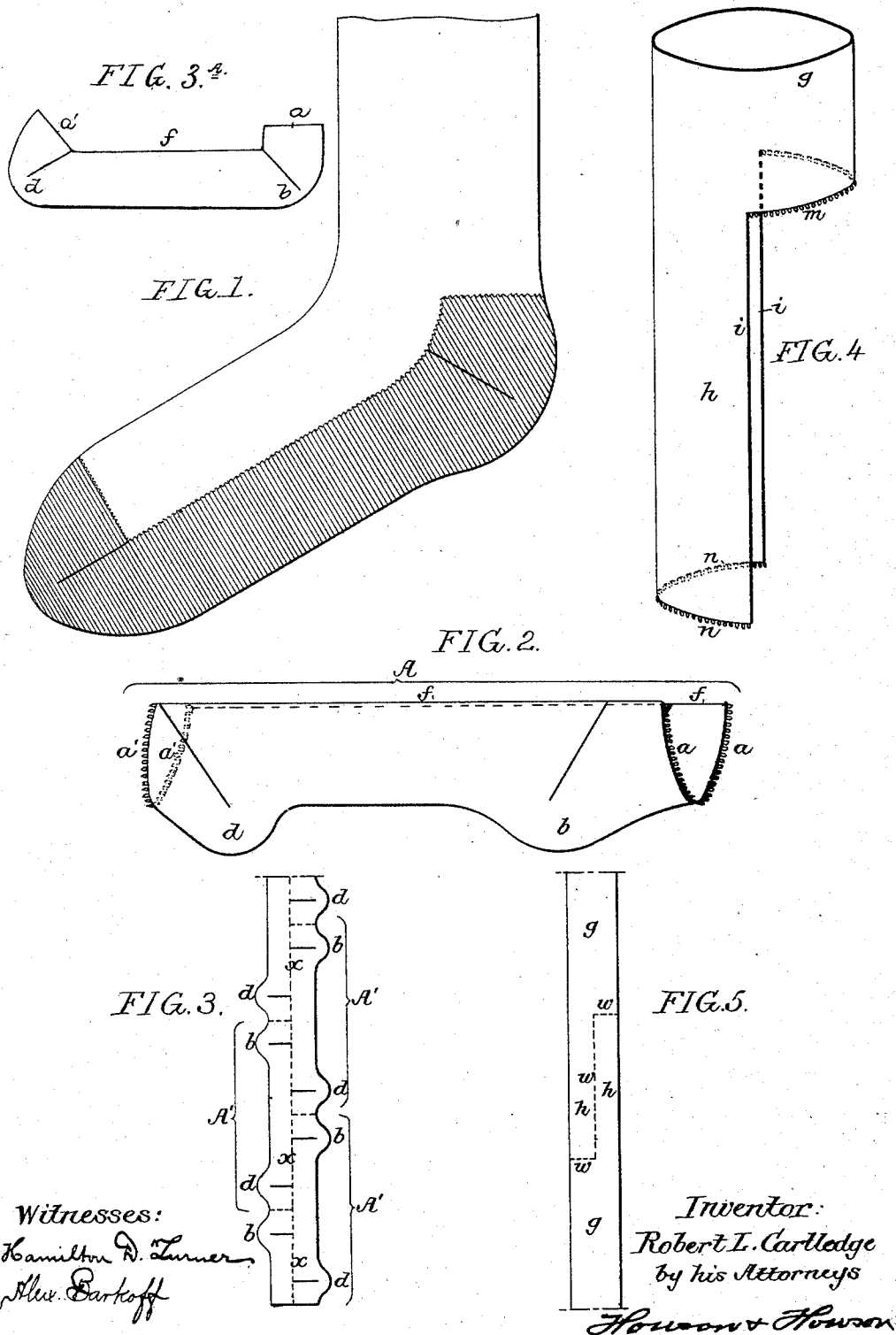


(No Model.)

R. L. CARTLEDGE.
SOCK OR STOCKING.

No. 456,476.

Patented July 21, 1891.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT L. CARTLEDGE, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

SOCK OR STOCKING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 456,476, dated July 21, 1891.

Application filed May 11, 1891. Serial No. 392,339. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT L. CARTLEDGE, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Socks or Stockings, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to make a sock or stocking having a seamless heel and toe, and having the heel, toe, and sole portions of the foot of yarn of a different color, gage, or quality from that of the yarn in the leg and upper portion of the foot; and this object I attain in the manner hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the foot and ankle portion of a stocking made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a view of the toe, sole, and heel portion of the same. Fig. 3 is a view illustrating another method of making said toe, sole, and heel portion of the stocking in the shape assumed during its manufacture. Fig. 3^A is a view showing the same portion of the stocking in the shape assumed by it on its removal from the machine. Fig. 4 is a view illustrating the method of making a knitted tube to form the leg and upper portion of the foot of the stocking, and Fig. 5 is a view illustrating another method of making the leg and upper portion of the foot.

In making stockings of the better grade in accordance with my invention I make the blank A, constituting the toe, heel, and sole portion of the stocking by reciprocating or to-and-fro knitting upon the desired number of needles, narrowing and widening at intervals by first throwing needles at opposite ends of the set successively out of action and permitting them to retain their stitches, and after the desired narrowing has been effected bringing these needles again into action successively in the reverse order, the result of this operation being the production of the blank with looped ends *a a'*, pockets *b* and *d*, and selvage edges *f f*. The leg and upper portion of the foot may be likewise produced by knitting a tube *g* of the proper length for the leg, then throwing out of action a certain number of needles—say one half of those used in producing the tube—leaving a

looped edge *m*, and by reciprocating or to-and-fro knitting upon the other half of the needles forming a semi-tubular projection *h* with selvage edges *i* and looped end *n*. The two parts of the stockings are then united by joining the looped edges *a* and *m* and *a'* and *n* and the selvage edges *f* and *i*. As the union of these looped and selvage edges can be effected without forming bulky seams, I am thus enabled to produce a stocking which is practically seamless in the foot and in which the toe, heel, and sole of the stocking may be of yarn of a different color, gage, or quality from that in the leg and upper portion of the foot, such variation being desirable, for instance, for the purpose of thickening the sole, heel, and toe portion of the foot to enable it to better resist wear, or, in other cases, for the purpose of distinguishing this portion of the foot of the stocking by the use of yarn of a different color or shade from that in the other portions of the stocking.

In making a cheaper class of stockings I may produce the parts by cutting tubular webs. For instance, a tubular web such as shown in Fig. 5 may be cut on the dotted lines *w*, so as to produce tubes having semi-tubular projections *h* for the leg and top of the foot, and a tubular web having alternating pockets or protuberances on opposite sides, as shown in Fig. 3, for instance, may be cut on the dotted lines *x*, so as to form blanks A' suitable for the toe, heel, and sole portions of the foot, the only difference between this stocking and that first described being the greater bulk of the seams formed by sewing together the cut edges of the pieces composing the stocking.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A sock or stocking composed of two parts, the one comprising the leg and the upper portion of the foot and the other comprising a seamless toe, heel, and sole, said parts being united at the top of the toe, along the sides of the foot, and at the top of the heel, substantially as specified.

2. A sock or stocking composed of two parts, the one comprising the leg and the upper portion of the foot and the other com-

prising a seamless toe, heel, and sole, said
parts being connected by the union of looped
edges at the top of the toe and the top of the
heel and by the union of selvage edges along
5 the sides of the foot, substantially as speci-
fied.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

ROBERT L. CARTLEDGE.

Witnesses:

EUGENE ELTERICH,
HARRY SMITH.