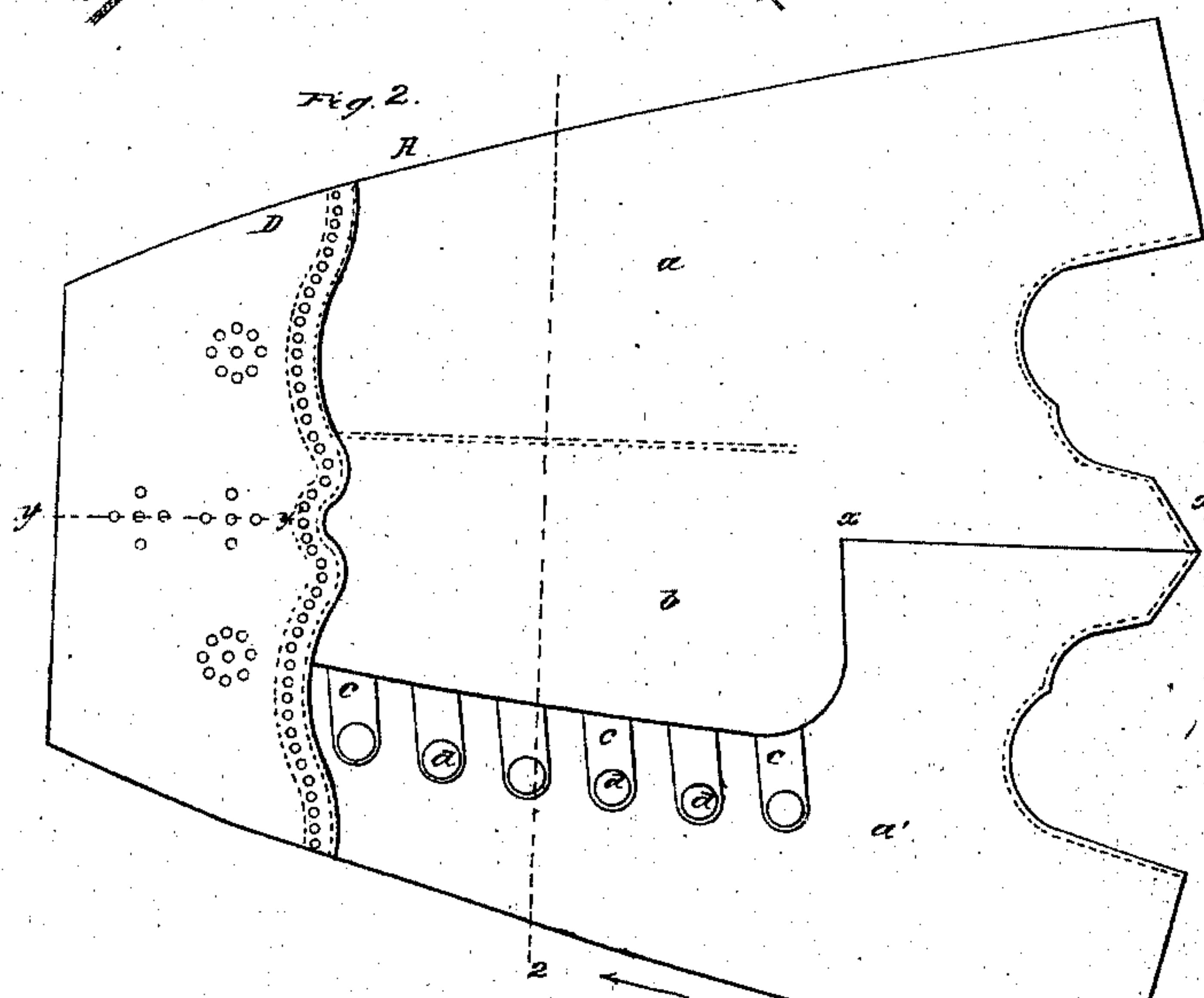
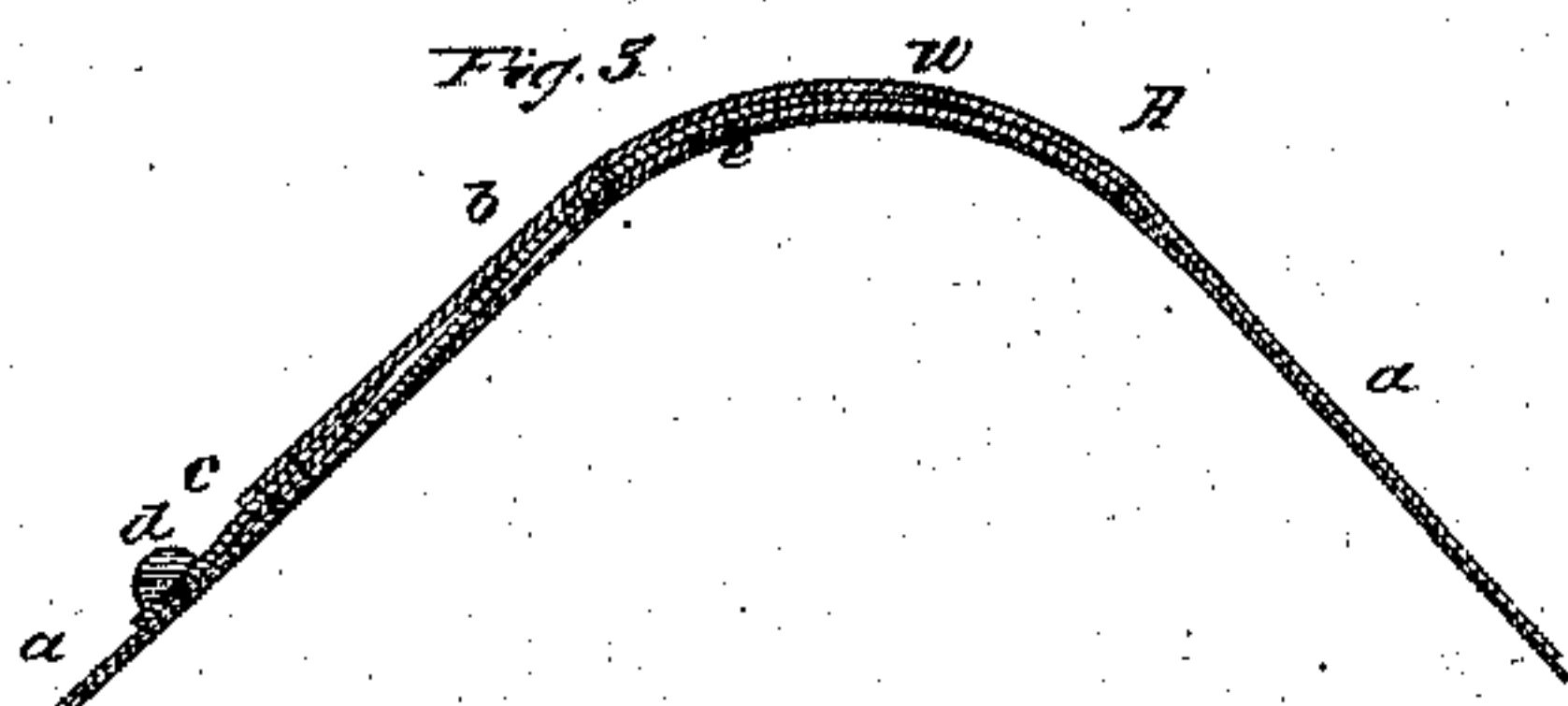
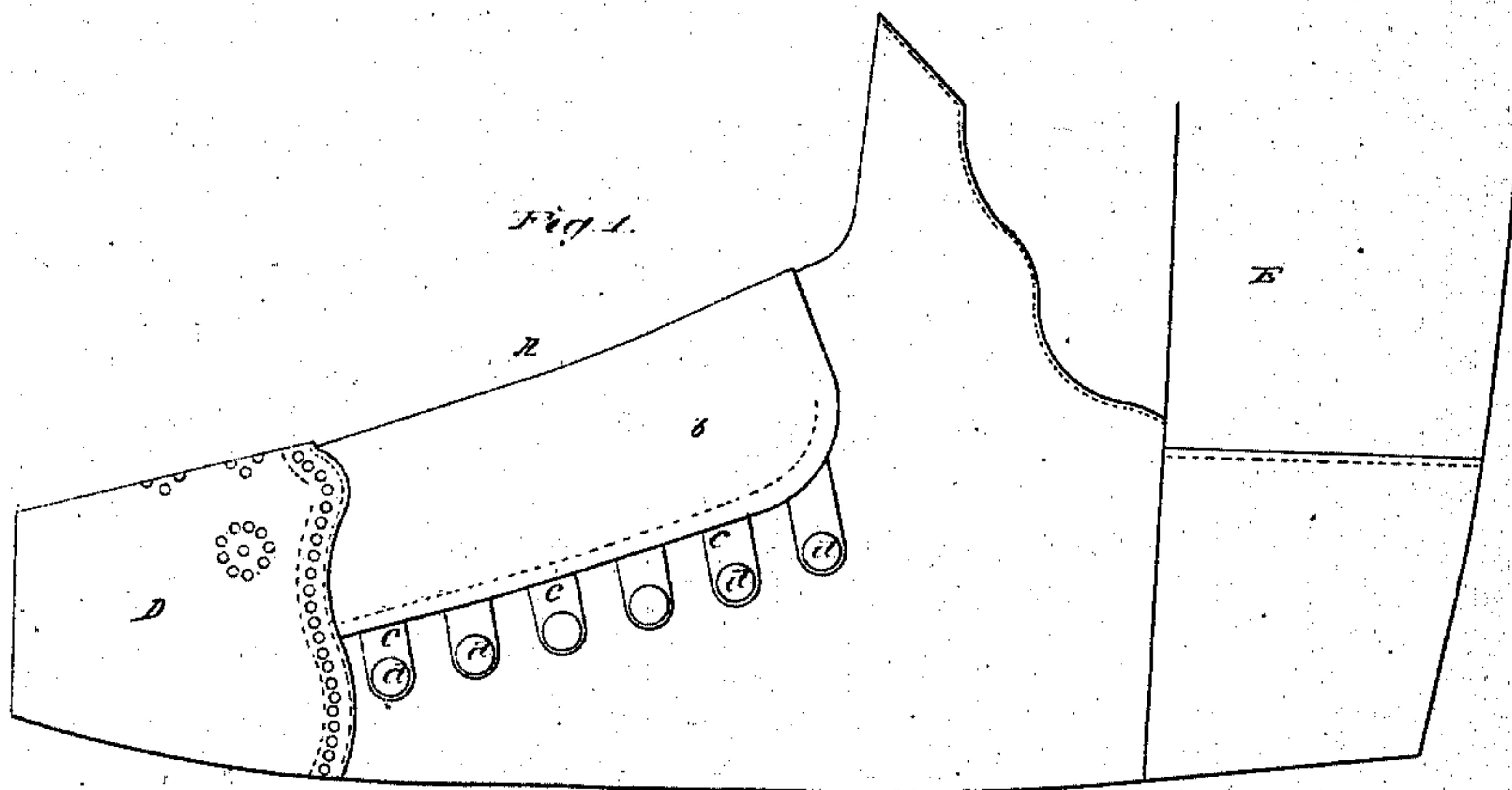


*J. C. Mack,
Shoe Upper,*

N^o 60,024,

Patented Nov. 27, 1866.



Witnesses

*L. H. Hoxie Goddard
Jno. Parker*

Inventor

*J. C. Mack
By Attorney
Henry Brown*

United States Patent Office.

IMPROVEMENTS IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

JOHN C. MACK, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 60,024, dated November 27, 1866.

SPECIFICATION.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, J. C. MACK, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an improvement in Boots, Shoes, etc.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention consists of a boot or shoe "upper," constructed, as fully described hereafter, so that it will yield and accommodate itself to the shape of the wearer's foot, and so that the exhalations may escape from the latter; the binding and undue heating of the feet being thus prevented.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make my invention, I will now proceed to describe the manner in which the same is carried into effect.

On reference to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification—

Figure 1 is a side view, representing the "upper," and a portion of the leg of a boot, made according to my improvement.

Figure 2, a plan view; and

Figure 3 a section on the line 1-2, fig. 2, looking in the direction of the arrow.

The "upper," A, consists of two sections or pieces of leather, *a* and *a'*, the inner edges of which are sewed together between the points *x x'*, *y y'*, so that there is a slit or opening, *w*, between the points *x y'*. At the inner edge of the section *a*, between the points *x y'*, is a tongue or flap, *b*, to the outer edge of which are secured a series of short elastic bands, *c*, the outer ends of the latter being so connected to the buttons, *d*, secured to the side of the section *a'*, as to be detachable from the same. To the under side of each section *a a'*, near the inner edge of the same, is secured one edge of a strip, *e*, of elastic cloth, which is somewhat longer than the flap *b*. To the toe of the upper, A, is secured the usual ornamental toe piece, D, which also covers the lower end of the flap *b*. The upper is attached to the leg, E, and the sole is secured to the boot in the ordinary manner.

Boots of the ordinary construction, unless especially made for the wearer, can seldom be comfortably worn, as they almost invariably bind the feet too closely at one or more points; they are also so perfectly air-tight that the feet become heated, and are sometimes so seriously affected as to injure the health of the wearer. By forming the upper in two sections, connected in the centre by an elastic material, as above described, the objections alluded to are effectually overcome, the elastic material yielding, so that the sections can separate slightly to accommodate themselves to the foot, while the exhalations from the foot escape through the pores of the elastic material and through the opening between the sections. It will be seen that the flap is held tightly against the section *a'*, by the bands *c*, but that the latter will yield, when it is necessary, for the sections to separate.

It will be apparent that this invention is applicable to both shoes and boots. I do not desire to claim broadly a boot or shoe having a slit or opening in the upper, covered by a flap, as boots so constructed have been heretofore used, as in the patent of E. Alexander, dated August 4, 1863; but I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A boot or shoe having a slit or opening in the centre of the "upper," in combination with an elastic fabric extending across said opening, all substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. In combination with the foregoing, I claim the elastic bands *c*, and buttons *d*, or their equivalents, the whole being constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

JOHN C. MACK.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. FOSTER,
JOHN WHITE.