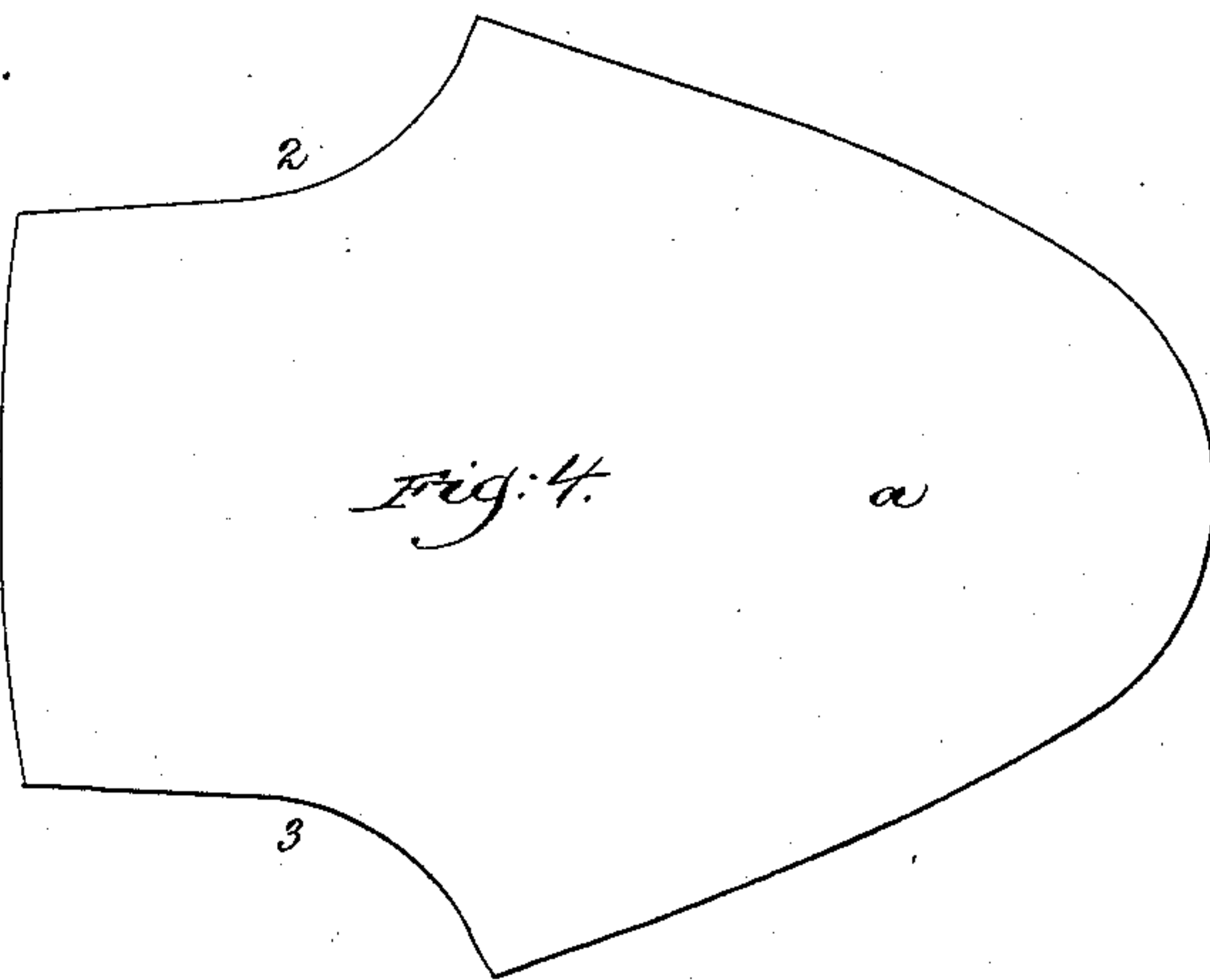
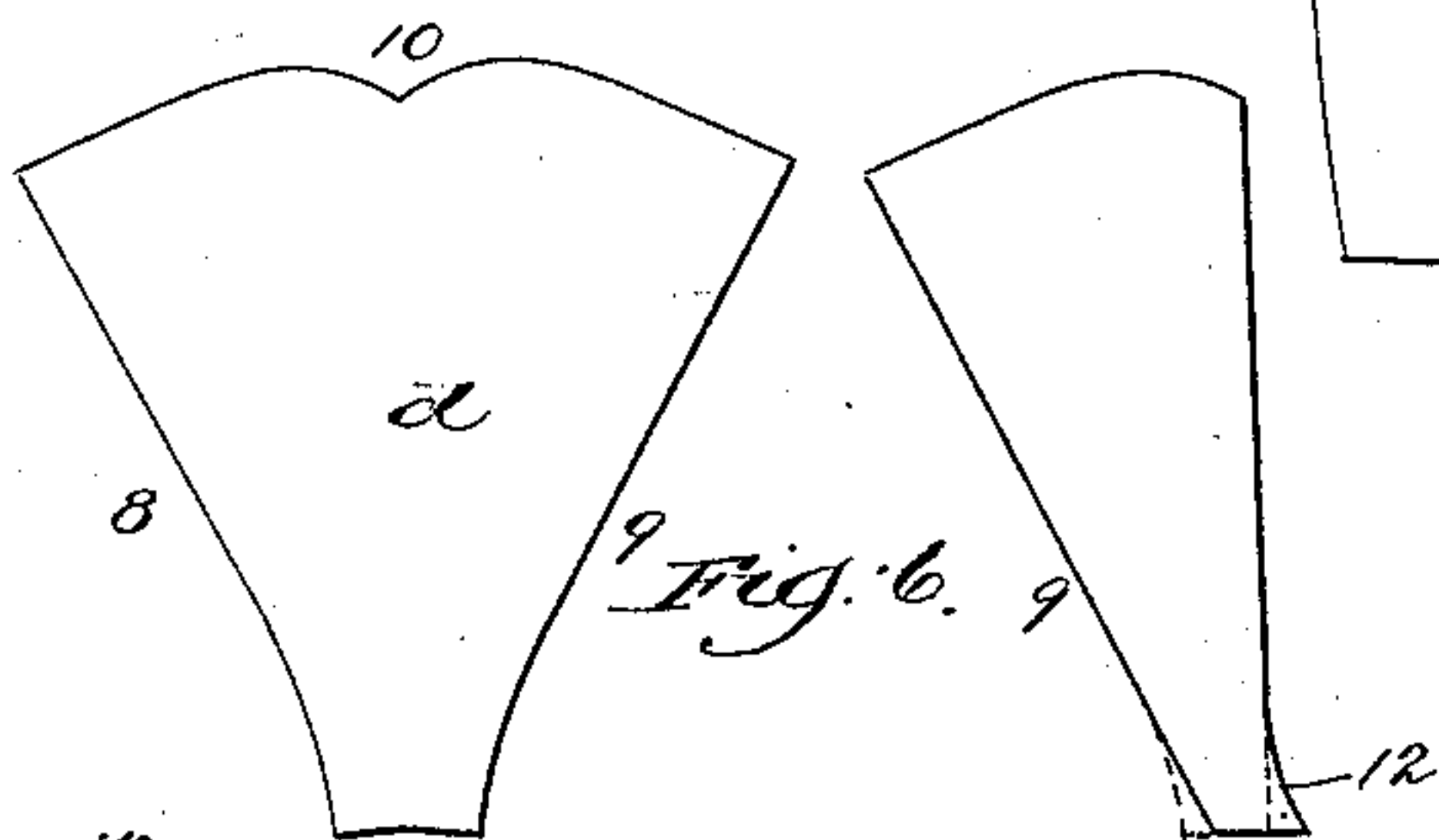
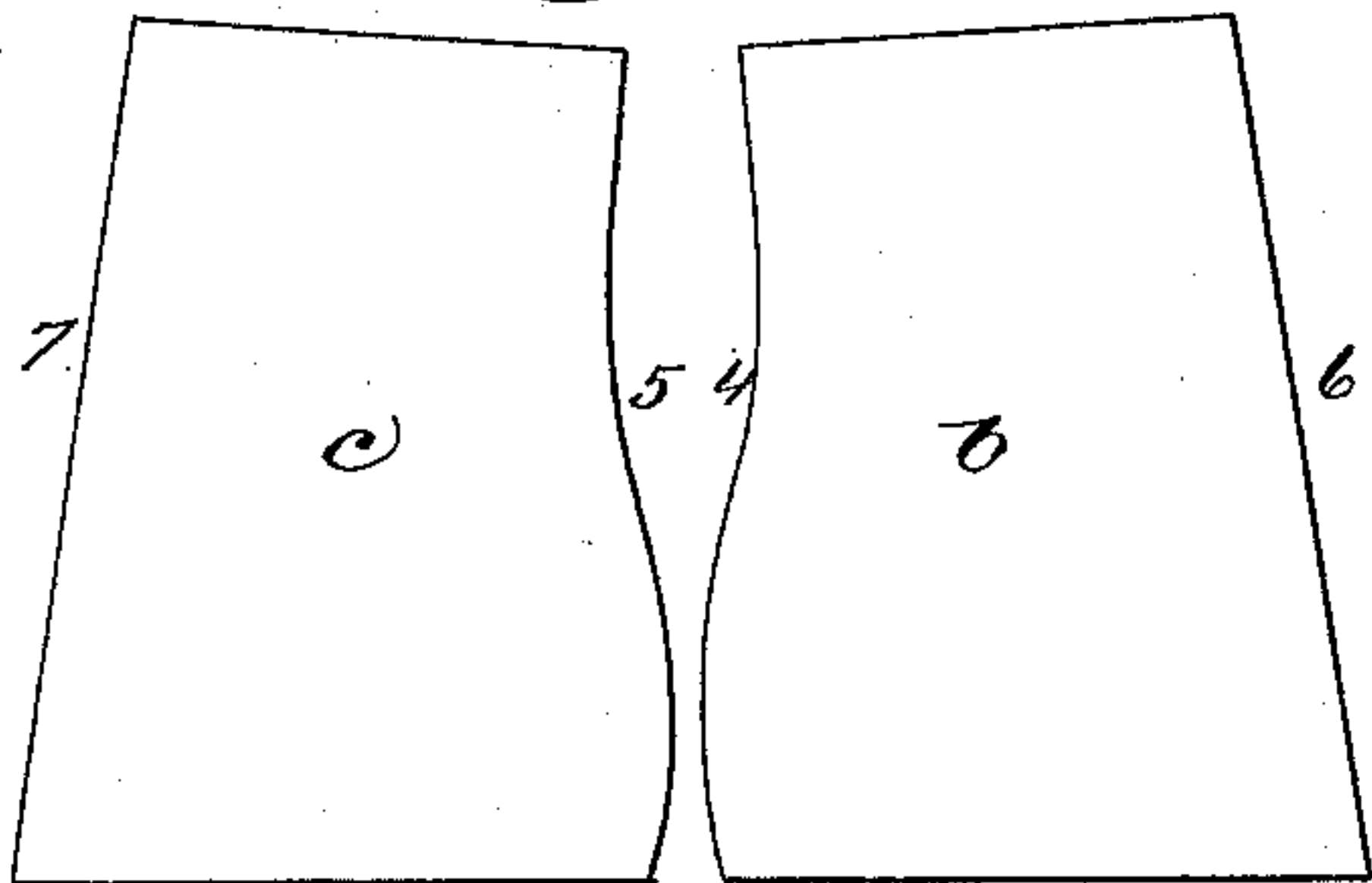
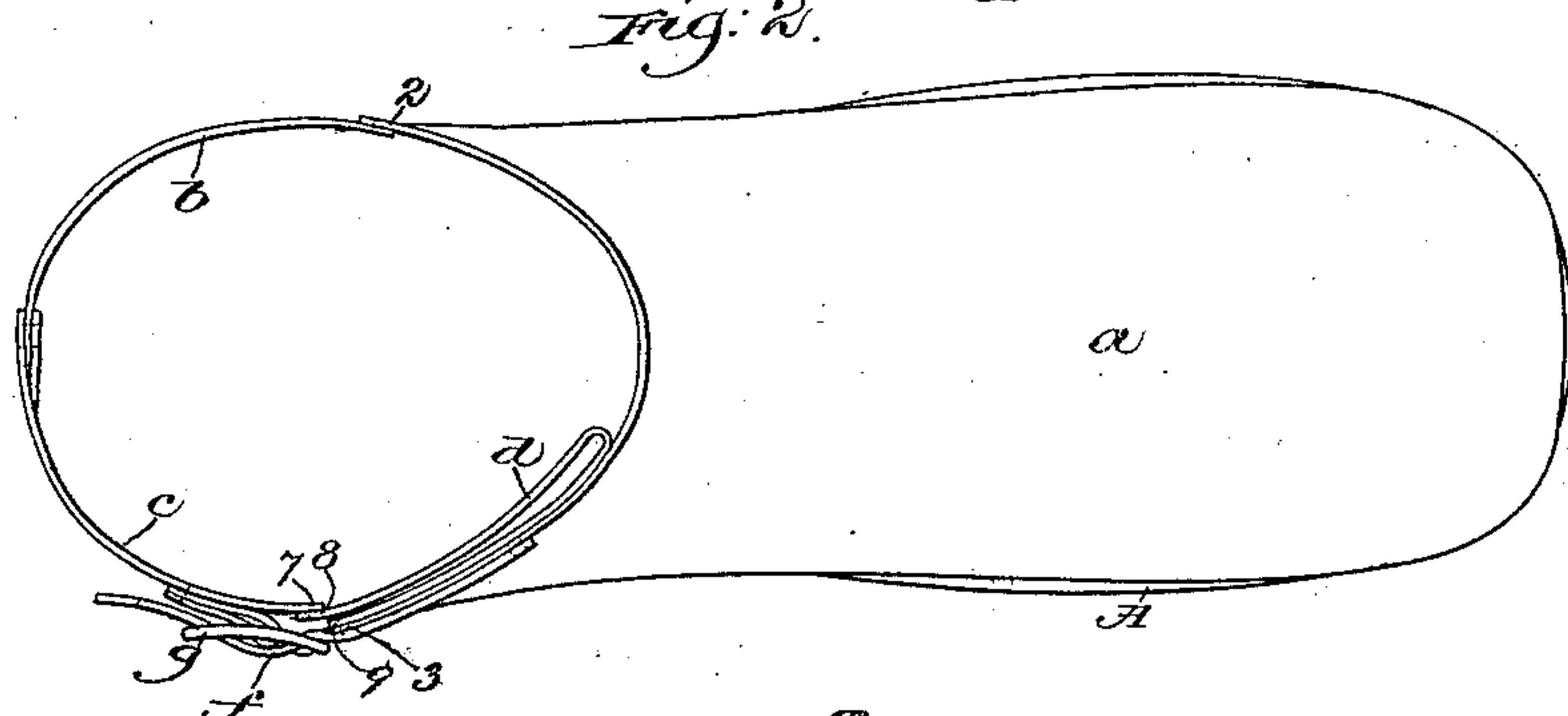
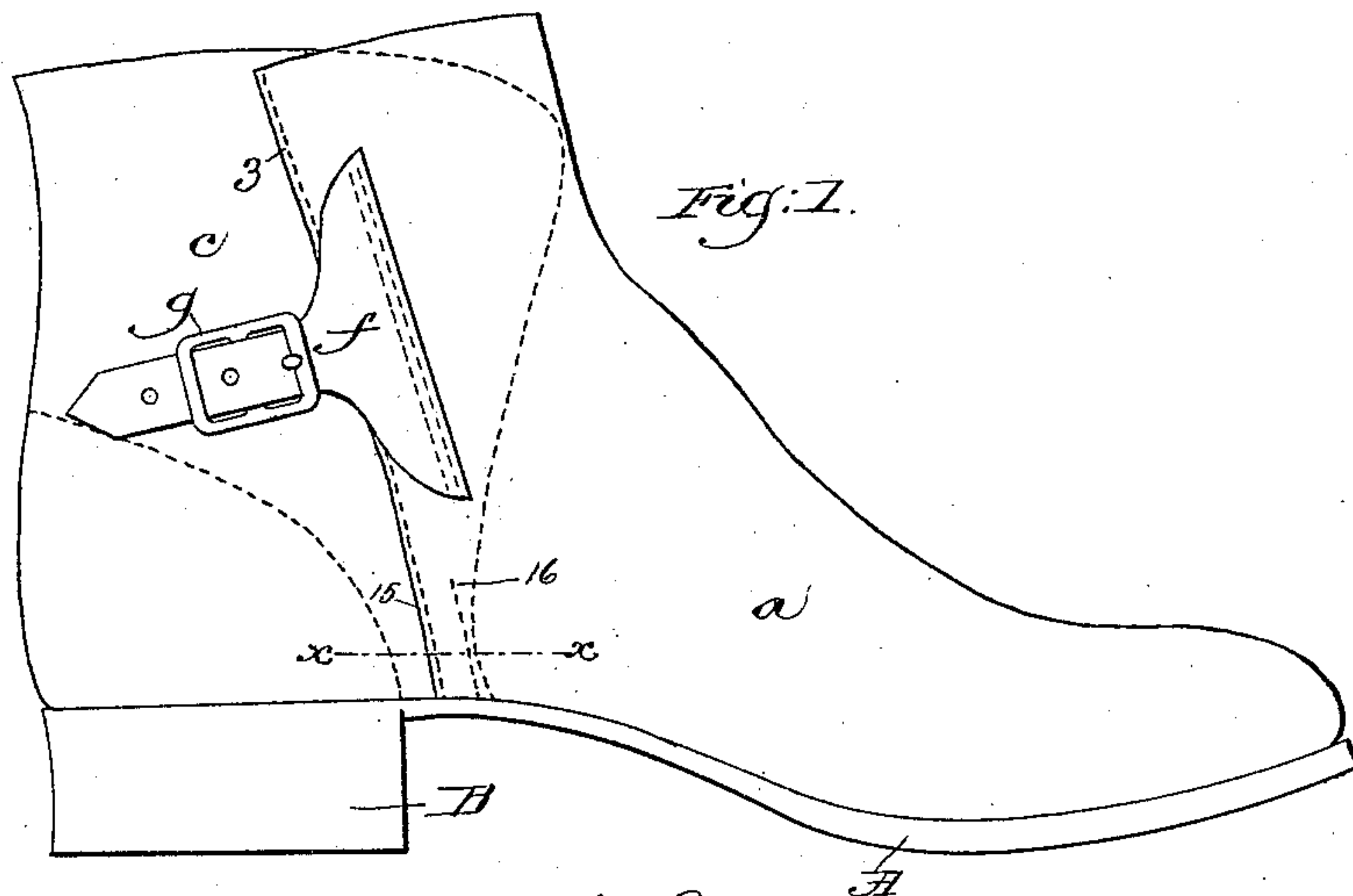


(No Model.)

G. A. WELD.
SHOE.

No. 343,410.

Patented June 8, 1886.



Witnesses.
Fred L. Emery.
John F. C. Prinkett.

Inventor
George A. Weld.
by Crosby & Gregory attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE A. WELD, OF WINCHESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 343,410, dated June 8, 1886.

Application filed April 5, 1886. Serial No. 197,845. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE A. WELD, of Winchester, county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object to construct a plow-shoe or overshoe from a novel pattern, whereby the same may be cheaply made, easily applied, and fastened about the foot of the wearer.

In accordance with this invention the upper of the shoe is composed of a vamp that, when crimped, will conform to the foot, and also present substantially straight edges extending vertically, or nearly so, from the shank to the top of the shoe. Two quarter-pieces, seamed together at the heel and having substantially straight edges corresponding with the straight edges of the vamp, are provided, the straight edge of one of the quarter-pieces being seamed to one of the straight edges of the vamp, a folded gusset of peculiar shape being interposed between the straight edge of the other quarter-piece and the adjacent edge of the vamp, so that the top portion of the shoe may be opened to admit the foot. The gusset is of triangular shape having curved sides, and when folded upon itself in the direction of its length is crimped so that two of its sides become substantially straight, while the curve is imparted to its lower central portion. The two straight edges of the gusset thus crimped are seamed one to the straight edge of one of the quarter-pieces and the other to one of the straight edges of the vamp, and at the lower end of the gusset, at the shank of the shoe, the line of stitching passes through the edge of the vamp, both edges of the gusset, which are folded together and through the edge of the quarter-piece, tightly closing the gap formed by the folded gusset at the shank of the shoe. The gusset is also curved at the top from the center outward correspondingly, so that when folded upon itself and crimped smooth plies are presented at the inside of the shoe to avoid protruding seams, &c., the gusset, when the shoe is fastened, resting at the front of the leg, where least objection-

able to the wearer of the shoe when walking.

The fastening herein employed consists of a strap attached to that edge of the vamp to which the gusset is seamed and a buckle attached to the adjacent quarter-piece, so that the vamp may be drawn slightly flush with or over the edge of the quarter-piece and fastened.

Figure 1 shows in side elevation a shoe embodying this invention; Fig. 2, a top view of Fig. 1; Fig. 3, a section of a portion of Fig. 1, taken on the dotted line *xx*, and Figs. 4, 5, and 6 plans of the patterns or pieces employed to form the upper.

The vamp *a*, cut from a pattern of the shape shown in Fig. 4, has curved edges 2 3, and is crimped in any usual manner into the form shown in Fig. 1, drawing the curved edges 2 3, substantially straight.

The quarter-pieces *b c*, of the shape shown in Fig. 5, have their curved edges 4 5 seamed together to form the heel-seam, the opposite edges 6 7 of said quarter-pieces being substantially straight. The straight edge 6 of the quarter-piece *b* is seamed to the edge of the crimped vamp *a*.

The gusset *d*, somewhat triangular in shape, as shown in Fig. 6, has two of its edges, as 8 9, curved inwardly toward each other, while its upper edge is curved outwardly in opposite directions from the center. The gusset thus shaped is folded upon itself longitudinally and crimped, (see also Fig. 6,) drawing the curved edges 8 9, substantially straight, as shown in full lines, and imparting a curve to the central portion of the lower end of the folded gusset, as shown at 12. The crimped and folded gusset *d* is then placed between the edge 7 of the quarter-piece *c* and the adjacent edge of the vamp *a*, allowing the main portion of the gusset to lie within the shoe or against the inside of vamp *a*. The edge 8 of the gusset is stitched to the edge 7 of the quarter-piece *c*, and the edge 9 of the gusset is seamed to the edge 3 of the vamp *a* from the top down to a point near the lower end of the gusset or the shank of the shoe, as at 15, and from this point to the end of the gusset the line of stitching passes through the vamp *a*, both edges of the folded gusset, and the quarter-piece *c*, to thus form at the lower end a very tight seam, the lower

end of the gusset acting as a welt. An additional line of stitches, 16, is added at the lower end of the gusset at the shank portion of the shoe, to re-enforce the seam and make a substantially tight connection.

The top of the gusset *d* is curved outwardly from the center, as at 10, so that when folded it presents a single curve.

By making the top portion of the gusset *d* curved, as described, a gusset of greater dimensions at the top may be employed, permitting the top of the shoe to be opened to a greater extent.

The edge 3 of the vamp *a* overlaps the adjacent edge of the quarter-piece *c*, and a strap, *f*, is fastened to this edge of the vamp, which may be engaged with a suitable buckle, *g*, secured by a short strap or loop to the quarter-piece *c*, so that the vamp and quarter-pieces may be drawn snugly about the ankle of the wearer.

By the employment of the gusset, shaped as described, the top of the shoe may be opened to admit the foot, and as the vamp and quarter-pieces are afterward drawn together the gusset lies against the inside of the vamp at the front of the leg, apparently forming a continuation of the quarter-piece *c*, and presenting a smooth surface upon the inside of the shoe against the leg.

The shoe is provided with the usual sole, *A*, and heel *B*, and in instances where the upper cut from the pattern described is employed as an over-gaiter a suitable sole will accordingly be employed.

It is obvious that the gusset *d* may be cut to form an integral part of the quarter-piece *c*, if desired, without departing from this invention, it being herein shown as a separate piece for cheapness, and it is also obvious that any other suitable fastening may be employed instead of the strap and buckle herein shown.

If the gusset herein shown were put into the shoe so as to be folded in the opposite direction, the shoe so constructed would be very objectionable, for the increased thickness would fall at the rear side of leg and ankle, where it would be very uncomfortable in the motion of the foot when walking.

I am aware that a shoe has been slitted or left open at one side, and a V-shaped piece folded upon itself lengthwise has been inserted in such slit or opening, so that the shoe could be opened at the top and ankle portion; but such V-shaped piece has not been crimped to give to the same on its line of fold a curve, which constitutes an essential of my invention and is necessary to successfully carry out the same.

I claim—

1. In a shoe of the class described, the sole *A*, crimped vamp *a*, and quarter-pieces *b c*, combined with a gusset, *d*, interposed between and connecting one edge of one of the quarter-pieces with one edge of the vamp, said gusset *d* having the curved edges 8, 9, and 10, and when folded and crimped the straight edges 8 9 and curved edges 10 and curved central portion, 12, substantially as described.

2. In a shoe of the class described, the combination, substantially as described, of the sole *A*, crimped vamp having substantially straight edges 2 3, quarter-pieces *b c*, seamed together at the heel, one edge of one of the quarter-pieces being seamed to the vamp, the gusset *d*, shaped, folded, and crimped substantially as described, and seamed to one edge of the other quarter-piece and to the other edge of the vamp, and a fastening to draw the vamp and quarter-pieces together.

3. In a shoe of the class described, the combination, substantially as described, of the sole *A*, crimped vamp having substantially straight edges 2 3, quarter-pieces *b c*, seamed together at the heel and having substantially straight edges 6 7, the gusset *d*, shaped, folded, and crimped as described, and seamed to one edge of one of the quarter-pieces and to one edge of the vamp, and extending forward to normally lie against the inside of the vamp.

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

GEORGE A. WELD.

Witnesses:

BERNICE J. NOYES,
C. M. CONE.