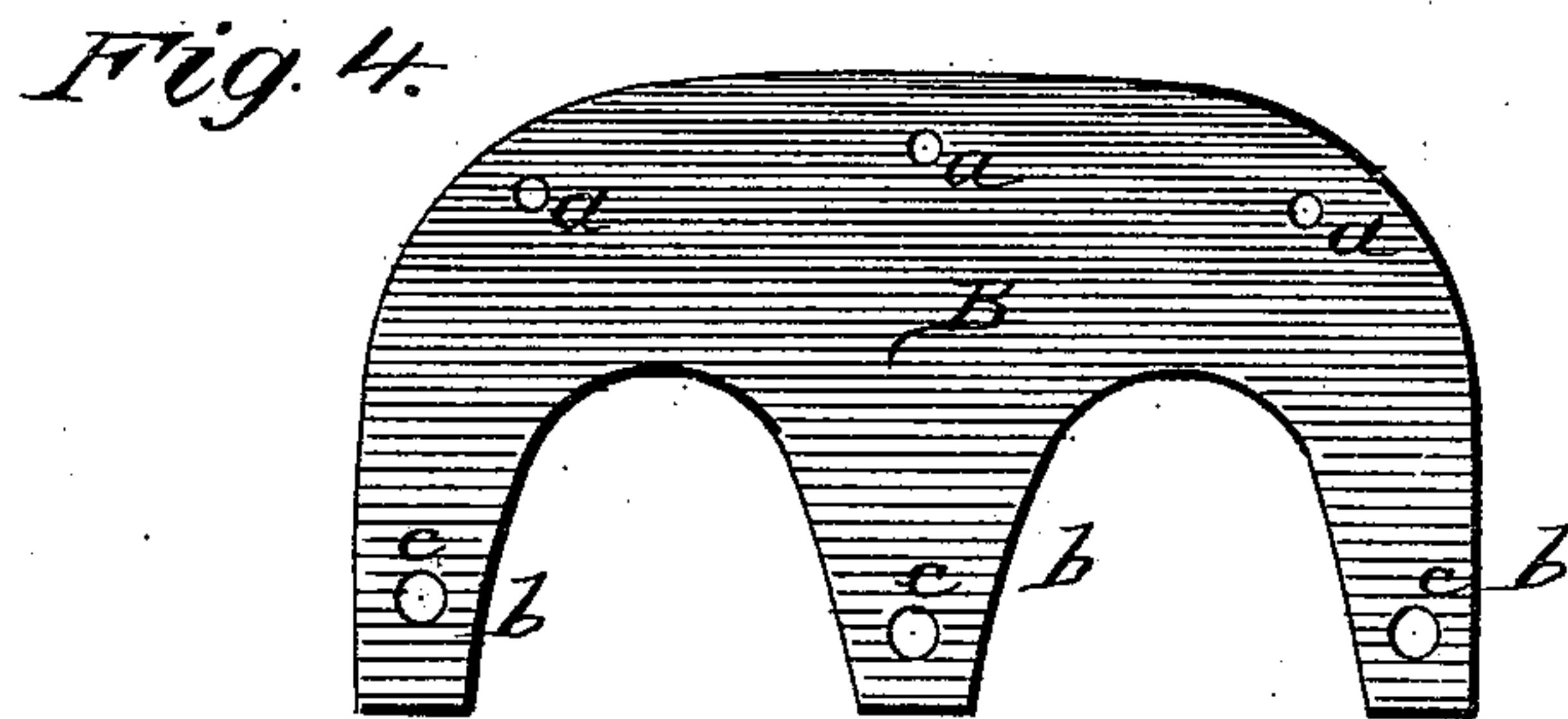
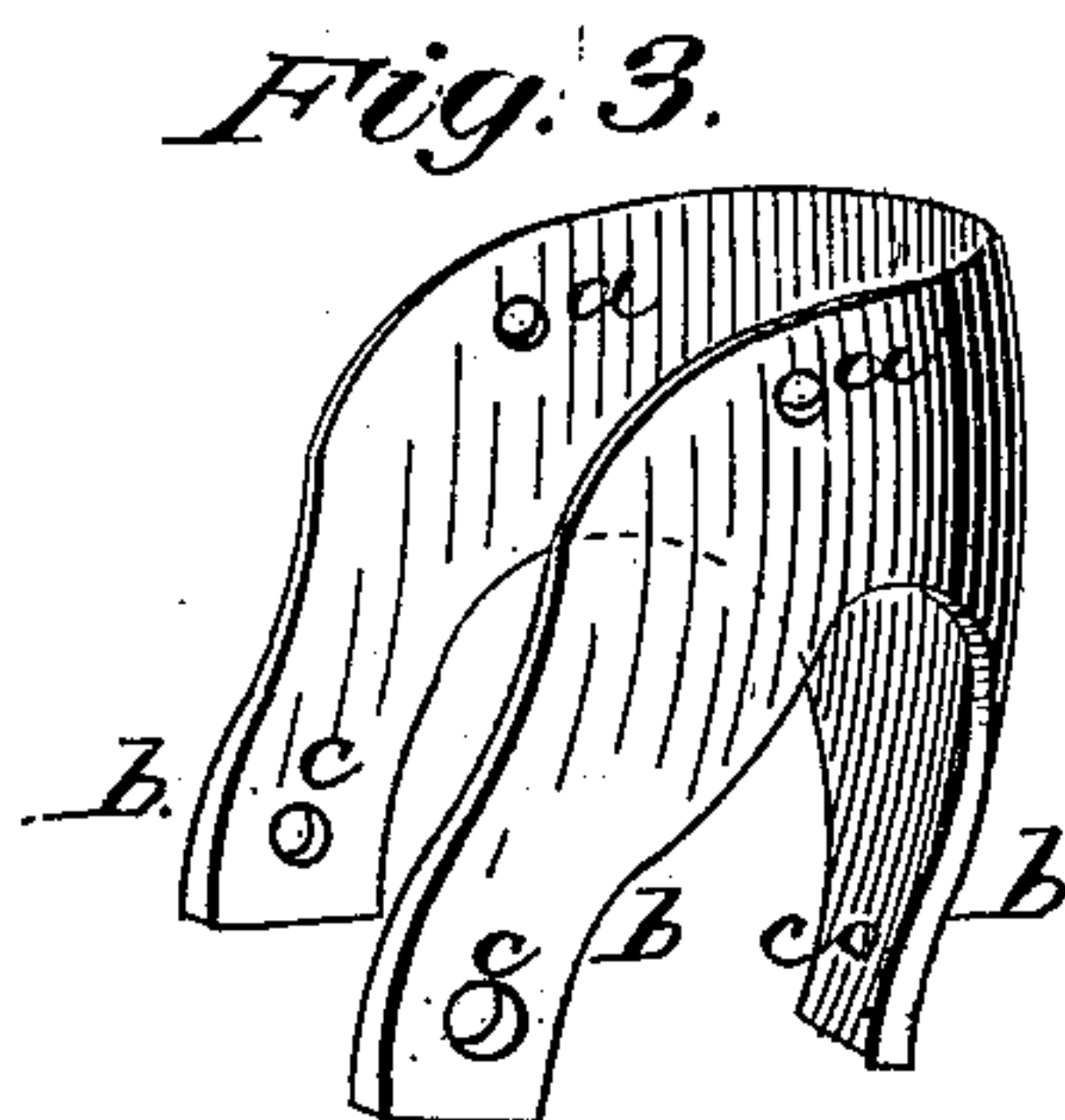
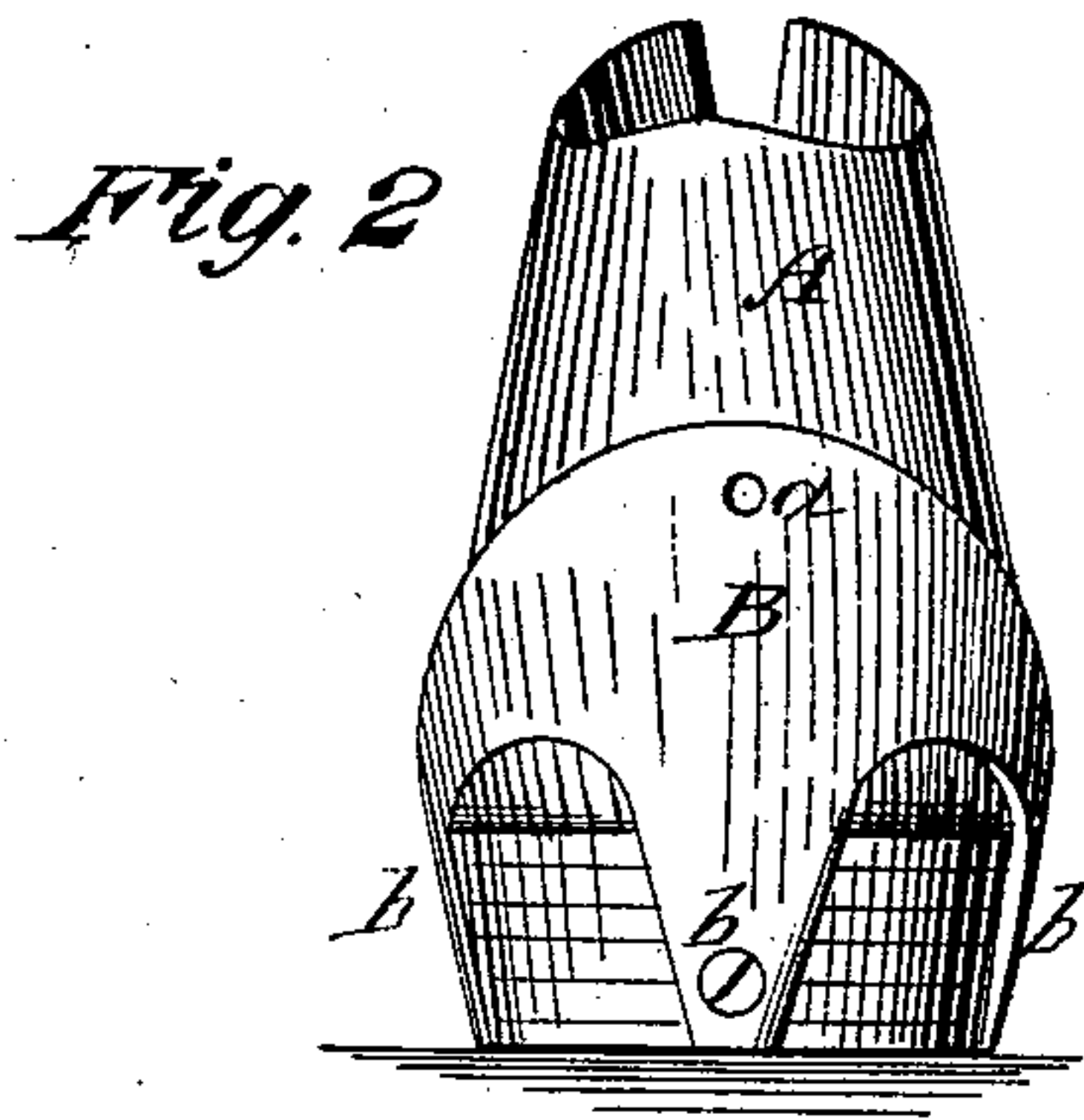
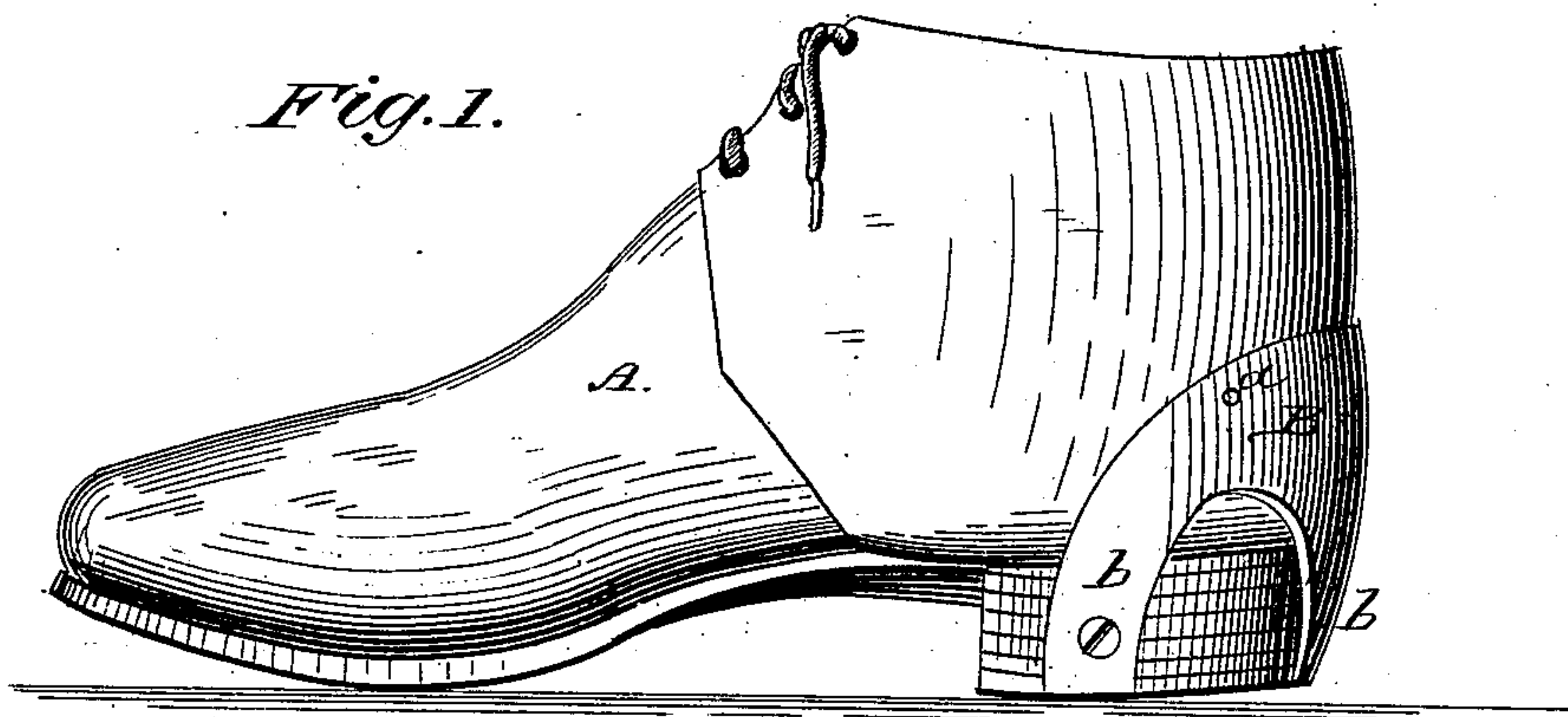


V. B. MORTON.

Counter or Heel Stiffener for Boots and Shoes.

No. 226,771.

Patented April 20, 1880.



Witnesses
Ed. G. Dietrich
Geo. A. Madigan

Inventor
Vega B. Morton
by *Louis Bagger*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VEGA B. MORTON, OF CERALVO, KENTUCKY.

COUNTER OR HEEL STIFFENER FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 226,771, dated April 20, 1880.

Application filed January 31, 1880.

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, VEGA BERRY MORTON, of Ceralvo, in the county of Ohio and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Counter and Heel Braces or Stiffeners for Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a shoe provided with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the brace or stiffener detached, and Fig. 4 is a plan of the flat blank for forming the brace or stiffener.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention relates to devices for stiffening the heels and counters of boots and shoes, and preventing them from running over; and it consists in the construction of a sheet-metal brace which is attached to the outside of the heel and quarters, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the drawings, A is the shoe or boot, and B is the brace, which is preferably cut by suitably-constructed dies from a bar or plate of sheet metal and pressed or struck up to fit the curve of the heel. This brace is rounded at the top and sides, where it has a series of three or more countersunk holes or perforations, *a a a*, and is provided with three downward-projecting fingers, (denoted by *b b b*), each of which has a countersunk perforation,

c. The metal in these fingers should be thicker than in the body of the brace; hence I prefer to cut or stamp this from a bar or plate that is thicker at one edge than at the other; or it may be cast, in a suitably-constructed mold, from malleable iron, brass, copper, or any other suitable metal, and painted or japanned afterward, to avoid its being too conspicuous when attached upon a boot or shoe.

This brace is secured upon the shoe in the manner clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings—viz., by rivets or screws inserted through the countersunk perforations *a c*—when it will effectually prevent this from running over on the sides or setting back at the heel. It is intended to be used chiefly on cheap or coarse goods intended for rough wear, where strength and durability are of more importance than neatness and elegance of appearance; but it is obvious that its use is not limited to any particular kind or class of goods.

Having thus described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

The metallic concavo-convex heel-stiffener B, cut in the form shown, and adapted to entirely surround the heel of a boot or shoe upon the outside of the upper, and provided with attaching-fingers *b b b*, for attachment to the heel, all substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

VEGA BERRY MORTON.

Witnesses:

GEORGE M. ROWE,
JAS. GARRETT.