

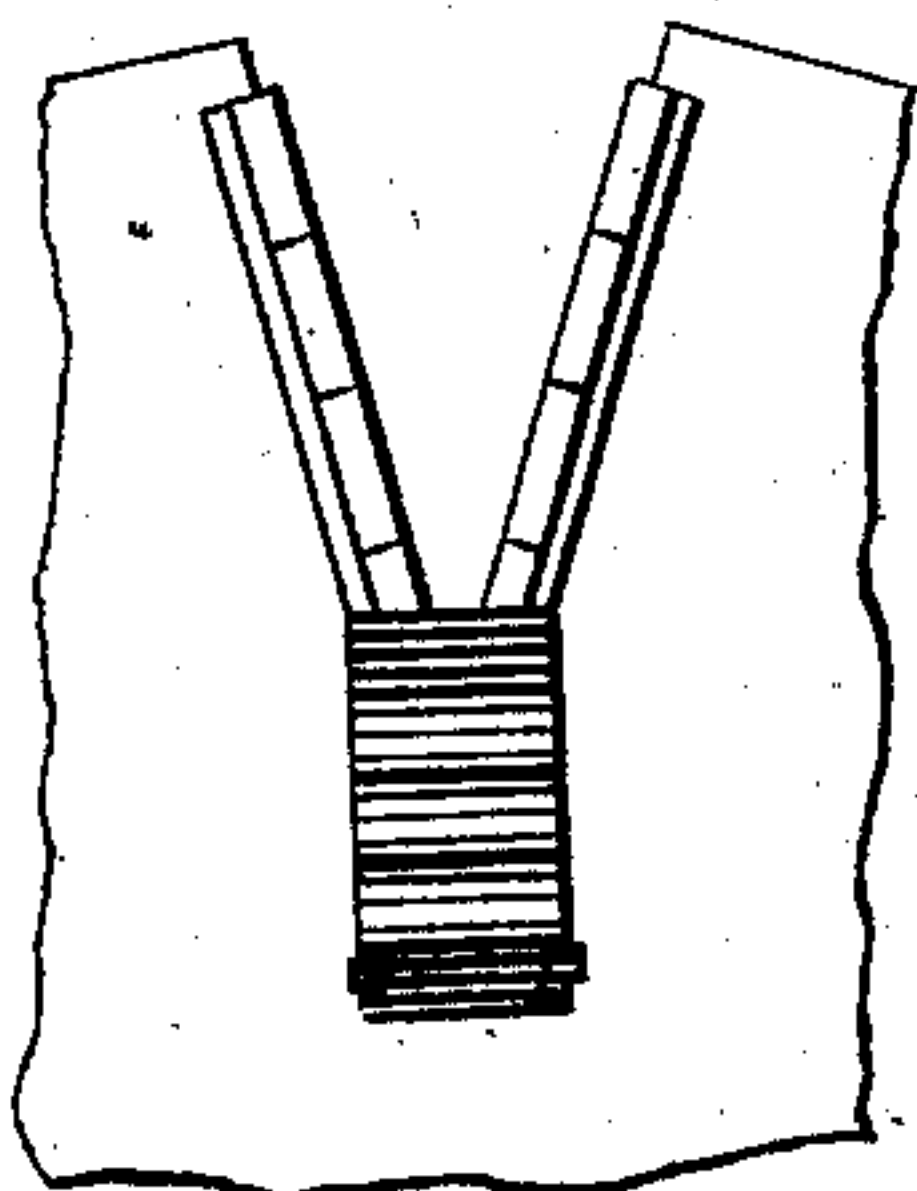
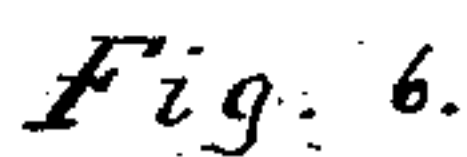
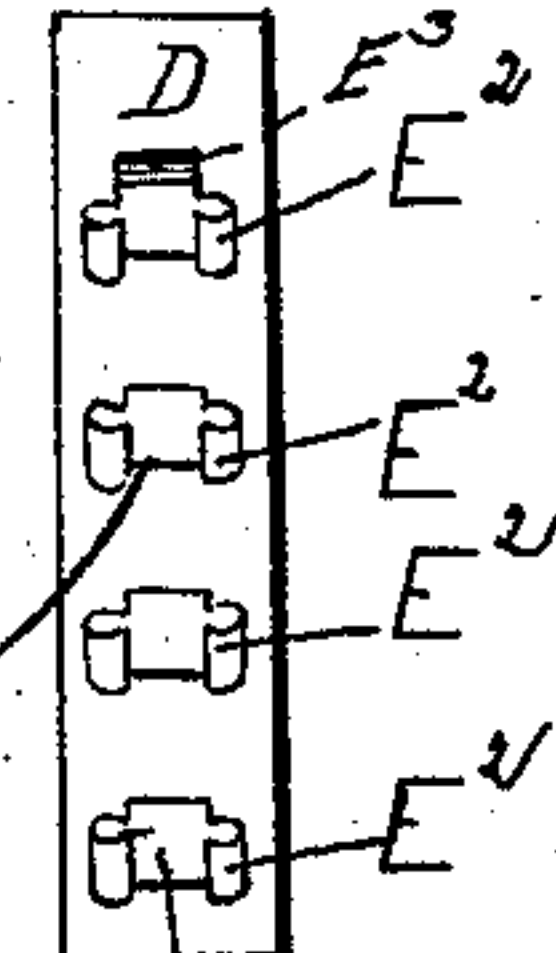
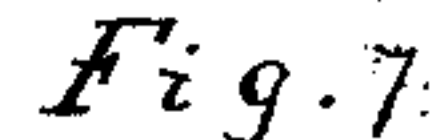
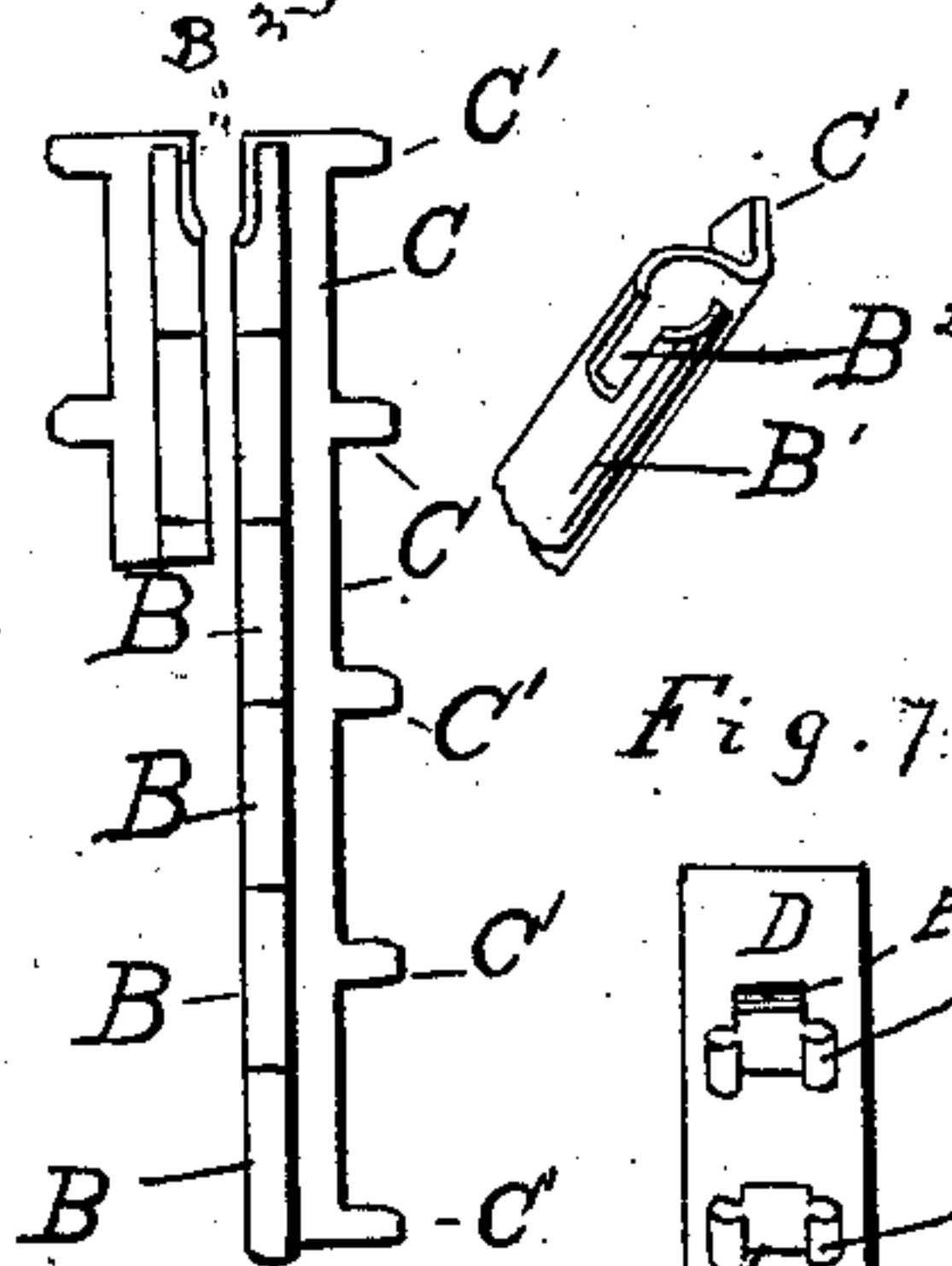
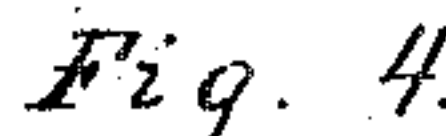
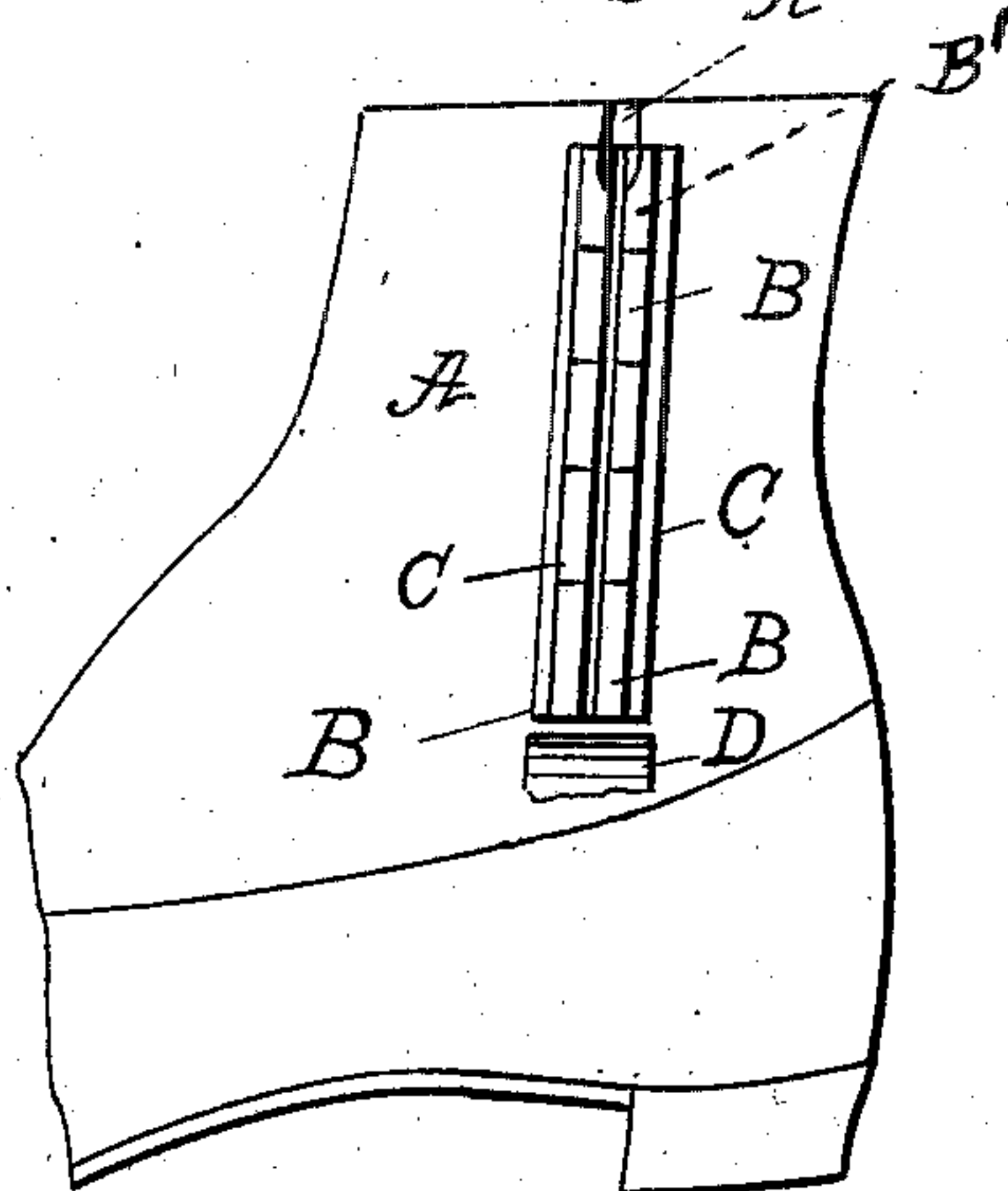
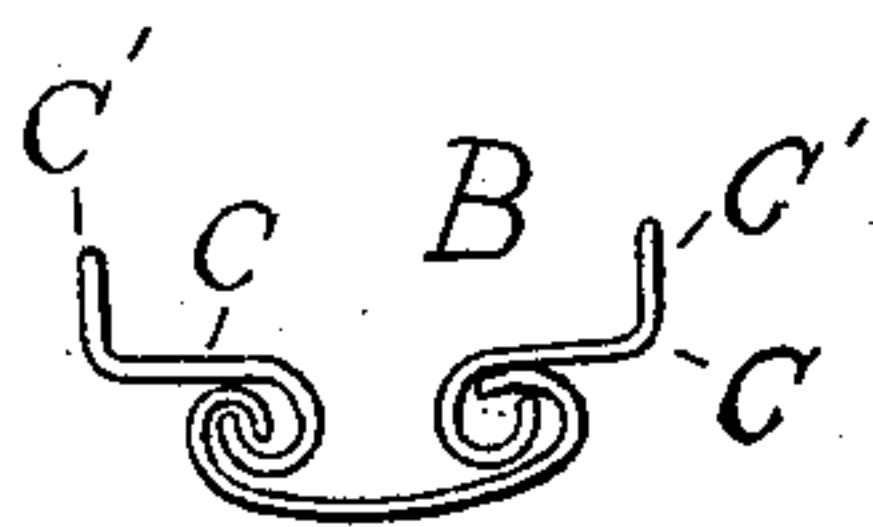
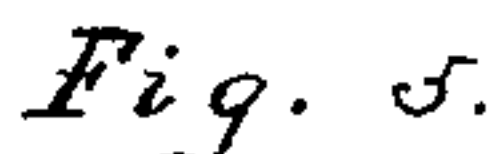
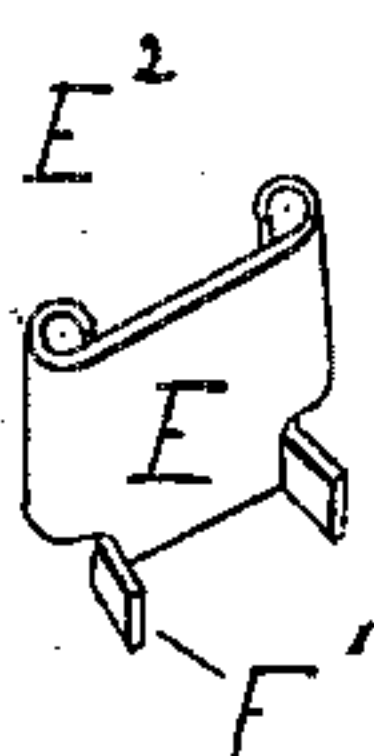
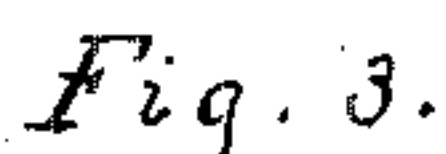
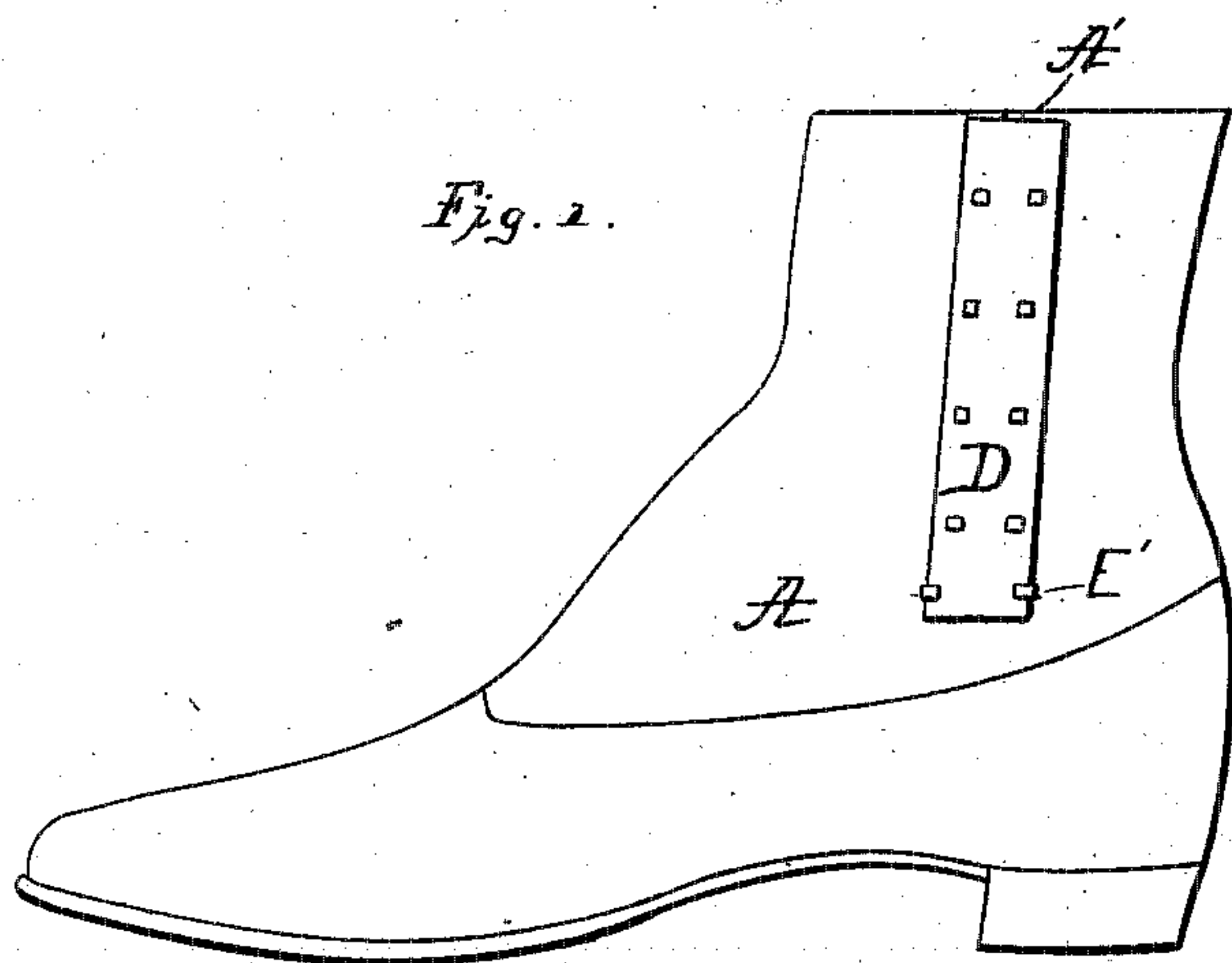
(No Model.)

J. C. RHODES.

SHOE FASTENING.

No. 302,160.

Patented July 15, 1884.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. RHODES, OF WESTBOROUGH, MISSOURI.

SHOE-FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 302,160, dated July 15, 1884.

Application filed February 20, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN C. RHODES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Westborough, in the county of Atchison and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Fastenings; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in shoe-fastenings; and it consists in the novel construction, combination, and arrangement of the several parts, as will be hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a shoe provided with my improvements. Fig. 2 is a side view of a shoe with the fastening-strap removed. Fig. 3 shows one of the fastening-plates. Fig. 4 shows the hook-plate in detail. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the fastening. Fig. 6 shows a section of a shoe with the fastening-strap pushed down as when the shoe is unfastened. Fig. 7 is a detail view of the fastening-strap with the plates in position, and Fig. 8 is a detail view of the upper fastening-plate.

The shoe-upper A is provided with a slit or opening, A', formed preferably in the side thereof, as shown. This slit is made sufficiently long to easily permit the drawing on or off of the shoe when the fastening, presently described, is released. The hooks B are secured to the shoe on opposite sides of the opening A'. The edges of the adjacent hooks are arranged close together, as shown. These hooks are bent over and under, in about the shape shown in Figs. 4 and 5, so as to prevent the lateral movement and displacement of the fastening-plate when the latter is in position.

The upper hooks, B', on both sides of the opening, are provided with a slot, B², about as shown in Fig. 4, and adapted to hold the upper fastening-plate and keep the strap from slipping down. These hooks may be made separate and secured independently to the shoe; but I prefer to form them on one edge of a plate, C, which plate is provided on its other edge with

a series of points or barbs, C', which are forced through the shoe and clamped on the inner side, serving as means to secure the plate in position. I prefer to form the hooks in this manner because of the ease with which they can thereby be secured to the shoe and the additional strength given the fastening. It will also be seen that the continuous plate C will hold the shoe up, acting as a stay, as will be readily understood. The fastening-strap D is secured at one of its ends to the shoe, at the lower end of the opening A', and is made of a suitable length to extend up to the upper end of the plates C, as shown in Fig. 1. The fastening-plates E are provided with tongues E', which are forced through the strap D, and bent to secure the plates to the strap, as shown. The opposite sides E² of the plate are bent, as shown, to correspond to the hooks B. Ordinarily I employ a number of fastening-plates equal the number of hooks on the shoe. However, when so desired, the strap may be supplied with a single fastening-plate only, arranged at its upper end, though I prefer to use a plurality of plates, as thereby a neater, closer fastening is provided.

The operation of my fastening will be clearly understood from the description before given. When the fastening devices are as shown in Fig. 6, the shoe is ready to be drawn on. When the strap D is drawn up to the position shown in Fig. 1, the hook E³ on the upper plate is drawn down into slots B² in the upper hook, B', and the strap is prevented from slipping down. While I prefer to use the two slots B² and the hook E³ for the purpose of security, ordinarily the strap will need no retaining device. It is also manifest that other fastening devices might be substituted for the one above described. For instance, only one slot B² might be employed, and one of the hooks of the upper plate, E, be drawn over it, as will be obvious. I prefer, however, the construction shown and before described.

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

1. The combination, with the shoe having a suitable slit or opening, of the plates C, secured on opposite sides thereof, and having formed in their inner edges a series of separate hooks, B, the strap, and fastening-plates secured

thereon, and adapted to engage the hooks B, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. The combination, with the shoe having a suitable slit or opening, of the hooks secured
5 on the opposite sides thereof, and the strap provided with fastening-plates adapted to said hooks, the upper one of said hooks being provided with a notch or slot, as B², and the upper fastening-plate with a tongue, as E³, adapted
10 to engage said notch and fasten the strap in position, substantially as set forth.

3. The herein-described shoe-fastening, com-

posed of the hooks B, the upper one being provided with the slots B², and the tongue provided with plates E, the upper one being pro- 15
vided with a hook, E², all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN C. RHODES.

Witnesses:

JAS. H. FILSON,
J. W. DAVIS.