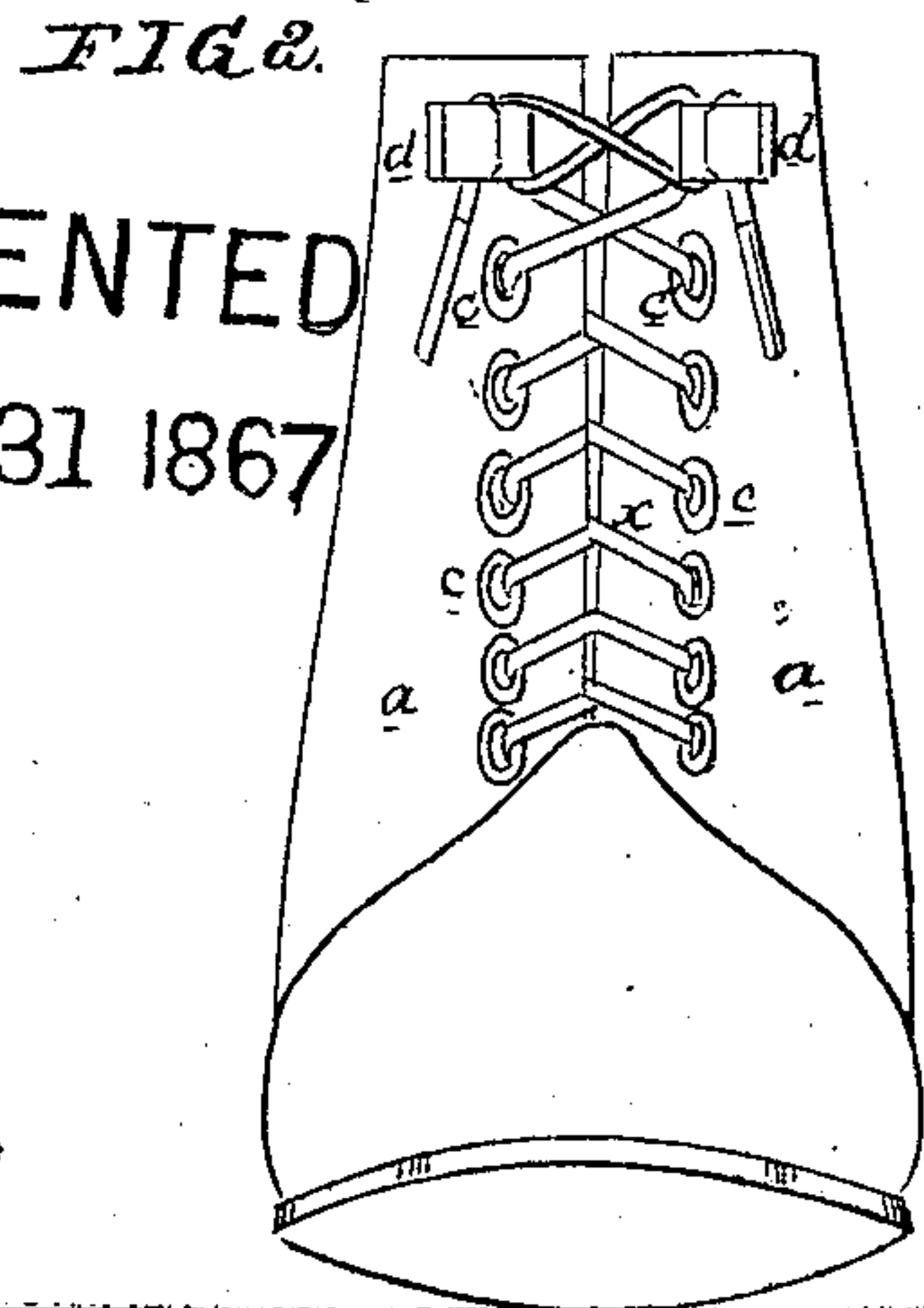
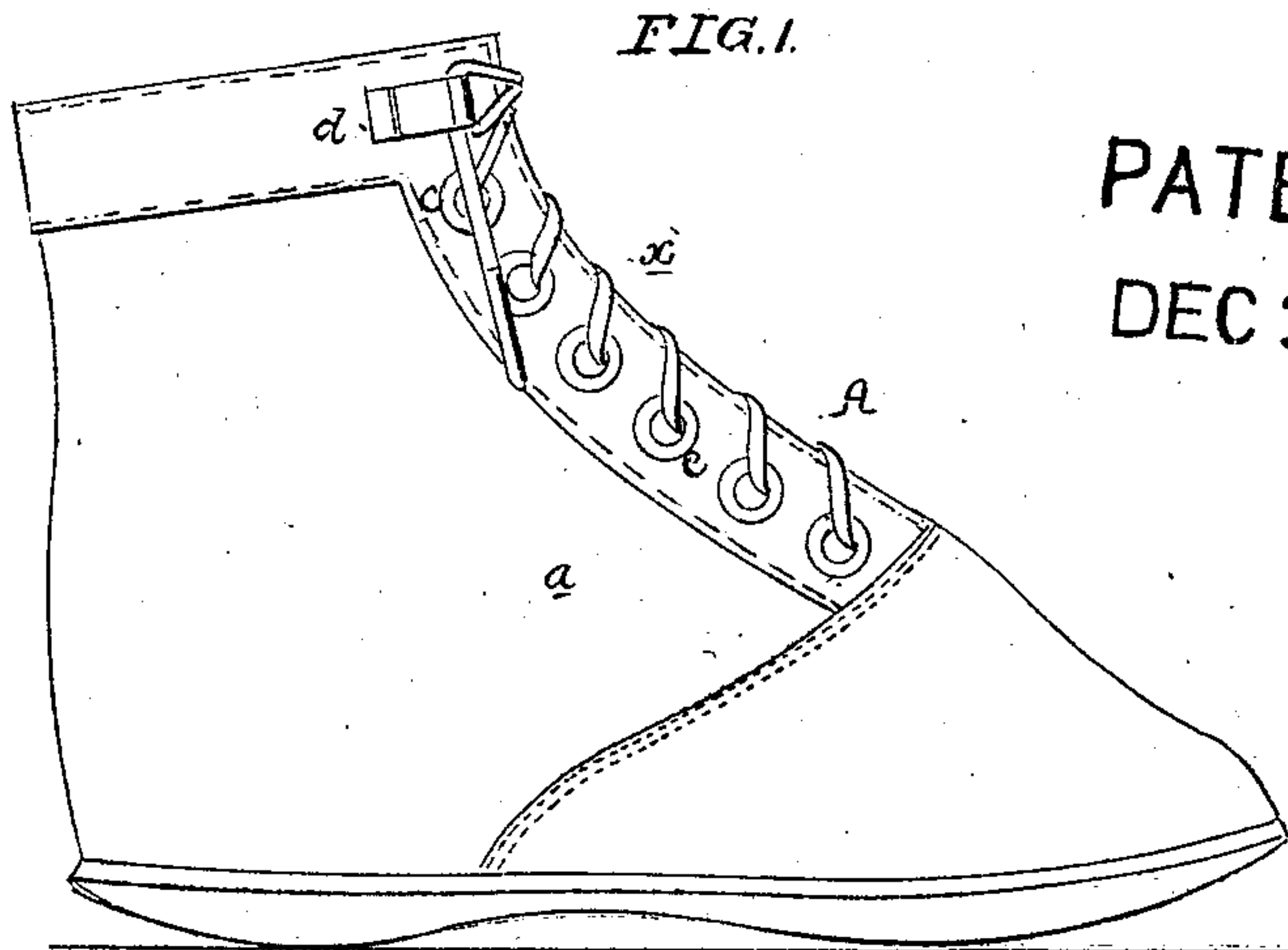
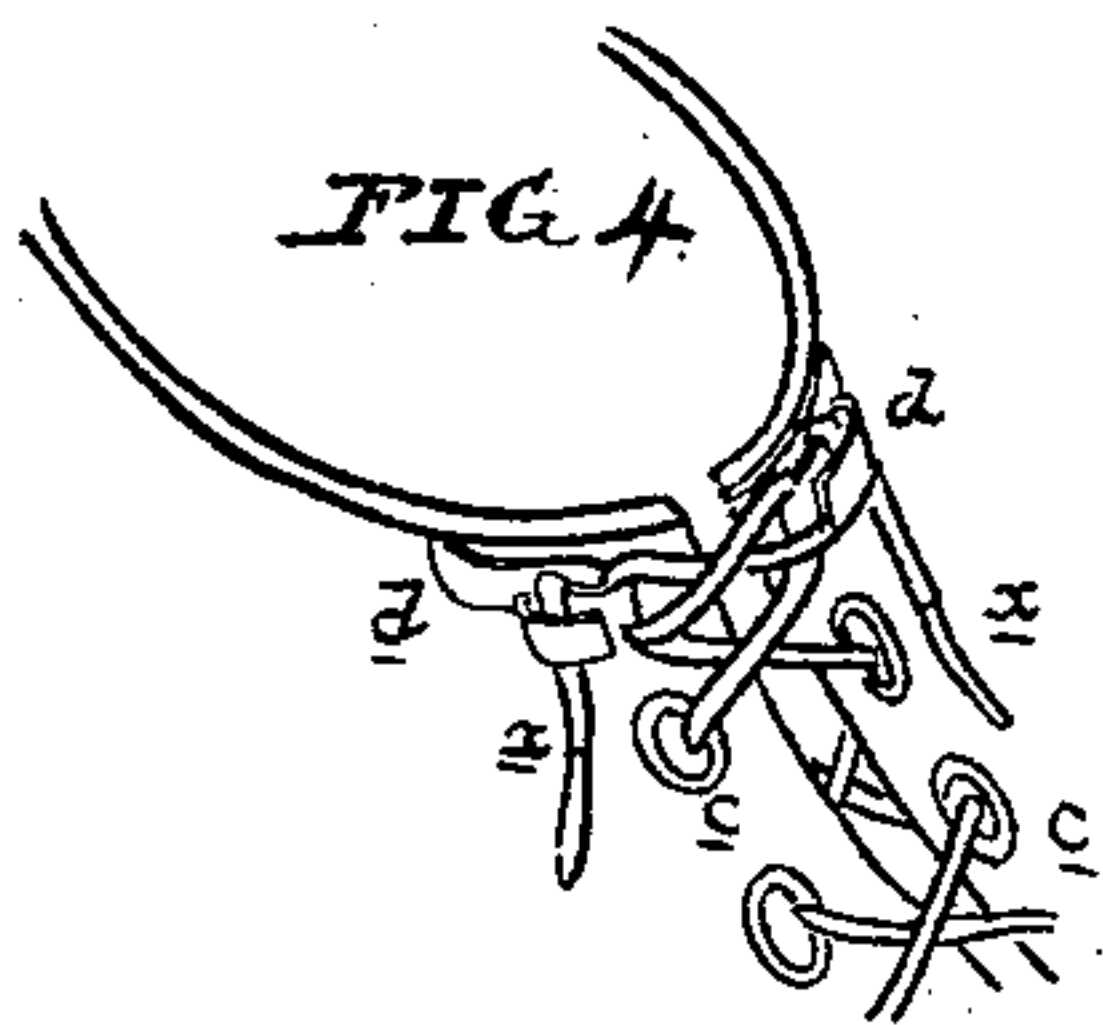
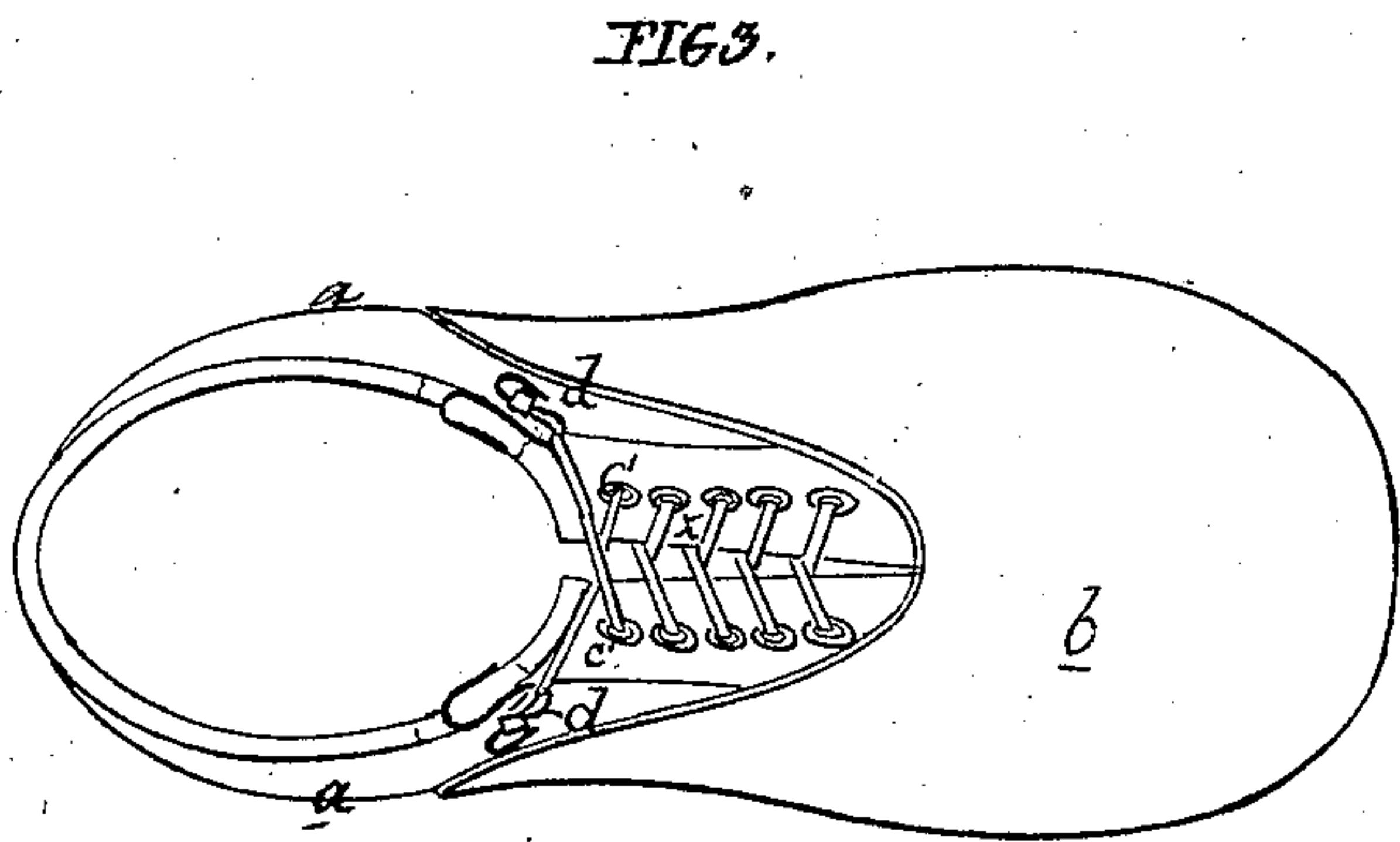


A Young- Fastening for Ends of Laces.

72955



PATENTED
DEC 31 1867



Witnesses { *Wm. Albert Steel*
L. H. Hoxie Godwin

A. Young
Per and Atty
H. Hoxie

United States Patent Office.

ALFRED YOUNG, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 72,955, dated December 31, 1867.

IMPROVED LACING-DEVICE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ALFRED YOUNG, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Fastening for the Ends of Laces of Boots, Corsets, &c.; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention consists of cleats arranged on a boot, or other article of wearing-apparel secured by laces, for the retention of the ends of the said laces, substantially as described hereafter; also, in the peculiar manner, described hereafter, of constructing the said cleats.

In order to enable others to make and use my invention, I will now proceed to describe the mode of constructing and applying the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view representing my improvement as applied to a gaiter-boot.

Figure 2 a front view,

Figure 3 a plan view, and

Figure 4 a perspective view.

The boot A itself is of the usual form, and is constructed in the ordinary manner, with eyeleted openings, *e*, near the edges of the side or ankle-pieces, *a a*, for receiving the lace *x*. To each upper corner of each side piece, however, immediately above the highest eyeleted hole, is secured a cleat, *d*, made in the form of a double hook, as best observed on reference to fig. 3.

Each end of the lace *x*, after being passed through the eyelets in the usual manner, is passed into the inner fold of one cleat, and then across and into the inner fold of the other cleat, and this as many times as may be considered expedient, after which the lace is passed between the outer folds of one of the cleats, where it is securely held, the other end of the lace being disposed of in the same manner.

The cleats may be made sufficiently elastic to yield slightly on introducing the lace, so that a slight pressure is exerted on the latter, tending to retain it within the folds. When a single lace only is used, which is the case in many instances, its end may be confined to the cleats in the same manner.

It will be evident that the cleats afford the means of much more readily securing the ends of the laces than by an ordinary knot, and that the laces can be detached with less delay than is incurred in untying a knot, an operation which frequently demands tedious manipulation. It will also be evident that, although I have illustrated and described my invention as applied to a boot, it may be used in connection with corsets or other articles which are usually fastened by laces.

A single cleat has heretofore been applied to a shoe, but is inefficient, as it cannot be used with two laces, and as it will not securely hold the end of the lace when there is any strain upon the latter.

It will be seen that, when two cleats are employed, two laces may be used, and that the laces may be passed from one cleat to the other until so securely fastened that they will not become detached, whatever strain may be applied.

I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The cleats *d d*, attached to a shoe, or other article of wearing-apparel secured by laces, at opposite sides of an opening or slit in the same, and arranged, in respect to the usual eyeleted openings, as set forth.
2. The cleat *d*, made in the form of a double hook, as and for the purpose specified.

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

ALFRED YOUNG.

Witnesses:

JOHN WHITE,

W. J. R. DELANY.