J. B. HADAWAY.

MOCCASIN.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 17, 1918.

1,370,643.

Patented Mar. 8, 1921.

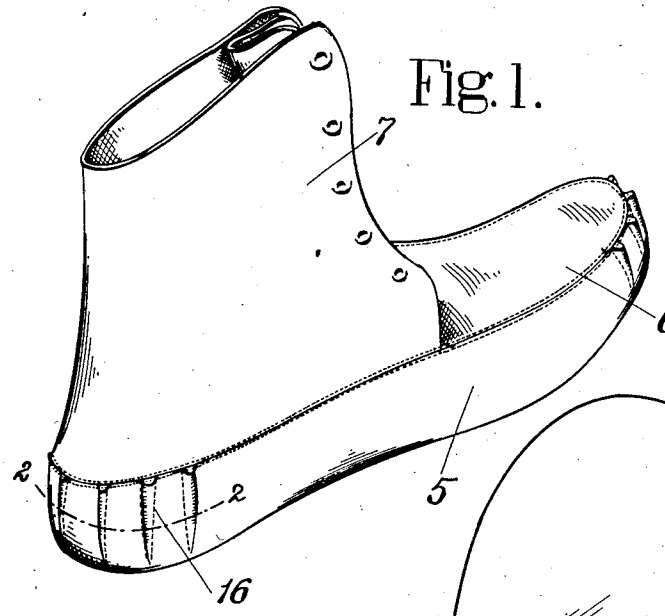


Fig. 1.

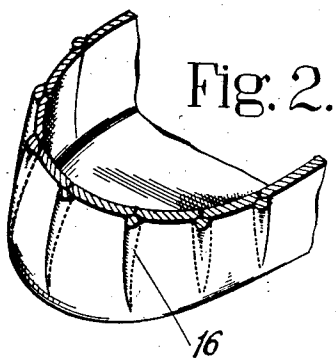


Fig. 2.

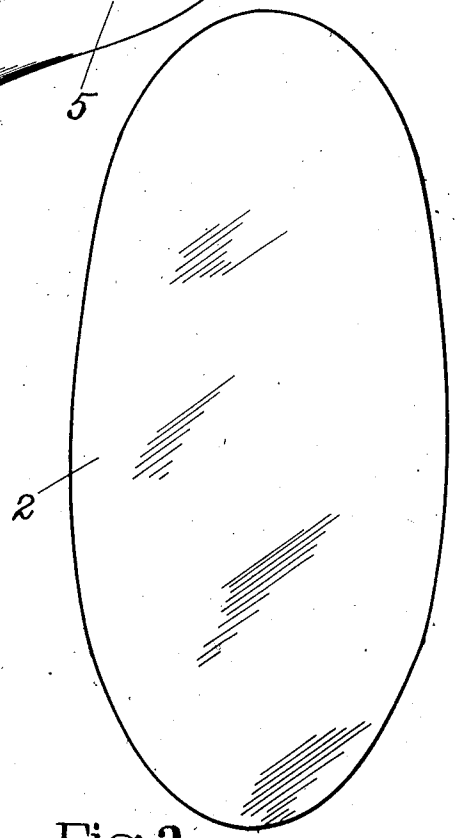


Fig. 3.

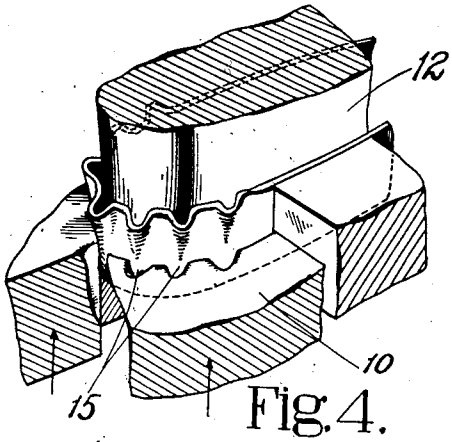


Fig. 4.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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MOCCASIN.

1,370,643. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Mar. 8, 1921.

Application filed September 17, 1918. Serial No. 254,414.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. HADAWAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Swampscott, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Moccasins, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like reference characters on the drawings indicating like parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to footwear and particularly to moccasins and has for its object to effect an improvement in moccasins and other footwear and in methods for their production. The invention will be explained in connection with moccasins and their manufacture and its application to the manufacture of other kinds of footwear will be readily understood.

It has been customary to make moccasins by cutting out from the heel end of the foot blank a suitably shaped piece of stock and then drawing the marginal edge of the blank backwardly to produce the toe pocket, gathering the cut edges together and abutting them at the heel, and fastening them by a T-shaped seam. This procedure was followed because, in the process of moccasin manufacture until recently known, it was necessary to cut out some of the stock from the blank in order to produce the heel and toe pockets in the foot piece of the moccasin. The vertical member or stem of the T-shaped seam incidentally served the function of stiffening the heel end of the moccasin in a way to reduce its tendency to slump or crumple down during wear, it being understood that moccasins are made without the counter or heel stiffener that maintains the shape of other kinds of footwear.

In accordance with this invention, the cutting out and seaming may, if desired, be dispensed with and surplus stock is taken up to assist in producing the heel pocket, and it may be also the toe pocket, by molding puckers into the grain or outer side of the upstanding margin of the foot piece at the heel, and the heel is stiffened to maintain it in upstanding condition during wear by stitching through the said puckers. Preferably this is done by blind stitching and in such a way as to have substantially a smooth inside surface and a vertically ribbed outside surface at the heel, the ribs being made permanent and their stiffening function enhanced by the stitching.

The invention will be more fully understood from the following detailed description of the illustrative moccasin and the method by which it is made, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the invention will be particularly pointed out in the claims at the end of the specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view of a moccasin made in accordance with this invention;

Fig. 2 is a transverse section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1;

Fig. 3 shows a blank from which the foot piece of a moccasin is to be made; and

Fig. 4 shows a way of producing the ribs in the stock "drawing" and molding operations in which the blank is shaped.

This invention has been made in connection with the work of my associates described in the application of John J. Heys, filed January 18, 1917, Serial No. 143,087, and the application of J. H. Pope, filed September 8, 1919, Serial No. 322,524, references to which are made by permission. It is not to be understood, however, that this invention is limited to use with said other inventions.

In the practice of this invention as illustrated in the drawings, a blank 2 of the usual thick moccasin leather is cut out, having preferably a continuous peripheral edge. By a drawing operation and a molding operation, as fully set forth in said applications, this blank is transformed into the toe and heel pocketed foot piece or member 5 adapted to be sewn to the top piece 6 and quarters 7 of the moccasin Fig. 1. In accordance with my invention these shaping operations may include the ribbing of the upstanding heel, and it may be also the toe portion of the foot piece as by the use of an outer shaping member 10, Fig. 4, that will coöperate with the plunger 12 to produce the ribs or puckers 15 in the outer or grain side of the stock, thus accommodating fullness in the marginal portion of the molded blank. The ribs are then stitched as at 16, Fig. 2, to render them permanent and to enhance their stiffening function. The stitches are preferably made in an arc, as can readily be done with a curved needle, and are preferably blind stitches not extending to the inner

side of the work. They may advantageously be deeper, and the size of the rib greater near the top.

The permanently held puckers or ribbed formation assists in production of the heel pocket in the moccasin so that it will not slip up and down on the heel of the wearer, and they stiffen the heel so that it will not slump down or soon lose its shape during wear.

Having described my improvement in moccasins and how my novel method of making moccasins may be practised, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States:

1. A moccasin having puckers or vertical ribs formed in the stock of the upturned margin of the foot piece at the heel end, and blind stitching inserted to render the ribs permanent and stiffen the heel portion of the moccasin against slumping down.

2. A moccasin having a continuous or uncut end portion and having fullness disposed in vertical ribs rendered permanent and longitudinally stiffened.

3. An article of footwear having a portion shaped and rendered stiff by gathering fullness into ribs and blind stitching the ribs to render them permanent and stiff.

4. An article of footwear having a foot end pocket formed by gathering the stock into exterior ribs of greatest depth near the top of the pocket, and blind stitches extending through the ribs and increasing in depth near the top of the pocket.

5. That improvement in the manufacture of footwear which consists in shaping sheet stock to form a foot member comprising an upstanding portion having a foot end pocket and gathering the stock on the exterior of said pocket into ribs, and blind stitching the ribs to render them permanent and stiffen the pocket.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

JOHN B. HADAWAY.