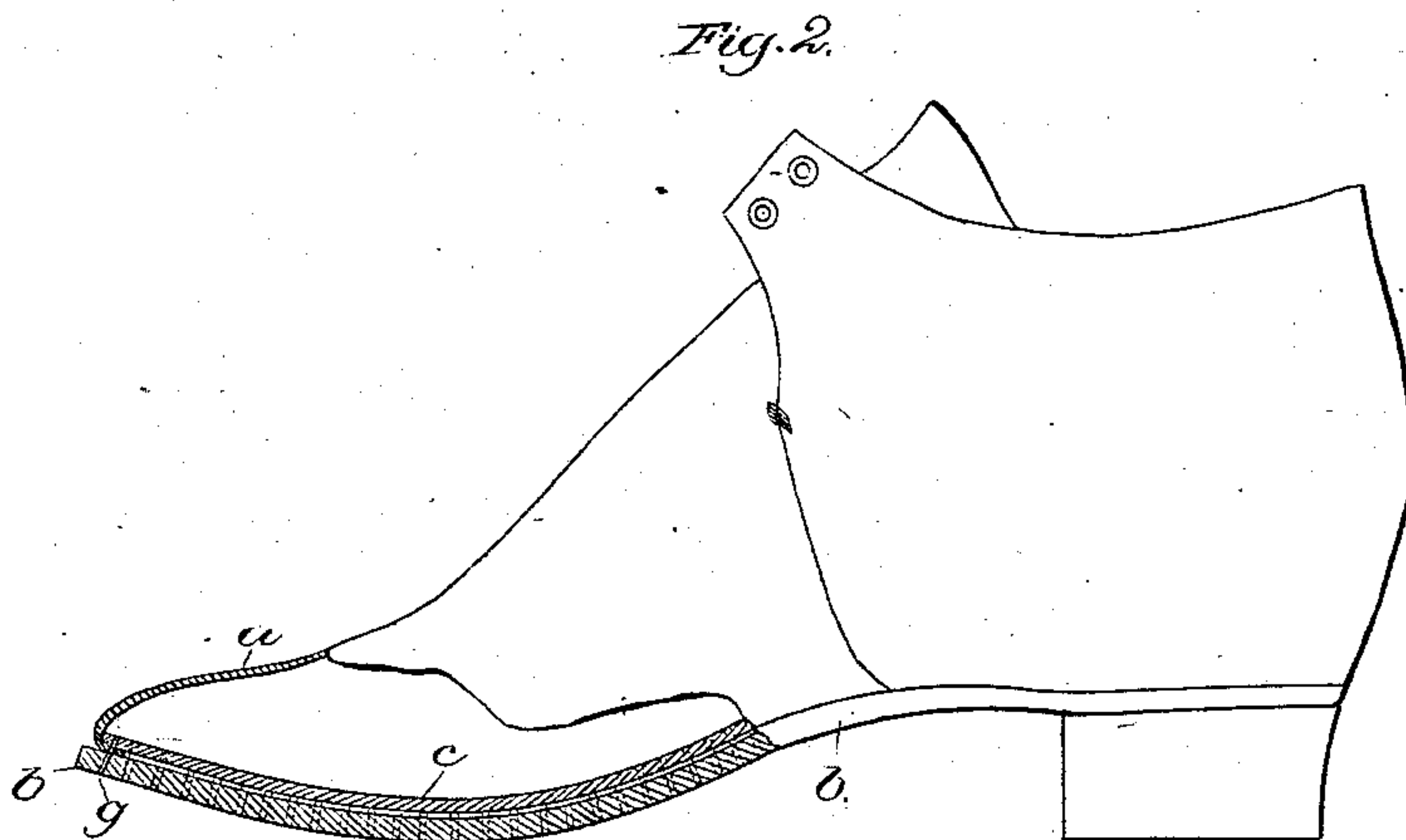
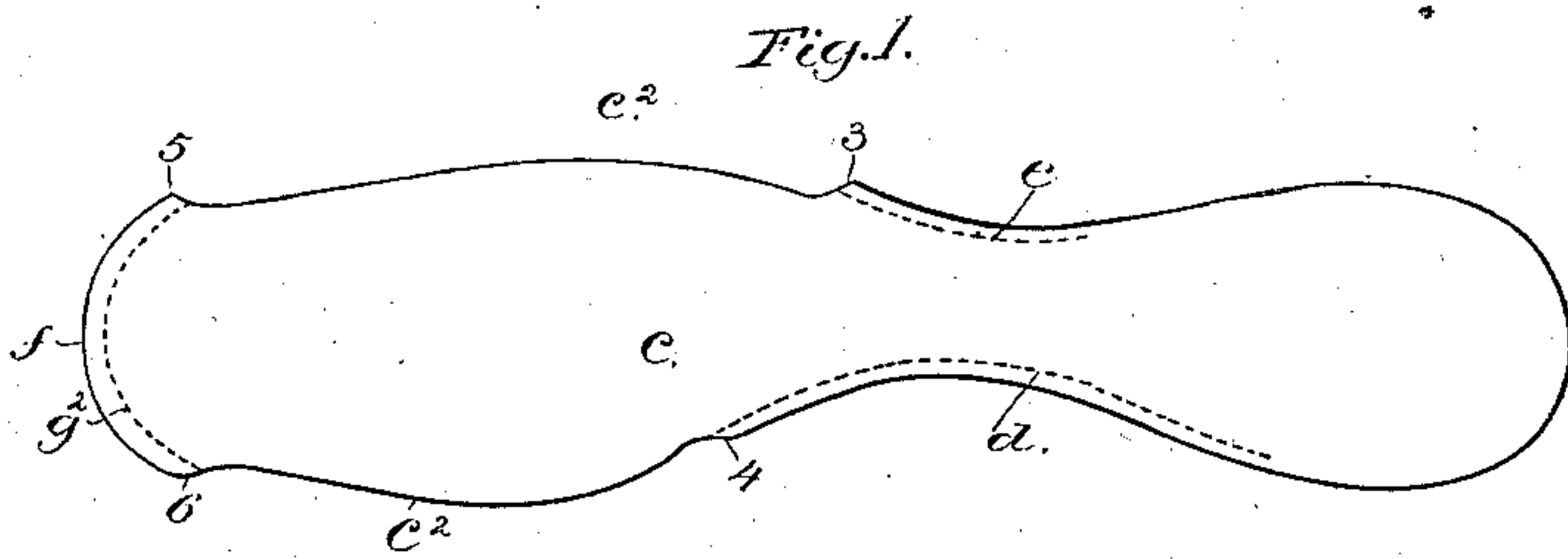


(No Model.)

J. C. BENNETT.
SHOE.

No. 255,133.

Patented Mar. 21, 1882.



Witnesses.
John F. C. Pinkert
L. F. Connor.

Inventor.
Josiah C. Bennett
by Crosby & Gregory
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH C. BENNETT, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,133, dated March 21, 1882.

Application filed December 12, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSIAH C. BENNETT, of Lynn, county of Essex, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention in shoes has for its object the production of a flexible-soled shoe in which the toe of the upper is held out or distended by the toe of the inner sole, so that the stitching uniting the toe of the upper with the outer sole will not show. To keep the toe of the upper smooth and uniform and conceal the stitches uniting the toe of the upper with the inner sole, the edges of the upper at the toe must be turned under the inner sole.

My invention consists in a shoe having an outer sole and upper, and an inner sole which is cut away from each side of the end of the toe part, back along the ball of the foot, nearly to or beyond the shank, whereby the stitches uniting the outer sole and upper are made across the toe of the inner sole and about the heel of the inner sole, but may be made to run off or miss the inner sole along the ball thereof, and more or less into the shank, the stitches which penetrate the toe of the inner sole holding the latter firmly in place, with its end beyond the stitches extended against the inner side of and so as to keep the toe of the upper extended and not expose the stitches, while along the sides of the shoe where the inner sole is not penetrated and secured by the said stitches the inner sole and outer sole being disconnected insures greater flexibility and ease in walking, which is very desirable.

Figure 1 represents in top view an inner sole cut in accordance with my invention, the dotted lines showing the sides of the said sole as cut away into the shank, as it may be, if desired; and Fig. 2 is a side elevation and partial section of my improved shoe with the inner sole stitched therein.

The upper *a* of the shoe and outer sole, *b*, are and may be of any usual shape. The inner sole, *c*, made of a length from heel to toe to fill the shoe and come against the toe of the upper, as shown in Fig. 2, has its sides cut away at *c*² back to the points 3 4, just in front

of the shank of the inner sole; but in some cases, when it is desired to make the shoe very flexible, the sides of the sole may be cut away on the dotted lines *d* into the shank. Cutting the sole in this way leaves an upper bracing-projection, *f*, extended beyond the corners 5 6. The stitches *g*, to unite the upper and outer sole, extend through the toe of the inner sole on the dotted line *g*². These stitches also penetrate the inner sole about its heel part, and also through the edge of the inner sole, along the shank at the rear of the corners 3 4, provided the shank is not cut away on the dotted lines *d e*, the said stitches then falling in the said dotted lines; but along the ball of the inner sole the stitches *g* do not touch the inner sole, but are made just outside its edges, so that the sides of the inner sole between the points 3 5 and 4 6 are not stitched fast into the shoe. A sole of this kind is very elastic, and bends readily to the foot.

I do not broadly claim a shoe in which the stitches are run off the inner sole about its sides; but in said shoes the toe of the inner sole has never been left full to keep the toe of the upper distended and prevent the stitches about the toe showing, as is the case when the toe of the inner sole is shortened and the stitches run off it to afford protection for shoes such as worn by children.

I claim—

The herein-described shoe, composed of the upper and outer sole and the inner sole, *c*, stitched to the upper and outer sole about its toe and heel, but cut away at its sides and not connected with the upper and outer sole along the sides of the inner sole, all substantially as described, whereby the toe of the inner sole, the sides of which at the ball of the foot are not connected with the outer sole by stitches, is made available to keep the toe of the upper distended, substantially as described.

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

JOSIAH C. BENNETT.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,
W. H. SIGSTON.