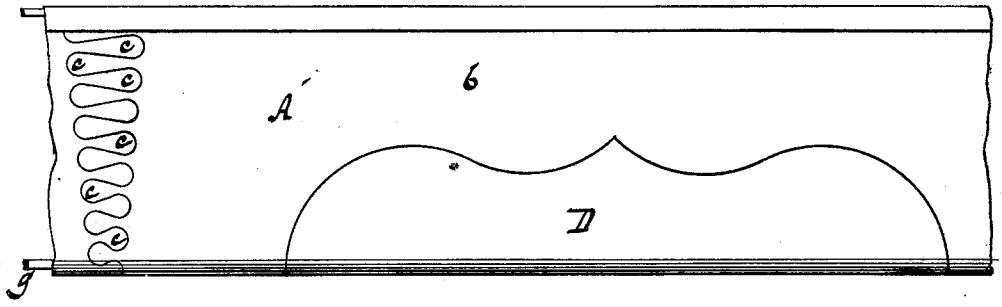


Fig. 2.

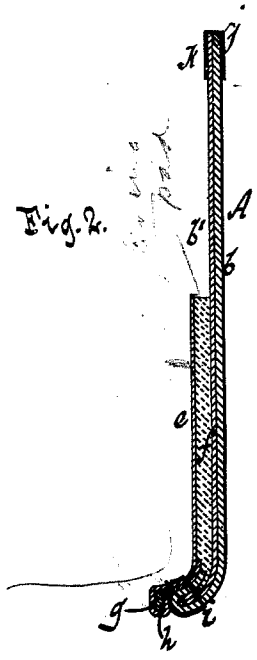
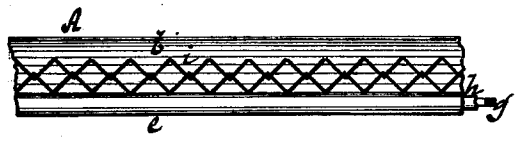


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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Inventor.
Thomas W. Bracher
by
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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

IMPROVEMENT IN SWEAT-BANDS FOR HATS AND CAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **222,233**, dated December 2, 1879; application filed October 30, 1879.

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 new and useful Improvement in Sweat-Bands for Hats and Caps, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a portion of a sweat-band containing my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section thereof. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the same.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts.

My invention relates to the construction of sweat-bands for hats and caps, and is especially adapted, in some of its features, to stretched edge-bands, as hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

The letter A designates the body of a sweat-band. I construct this body of a face-layer, *b*, of water-proof fabric—such as oil-cloth or oil-silk—and a rear layer, *b'*, of buckram, paper, or the like, for supporting the face-layer and giving the band the required strength, the two layers being united by a suitable adhesive substance. In this manner I obtain a light and durable sweat-band.

The ends of the face-layer *b* are joined together by means of interlocking dovetailed tabs *c*, formed at those points, the tabs upon one end of such layer being fitted into the spaces between the tabs on the other or adjoining end. By this means I produce an effective joint, and one having a good appearance, one of the advantages thereby gained being that waste pieces of material may be utilized to form the face-layer *b* without giving the band an unsightly appearance.

In some cases—namely, when the face-layer *b* is formed of waste pieces of material—the rear layer, *b'*, is made in sections, one to each joint of the face-layer.

With the sweat-band A, I combine a facing, D, of silk or other soft material. The office of this facing is to present a soft surface to the head, and especially the forehead, to which end the facing is made of a length approximately equal to that of the human forehead, and so applied that, if the sweat-band is properly put into a hat or cap, the facing is brought opposite to and in contact with the forehead of the wearer.

The attachment of the facing D to the sweat-band A may be effected by a suitable cement or by stitching or other appropriate means.

The edges of the facing D may be cut to various ornamental shapes, so that the appearance of the sweat-band is thereby materially enhanced.

The sweat-band A is provided with a lining, *e*, and between this lining and the band I arrange a filling or pad, *f*, of cotton or other similar material, for the purpose of giving the whole an elastic or cushion-like character, which is especially advantageous or desirable when the band is applied to stiff or silk hats. In this example the pad *f* extends over a portion only of the sweat-band A—namely, a like distance to the facing D; but it may, if desired, be arranged to extend the entire length thereof.

The lining *e* is folded on the lower edge of the sweat-band, where it incloses a wire or spring, *g*, and where it is stitched to the band, while the whole is stretched at that point, as described in Letters Patent heretofore granted to me.

I have found that in the operation of stretching the edge of the sweat-band the lining *e* is liable to bind or catch on the wire *g*, and is thus improperly or irregularly stretched. To overcome this disadvantage I make use of a wire having a covering, *h*, of cloth or paper, or other suitable material.

It is obvious that this covering *h* is adapted to slip or shift its position on the wire, and, since the covering hugs the lining *e*, the latter is free to slip or move on the wire.

I further make use of a wire having an oblong cross-section, and so arrange the same that it lies flat or parallel to the body of the sweat-band A, as clearly shown. The wire thus allows the sweat-band A to bend flatwise and take its position in a hat or cap, while it prevents the same from bending edgewise, thereby preserving the symmetry of the band.

Between the band A and its lining *e*, on the lower edge of the band, I arrange a welt or insertion, *i*, for the purpose of hiding or detract-

ing from the glare of the stitches whereby the lining is joined to the band. In this example the insertion *i* is formed by a double row of stitches interlocking with each other on the face of the band, one row passing between the band and lining, so as to penetrate the latter, and the other passing through the band and lining, as shown in Fig. 2. The insertion thus formed has the additional advantage that it re-enforces the stitches for joining the band and lining; but it may, if desired, be formed by a cord or braid fastened at the desired spot.

I apply a wire or spring, *j*, to the upper edge of the sweat-band A, as well as to its lower edge, and to this end inclose the wire *j* in a binding-strip, *k*, secured to such edge of the band in any appropriate manner. By this wire *j* the upper edge of the sweat-band A is stiffened, and this being favorable to the retention of the band in a hat or cap, the least amount of sewing is required to fasten the band.

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

1. A sweat-band made of a face-layer of water-proof fabric and a rear layer of buckram or the like, the two being cemented together, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A sweat-band made of a face-layer of water-proof fabric, the ends of which are joined by means of interlocking dovetail tabs, as shown, and of a rear layer of buckram or the like, cemented to the face-layer, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The combination, with a sweat-band, of the facing D, substantially as and for the purpose described.

4. The combination, with a sweat-band and lining, of the pad or filling *f*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

5. The combination, with a sweat-band and lining, arranged substantially as shown, of a wire or spring having an oblong cross-section, for the purpose set forth.

6. The combination, with a sweat-band and lining, arranged substantially as shown, of the insertion *i*, for the purpose set forth.

7. The combination, with a sweat-band, of a wire or spring applied to the upper edge of the band, substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 29th day of October, 1879.

T. W. BRACHER. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
J. VAN SANTVOORD,
CHAS. WAHLERS.