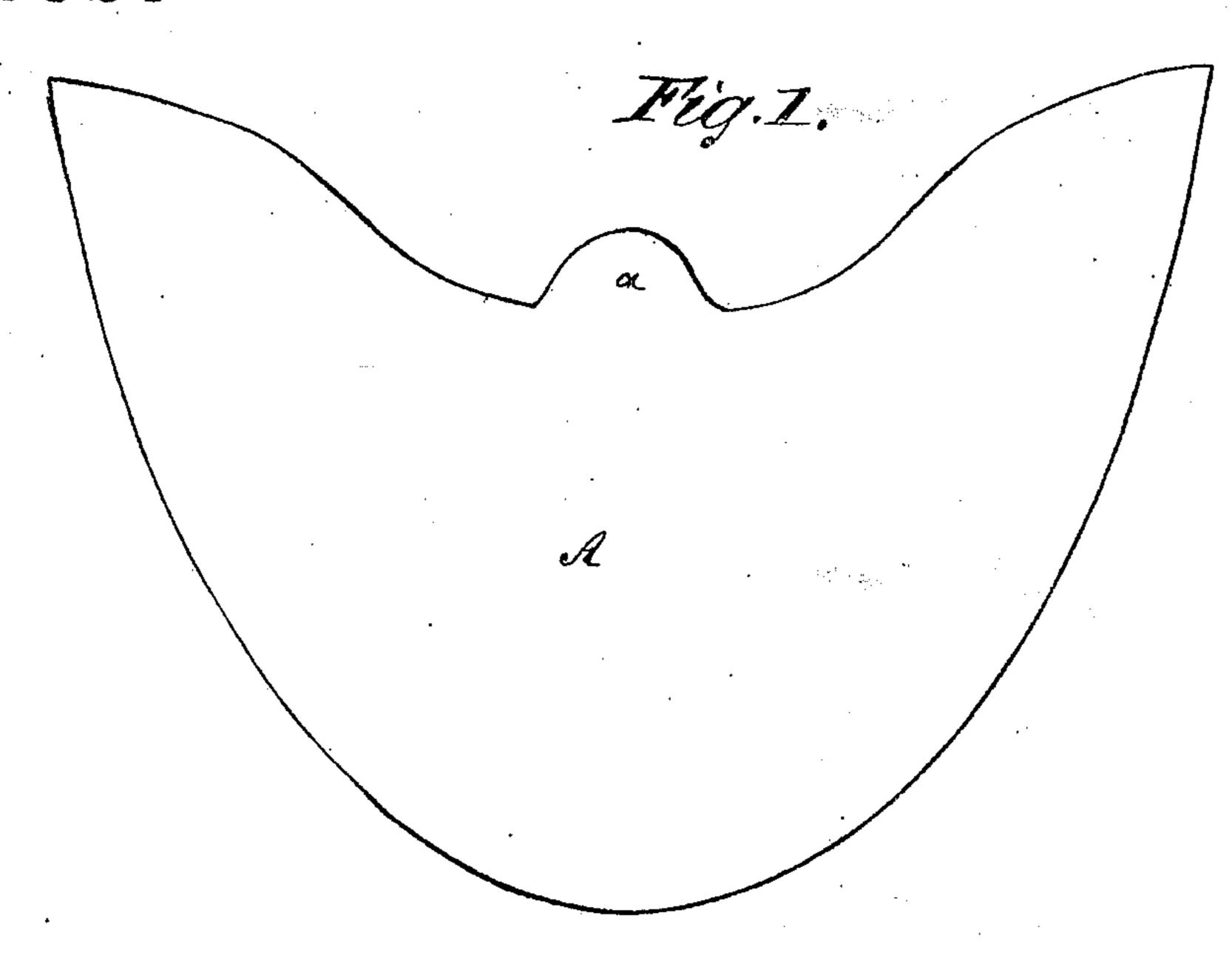
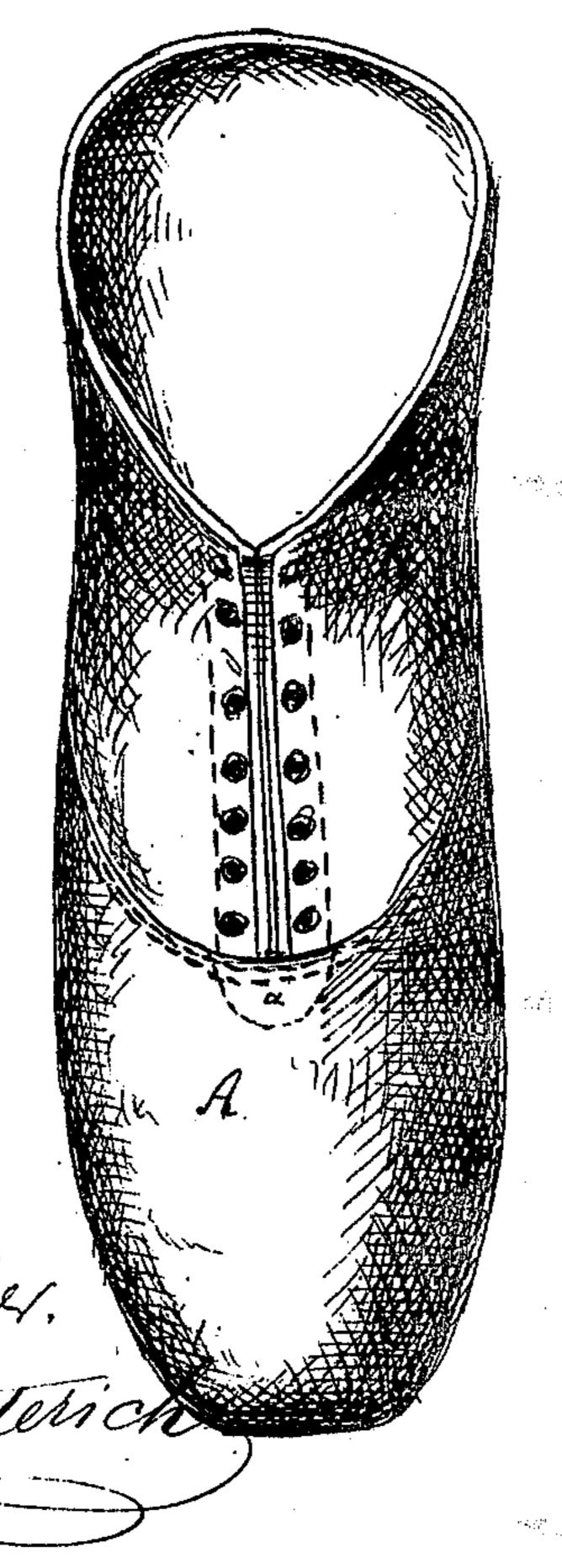
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES C. GELLER, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 116,828, dated July 11, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES C. GELLER, of Albany, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Vamp for Lace-Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan view of my improved vamp, showing the improved elevated point or tongue in the center of the vamp, which, when the shoe is fitted, is turned under, so as to form the same outline as the vamp commonly used. Fig. 2 is a top view of a shoe provided

with my improved vamp.

Similar letters of reference indicate correspond-

ing parts.

This invention has for its object to strengthen the vamp of a laced shoe in the middle, at the lower end of the slot or opening in the shoe. The invention consists in the application to the vamp of a projecting tongue or elevation, which is folded under when the shoe is fitted, and strengthens the vamp so it cannot break or tear in the center, where both quarters meet.

A in the drawing represents a vamp for a laced shoe. It is provided with a projecting tongue or stay, a, in the middle, equidistant from both ends,

and is otherwise of ordinary or suitable form. This tongue is turned under the vamp when the shoe is fitted, so as to double the leather and form a stay to prevent the breaking or tearing of the shoe at the lower end of the slot of the quarters, where they meet at right angles, and are stitched either under or above the vamp, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 2. At this place the shoe tears very easily, on account of the greater pressure or strain which is brought on this point by pulling out and putting in the last; also by the pulling off or on of the shoe on the foot; and also when the wearer pulls apart the laced flaps of the quarters. This tongue or stay in the center of the vamp, where both quarters meet and are stitched under or above, overcomes the defects or damages which occur in the course of manufacturing, and also in the pulling on and off, and in the wear of the shoe, and thereby greatly increase the value and durability of the same.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The vamp of a laced shoe, provided with the projecting tongue or stay a, substantially as herein shown and described.

CHARLES C. GELLER.

Witnesses:

MICHAEL VAN DEN BERGE, A. E. CHICKERING.