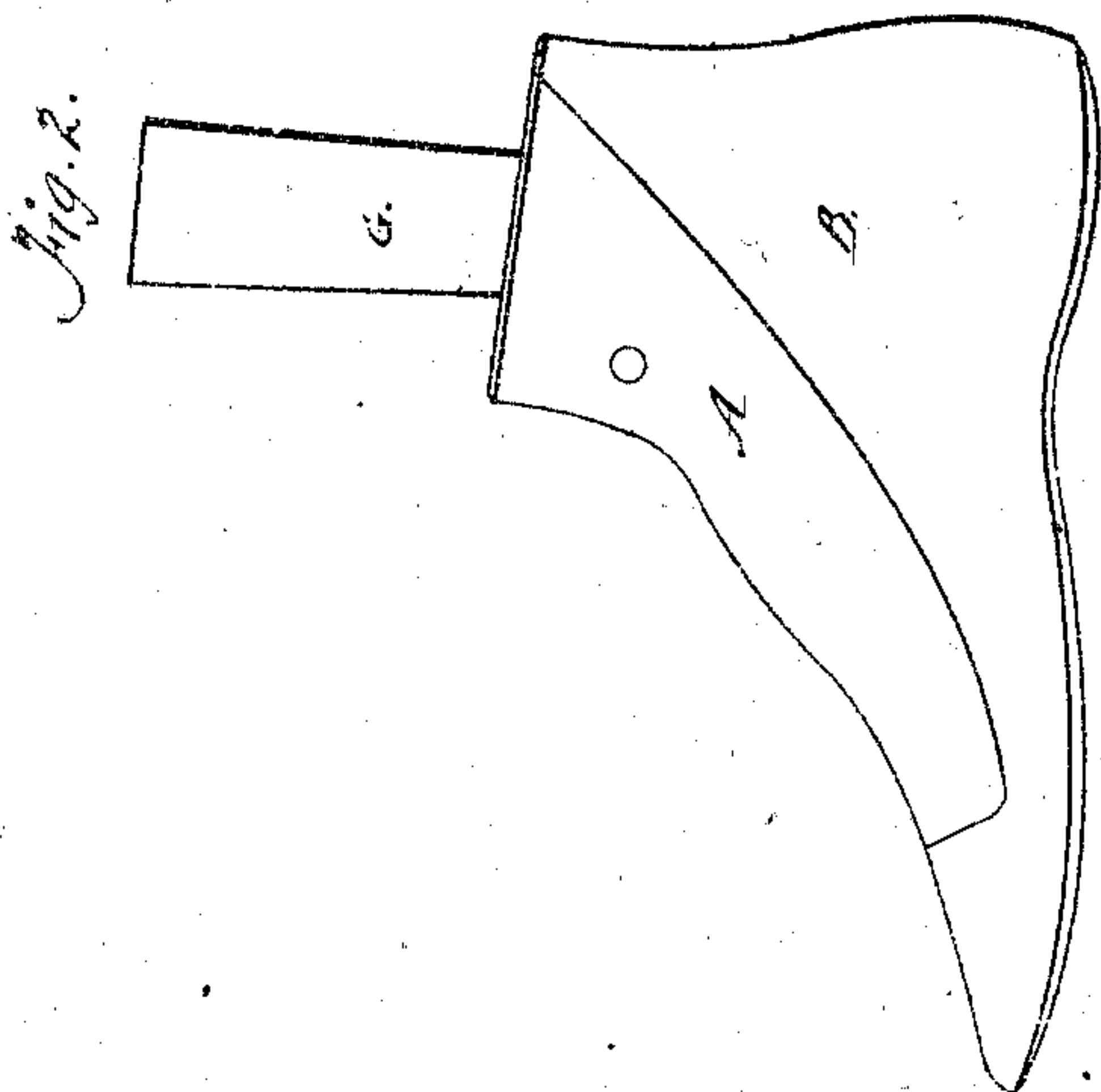
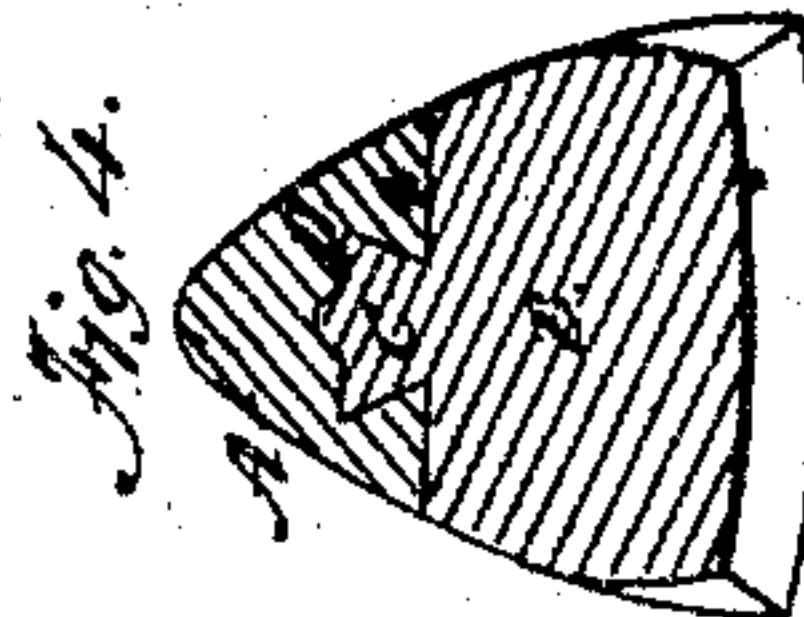
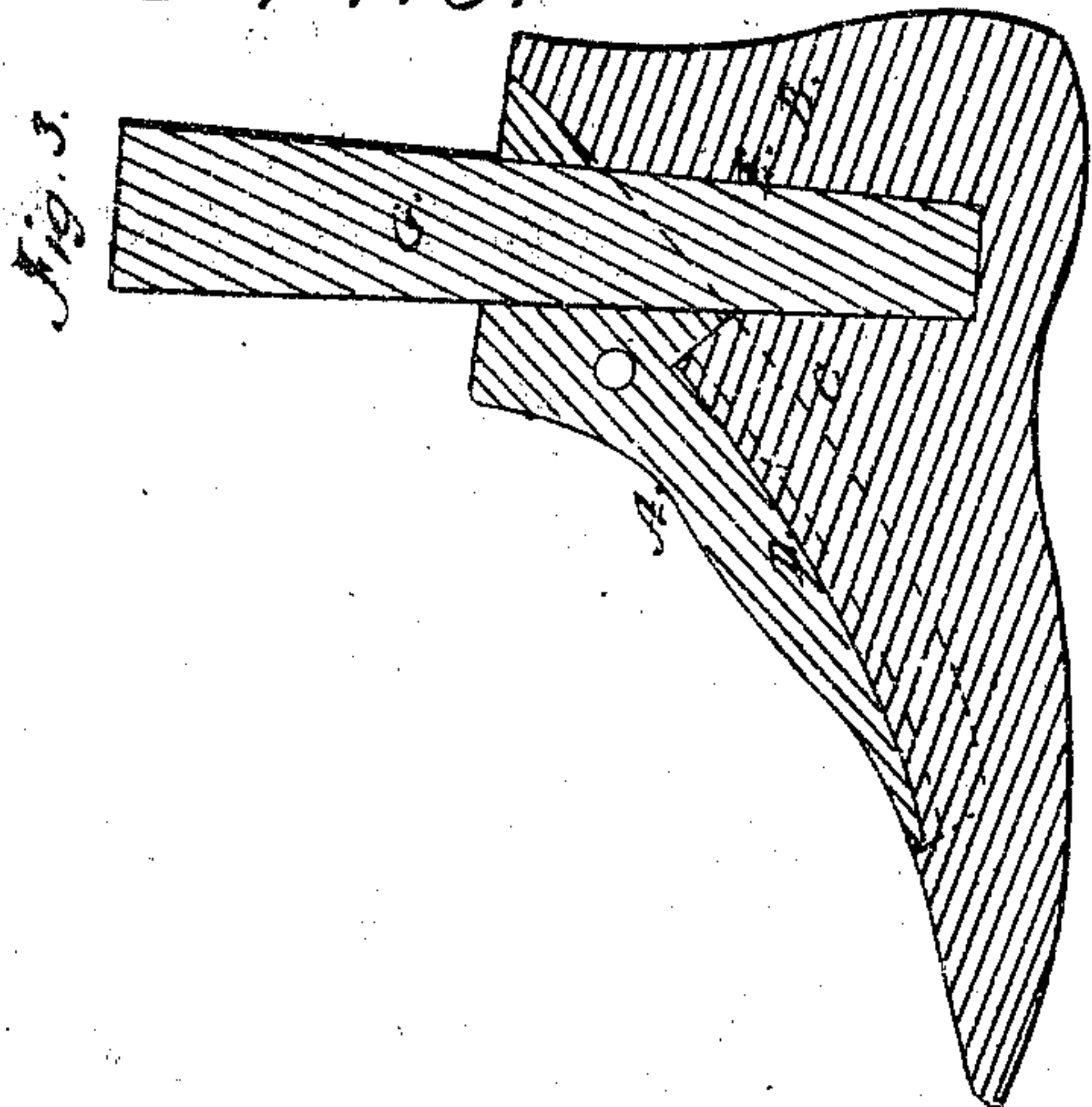


G. M. Wells.

Last.

N<sup>o</sup> 74181

Patented Feb. 4, 1868.



Witnesses  
Samuel N. Piper  
Geo. H. Andrews.

Geo. M. Wells  
by his attorney  
R. H. Brady

# United States Patent Office.

GEORGE M. WELLS, OF LONDON, GREAT BRITAIN, ASSIGNOR TO MOSES  
D. WELLS, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

*Letters Patent No. 74,181, dated February 4, 1868.*

## IMPROVED LAST.

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

TO ALL PERSONS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. WELLS, of London, in the Kingdom of Great Britain, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Lasts for Boots or Shoes; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification, and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view.

Figure 2, a side elevation.

Figure 3, a longitudinal section; and

Figure 4 a transverse section of a last provided with my invention.

This invention relates to certain improvements in the construction of iron or metal lasts for boots and shoes, whereby greater strength and durability, with increased facility and ease in the use and withdrawing the last, are given, and provision is made for shaping or forming the leg of the boot thereon.

In carrying out this invention, it is proposed to construct the last in two sections, each cut on corresponding lines, curves, or circles at their junction-surfaces, such junction-lines or curves being either carried entirely through the leg of the last or they may be diverted at any angle therewith, either upward or downward, or carried off in a horizontal direction at any convenient distance below the top of the leg, the leg being wholly or partly formed, as the case may be, upon the upper section of the last. Male and female dove-tails are cast or made on each of the junction-surfaces of the two sections of the lasts, respectively, so as to hold the parts securely together when adjusted. A slot or opening is cast or made down the upper or leg portion of the last, into the lower section thereof, into which fits or is inserted the standard which supports the last when in use, and thereby, in connection with the dove-tail, locks or holds the two portions of the last securely together. If desired, the leg or upper portion of the last may be carried up sufficiently far to form the standard itself, in which case the two sections, when adjusted, are securely locked or held together by either corresponding dove-tails, dowels, studs, holes, or recesses cast or made on the junction-surfaces of the two sections of the last.

I am aware that lasts made either of wood or iron have had their two sections united by dove-tails, and therefore I do not claim such when separate from the key-holes or passages formed in such sections for reception of a key or standard, as set forth.

Having thus explained my said invention or improvement, what I claim as such consists—

In the improved last, as made, with its two sections or parts connected by dove-tails, and having a slot, opening, or hole made and arranged in each, as explained, for reception of a leg or standard, as described.

I also claim the combination of the key or standard with the two last sections connected by dove-tails and having slots or key-holes or passages arranged in them, as set forth.

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

GEORGE M. WELLS.

Witnesses:

JOSHUA NUNN, *Deputy Consul, Consulate United States of America, London.*

F. W. FRIGORT.