

W. L. Beardsley,

Shoe Last

N^o 56,882.

Patented Aug. 7, 1866.

Fig. 3.

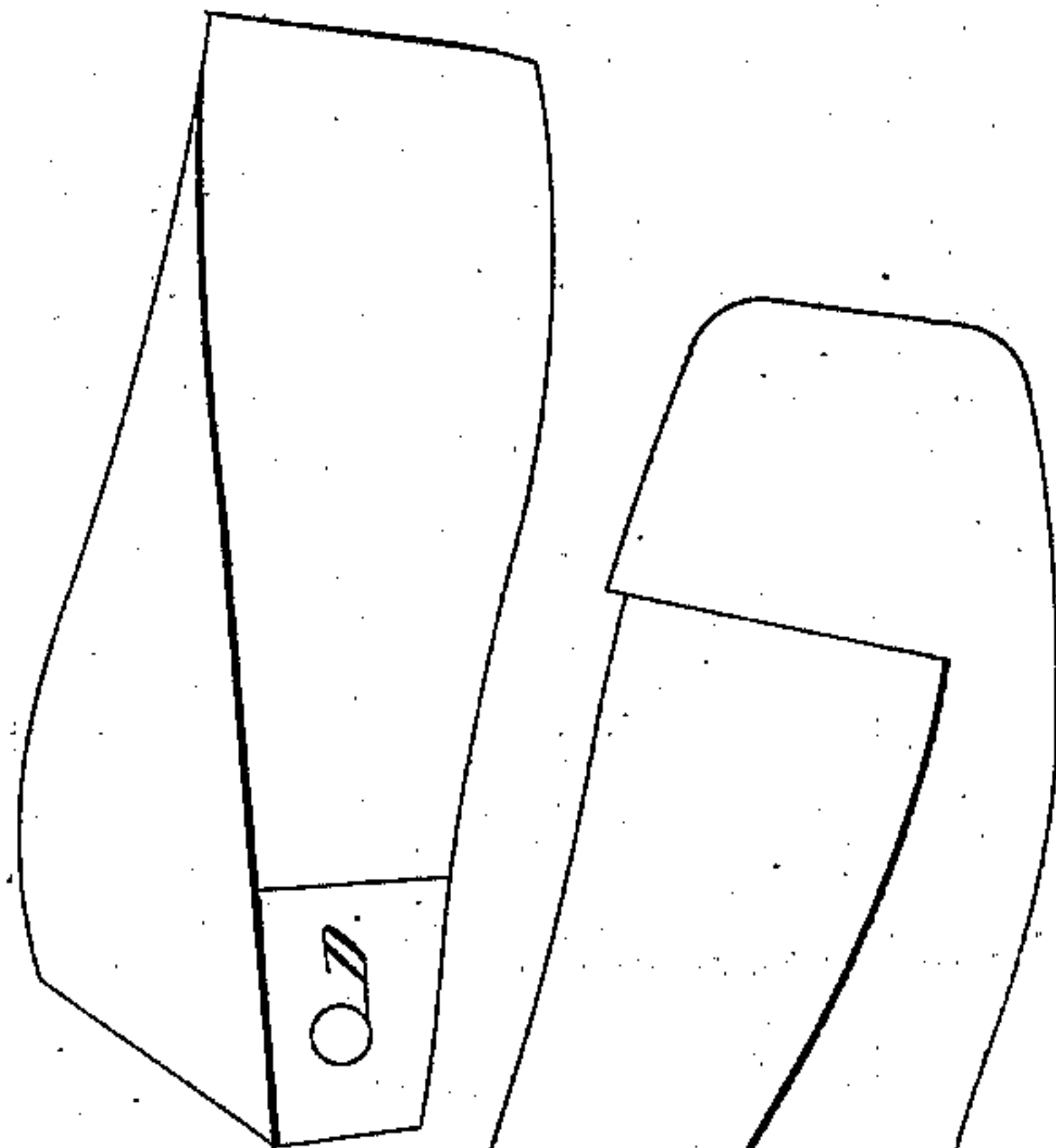


Fig. 2.

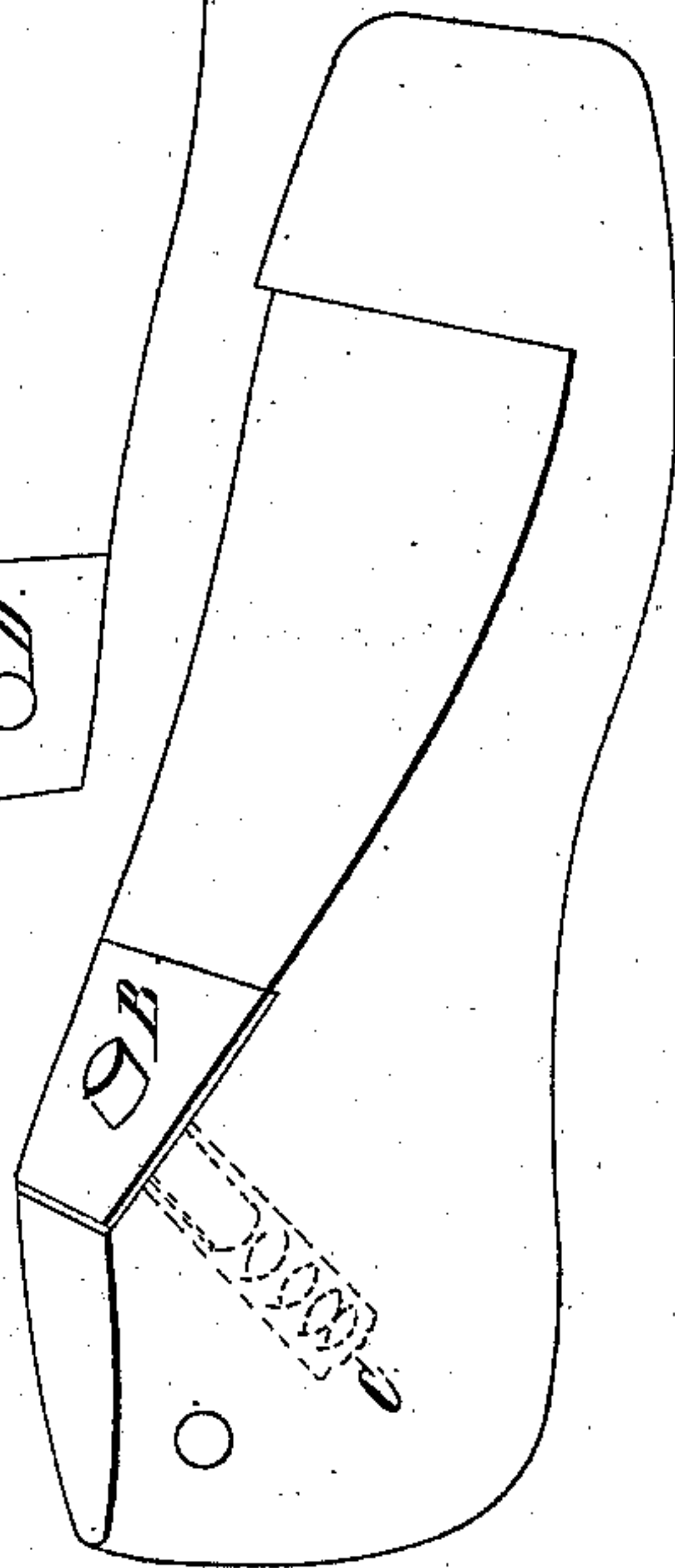
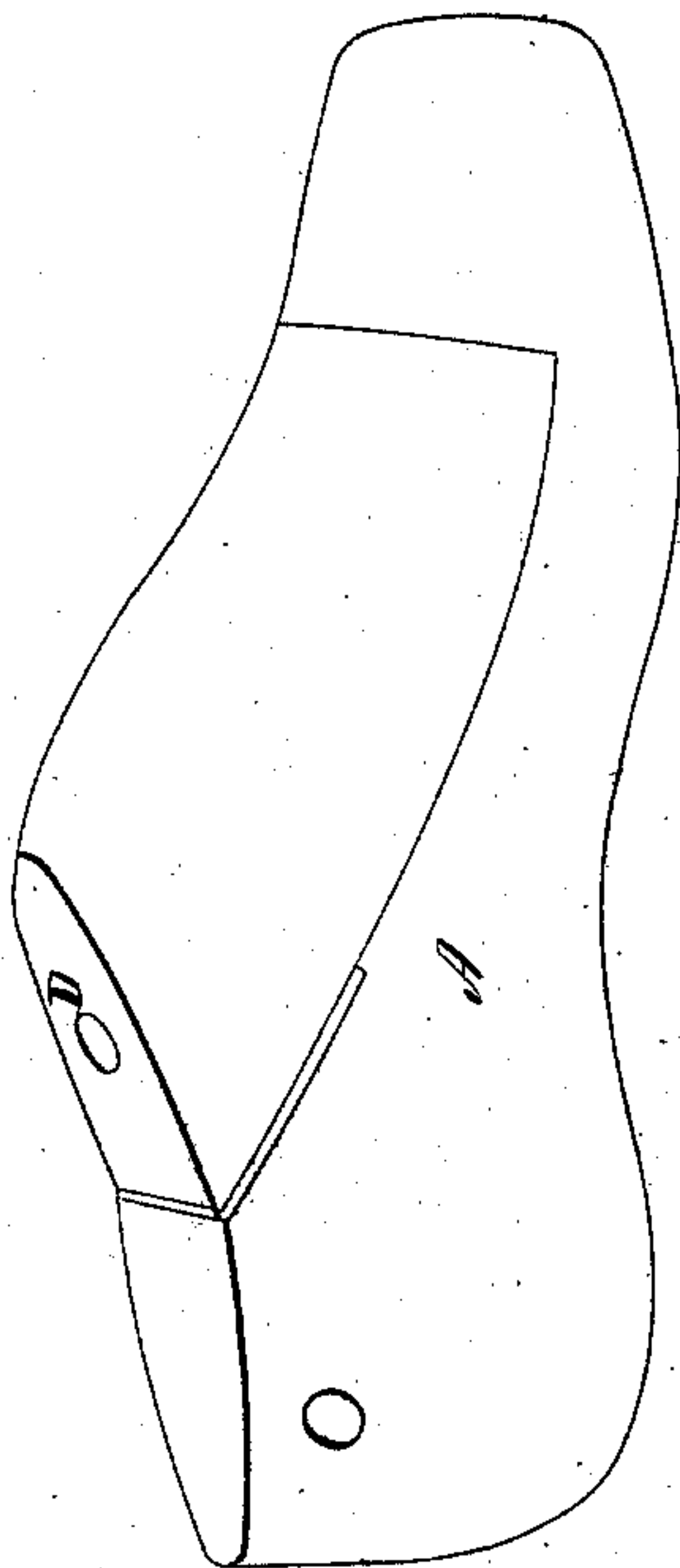


Fig. 1.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

W. L. BEARDSLEY, OF BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN LASTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 56,882, dated August 7, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, W. L. BEARDSLEY, of Binghamton, in the county of Broome, in the State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Securing and Detaching Instep-Blocks for Lasts; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view. Fig. 2 represents the last and instep-block detached.

The nature of my invention consists in the arrangement of a bolt and spring, placed in the body of the last, instead of the instep-block, as has been the usual practice, so that said block can be altered or dressed down to a different size without interfering with the locking arrangement.

It also consists in making the opening, letter D, for the entrance of the last-hook vertically through the heel of the instep-block, instead of making it transversely through the comb of said block, according to the usual practice.

I construct my last in the ordinary manner. After the instep-block is removed I place in the body of the last the bolt B and spring C. I then attach a metallic plate to the last for the end of the bolt to work in. This end extends through into the opening D in the block. I also attach a plate to the upper and under side of the heel of said block, with openings to correspond. The block and last are now pressed together, the bolt then springs up, and the instep-block is secured to the last.

When I use my improvement I first ascertain if the instep is the proper size, which is generally one size less than the length of the foot. If too large it has to be dressed down, and when the locking arrangement is placed

in the instep-block there is danger of interfering with it in the operation. If the instep is too low or small I add pieces of leather to supply the deficiency. When the opening D is through the comb of the instep, this generally causes considerable delay in removing it, on account of the difficulty of entering the last-hook. I obviate this by changing the position of said opening from the comb to the heel of the instep. I now press the block into its place. After the work is finished I apply the point of the last-hook to the end of the bolt, press it down, and remove the block. This is conveniently accomplished, as the openings D is free from obstructions.

I am aware that there are devices for securing instep-blocks to lasts similar in some respects to my improvement.

The device patented by Daniel M. True, February 8, 1859, No. 22,904, consists in arranging the bolt and spring in the last-block. I place the bolt and spring in the body of the last for the reasons set forth. The bolt in my improvement is more easily constructed, and the whole thing more substantially arranged, than the apparatus above mentioned. I therefore disclaim all that he claims as his invention, and confine myself only to the novel features of my improvement.

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

Placing the bolt and spring in the body of the last, in combination with the position of the vertical opening D, through the heel of the instep-block, and the mode of unlocking and detaching said block, as described.

W. L. BEARDSLEY.

Witnesses:

G. W. PENNEPACKER,
JOHN McDONALD.