

(No Model.)

H. S. REYNOLDS.
LAST BLOCK FASTENER.

No. 377,439.

Patented Feb. 7, 1888.

Fig. 1.

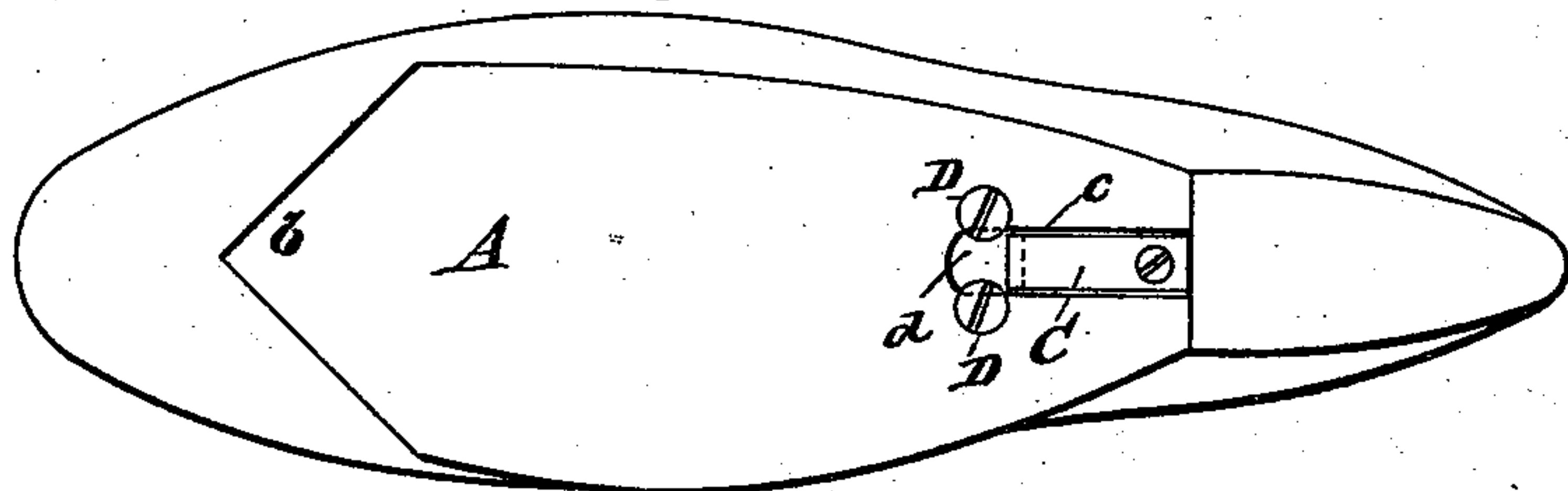


Fig. 3.

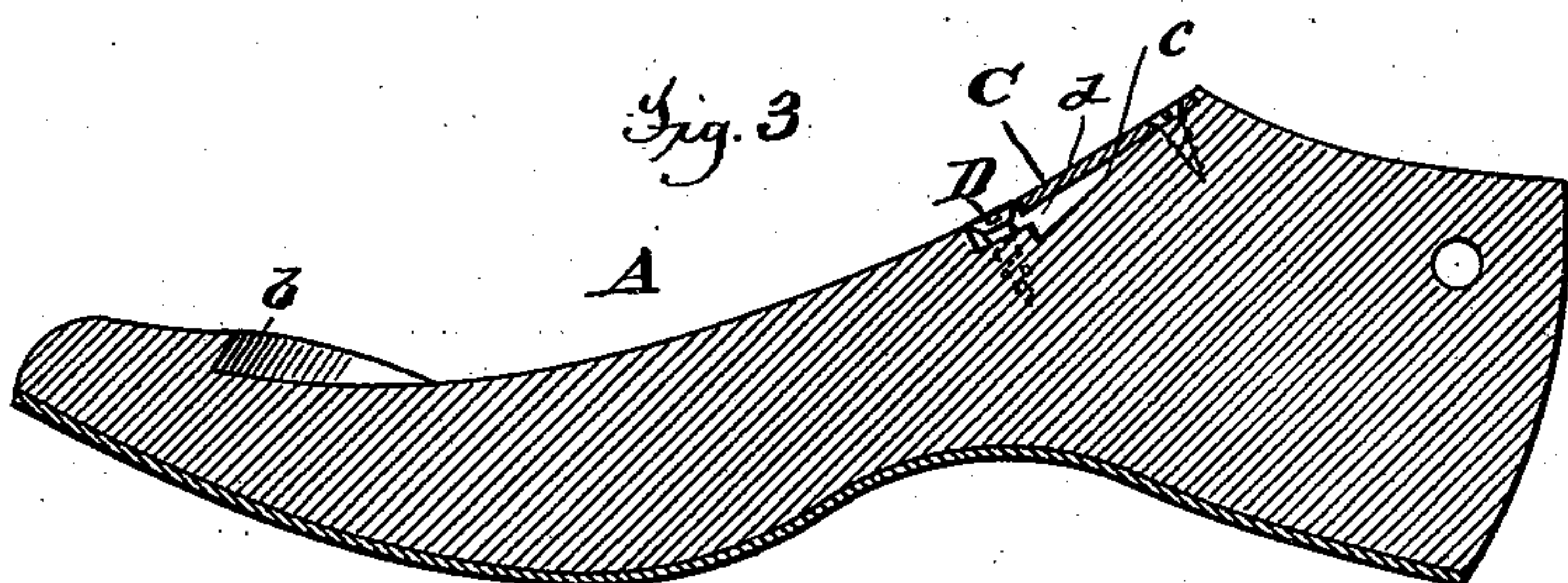
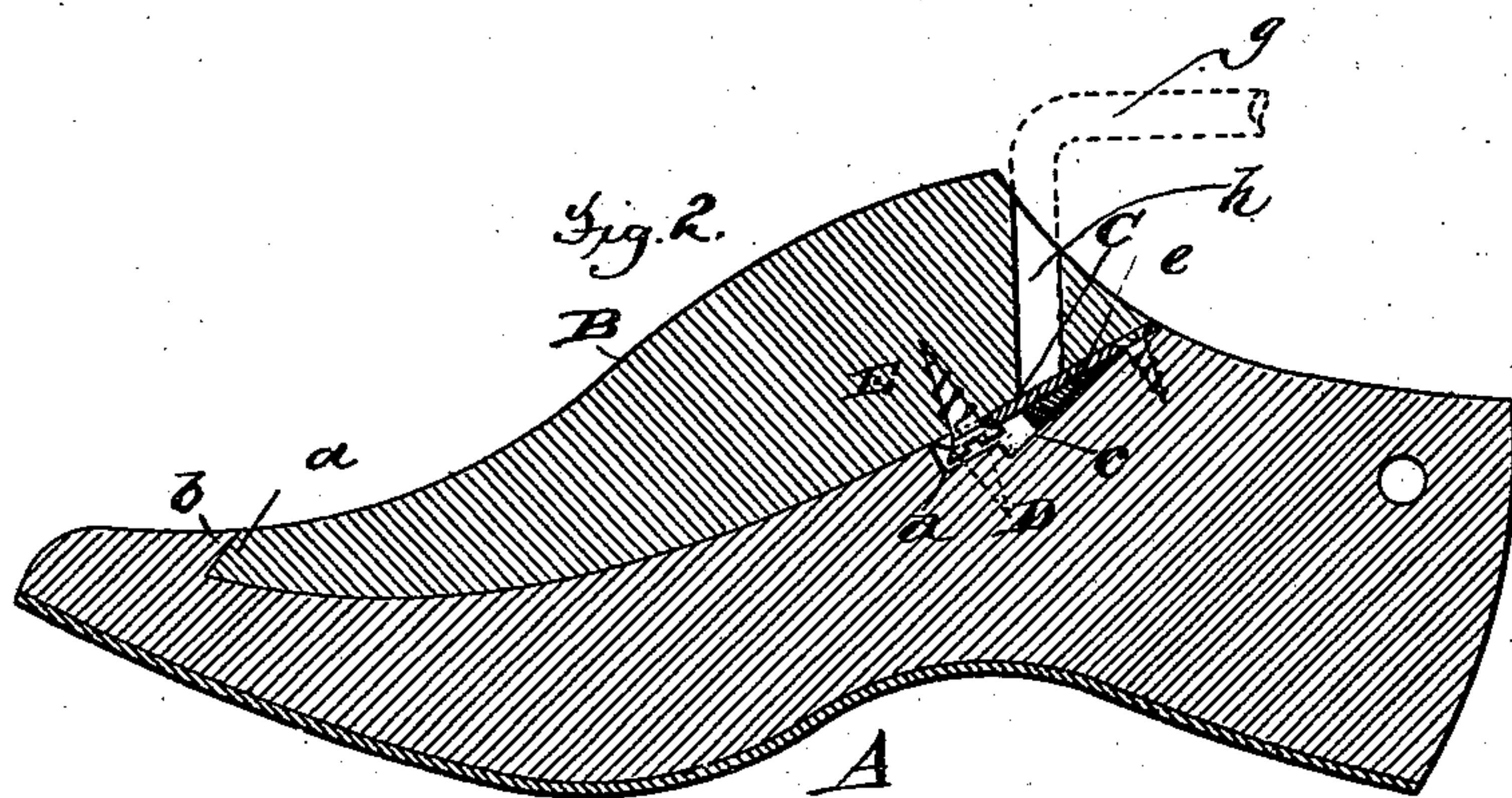


Fig. 2.



Attest:

Geo. H. Botts.
Curtis Lammond

Inventor:

Henry S. Reynolds

By Ernest W. Ebb

Atty:

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY S. REYNOLDS, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

LAST-BLOCK FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 377,439, dated February 7, 1888.

Application filed February 4, 1887. Serial No. 226,554. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. REYNOLDS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lasts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in shoe-lasts; and it consists, substantially, in such features of arrangement, construction, and combinations of parts as will hereinafter be more particularly described, and pointed out in the claims.

In this class of inventions some attention has been heretofore given to means by which the last-block may be readily withdrawn from the shoe without having to stretch or open the latter, and while some of the devices resorted to for this purpose are more or less operative, there are still a great many others which prove in use to be entirely ineffective; and, again, as compared with the cost of the last itself, a great many of the more perfect of these are exceedingly expensive, due to their complicated nature.

The object of this invention is to provide simplified and effective devices for enabling the last-block to be easily and quickly withdrawn from the shoe with no material alteration of the last itself, and also to economize in time, labor, and expense over many former inventions for a like purpose, all as will more fully appear from the description hereinafter following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 represents a top or plan view of the last with the block removed. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the last having its block in place, showing the manner in which the two are held together, and also illustrating the manner of separating the block by the insertion of a suitable instrument. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the last with its block removed, the same being intended as a modification.

Reference being had to the several parts by the letters marked thereon, A represents a shoe-last of the ordinary well-known form, and B represents its removable or detachable block, the forward end of the latter being beveled, as at *a*, and fitting against the correspondingly-shaped portion, *b*, at the toe of the former.

For the purpose of enabling the block B to be automatically secured in place upon the last and readily detached therefrom while in the shoe, I form in the top of the last an oblong cavity or recess, *c*, the bottom of which is of unequal depths, or, in other words, sunken, as at *d*, to permit of the proper operation of the securing-plate C, secured at one end within the cavity *c* and extending lengthwise thereof, with its upper side flush or even with the upper surface of the last, the free end of said plate terminating at the sunken point *d* of the cavity. Beneath the plate C is located a piece of rubber, *e*, for the purpose of restoring it to position after being depressed.

D D represent screws secured in the last at opposite sides of the cavity or recess *c*, a portion of whose heads extend within the cavity, leaving a space beneath them sufficient for the reception of the head of a similar screw, E, secured in the last-block at a point by which to bring it centrally between when the block is in place.

It is obvious that on slipping the block down into place the plate C will be depressed into the cavity *c* far enough to allow the head of screw E to pass beneath or under the heads of screws D D, and that the said plate C will be restored by the action of the rubber cushion *e*.

To remove the block, it is simply necessary to insert the ordinary hook, *g*, through the opening *h*, formed in the block, and press slightly downward on the plate, and then draw backwardly. As shown in Fig. 3, instead of employing the plate C and rubber cushion *e*, I resort to a simple flat spring of sufficient elasticity to act in the manner desired; but in practice I prefer the use of the plate and rubber.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that my invention is very simple and inexpensive, in that I dispense with the use of sockets and pins and resort to the use only of three ordinary screws and a simple plate or spring by which to obtain the fastening of the block to the last. No specially-formed instrument is required to depress the spring or plate for the removal of the block, since the form of hook shown is the one ordinarily employed for similar purposes.

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

1. The combination of the last A, having inclined offset recess *c*, provided at opposite sides of its inner extremity with screws the heads of which are flush with the upper surface of said last and extend partly into the recess, a solid flat spring secured to the last extending to the edges of the screw-heads and adapted to be depressed in the recess, and the last-block provided on its under surface with a screw whose head is adapted to interlock with those of the last and the free end of the spring, substantially as described.

2. In a last, the combination, with the last

having recess *c*, sunken, as at *d*, of the screws secured in the last on opposite sides of the recess, a metal plate extending lengthwise of the recess, and a rubber cushion beneath said plate, and the last-block having opening *h* and provided with the screw E, all designed to operate as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 21st day of January, A. D. 1887.

HENRY S. REYNOLDS.

Witnesses:

FREDK. CARRAGAN,

THORNE S. WALLING.