

(No Model.)

O. J. RIELEY.
BACK STAY PROTECTOR.

No. 459,766.

Patented Sept. 22, 1891.

Fig. 4.



Fig. 3.

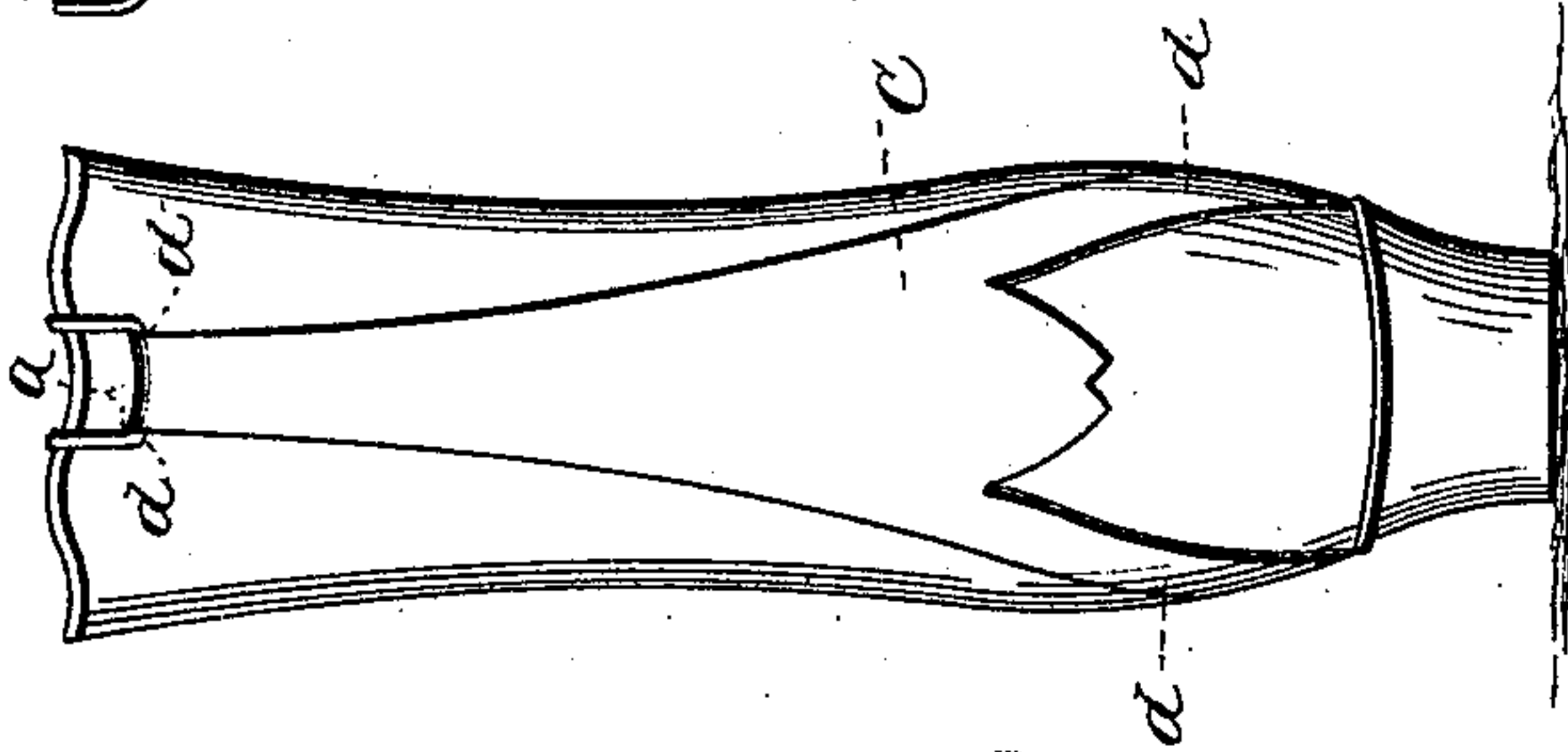


Fig. 5.

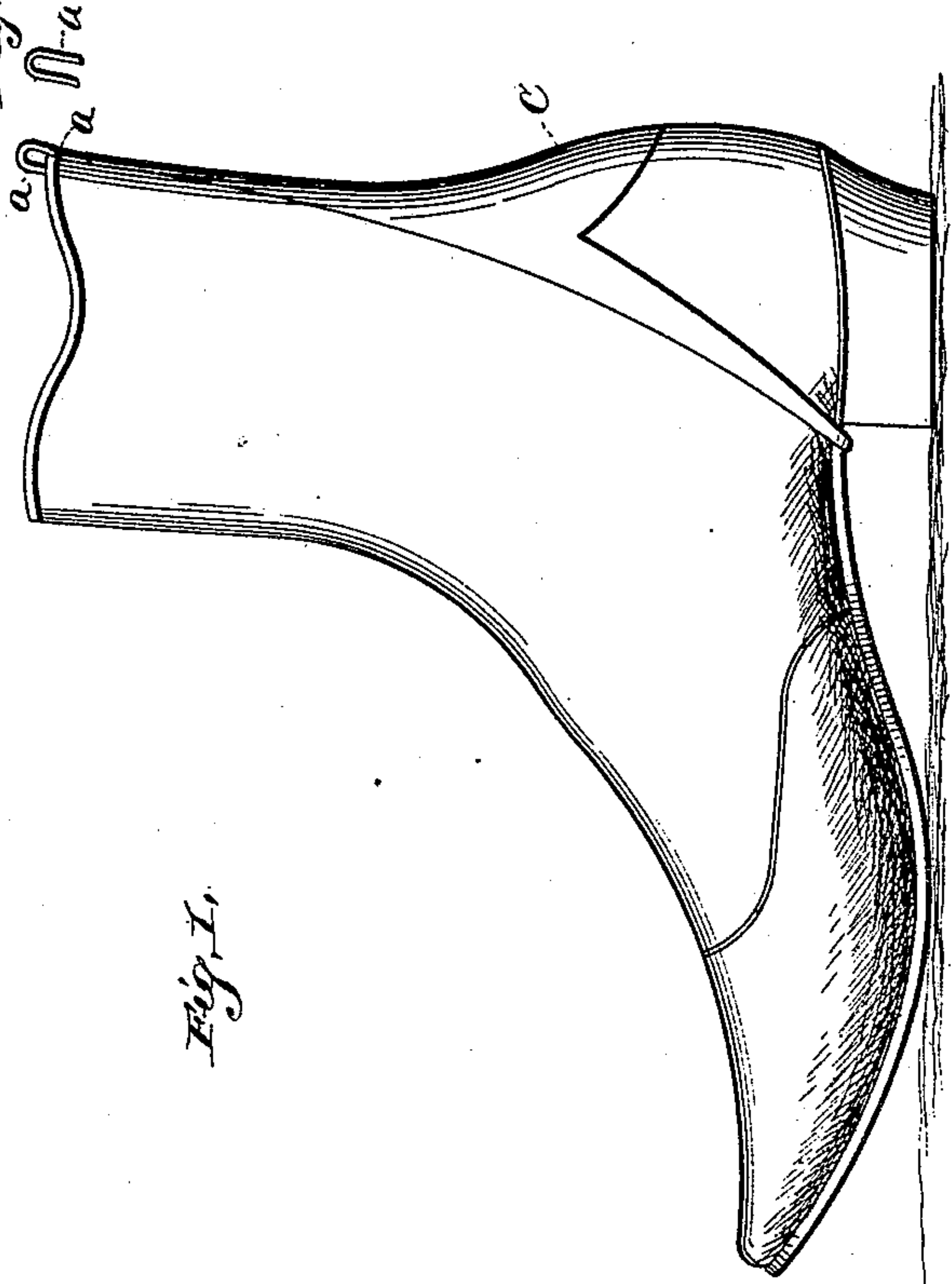
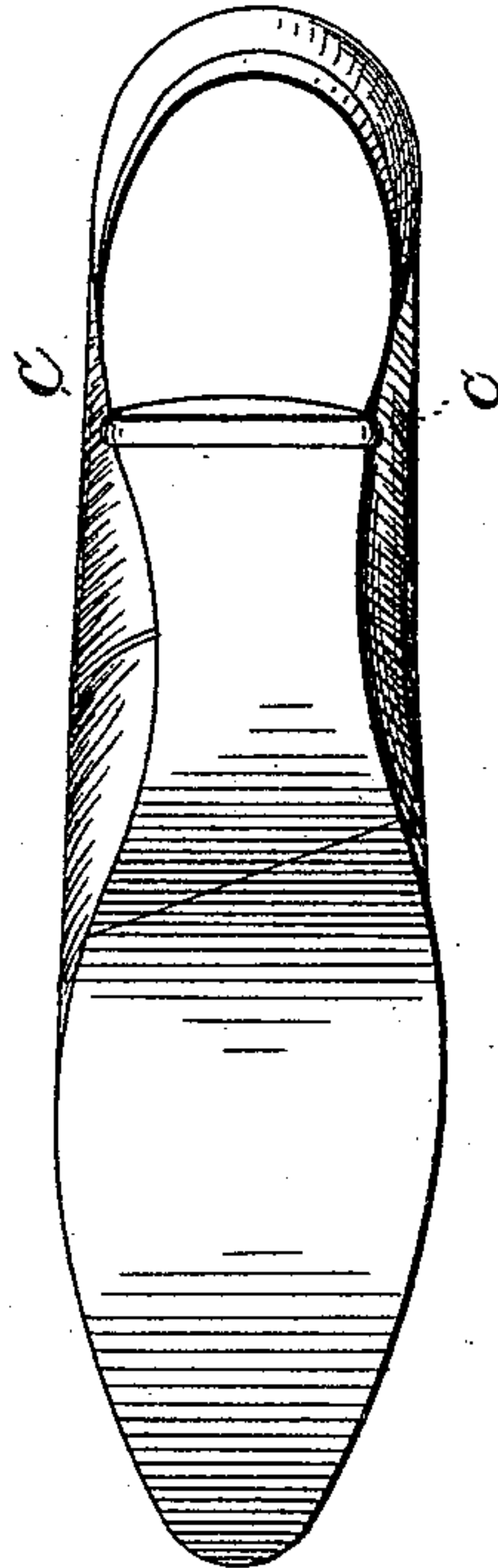


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OWEN J. RIELEY, OF GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN.

BACK-STAY PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 459,766, dated September 22, 1891.

Application filed March 9, 1891. Serial No. 384,384. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OWEN J. RIELEY, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Grand Rapids, Kent county, Michigan, have invented a new and useful appliance or attachment to attach to the backs of ladies' or misses' shoes and gaiters for the protection from wear of that part of said foot-wear which is covered by my attachment.

The name by which I designate my said invention is "back-stay protector."

My invention is, so far as I know, entirely original with me, and is not designed as an improvement upon any other invention of the same nature, but as original and unique in itself.

The reason why my invention is of use and value is this: In the manufacture of ladies' and misses' shoes and gaiters there is what is known as a "back-stay," which is a narrow strip of thick leather running on the middle line of the back part from the top to the bottom of the upper (hereinafter described) of said shoe or gaiter, or is the seam made by stitching together in the back the two (2) sides of what is known as the "upper," or all of said shoe above the tread or sole and where it is composed of a separate piece of leather that is firmly stitched in between or above the opposite sides of said upper, which is softer and more pliable than the stay itself. The skirts, crinoline, and wearing-apparel of ladies and misses to a great extent brush and rub against this part of their said foot-wear, and as a consequence the same gives way and wears out sooner than any other. In damp and muddy weather the stay and the leather adjacent become wet, and the friction of the skirts, dress, and crinoline against it tends to weaken said stay and to very rapidly wear out the same and the leather adjacent and to cause the stitches in said stay to give way. There has been nothing devised to obviate this tendency prior to this invention of mine.

Figures 1, 2, and 3 represent, respectively, side, bottom, and rear views in perspective of a back-stay protector as it appears constructed in accordance with my invention and attached in place to a shoe or gaiter. Figs. 4 and 5 represent, respectively, a front and rear view of the hook or fastener of the same.

The manner in which I accomplish this object is shown in the accompanying drawings. Fig. 1 shows a side view of a shoe or gaiter with the protector applied to same, and a side view of the protector, except where it passes under the foot. Said protector, as here shown and until just before it reaches the edge of and where it passes under said shoe or gaiter, is of a uniform thickness of about the same as the leather to the upper of said shoe or gaiter, and may be composed of rubber, that being in my opinion the best material for the same, and of a width at the top sufficient to cover that part of a shoe or gaiter known as a "back-stay," which has been heretofore explained, and gradually widening from the top or upper part of said shoe or gaiter to about the top of the counter of same, and being held in place by one (1) narrow band of same material as the balance of said protector, it being a part of the protector itself and being of just the proper length to press said protector closely against said back-stay and hold the same in place by passing under and pressing against the bottom of said shoe or gaiter at the inside or breast of the heel thereof, just before reaching which point it takes the shape of a round cord, or, remaining of the same width and shape, is simply increased in thickness, the lower end of the body of said protector ending in a rounded, scalloped, or indented form sufficiently low so as to cover the back of said shoe or gaiter at its greatest protuberance and at about an inch or so below the point at which said band joins the same on each side thereof. At the top of said shoe or gaiter said protector attaches itself to the same by means of a brass or metal hook or fastener, which has a round cross-bar of the same width as the said protector at the top thereof, the top end of which, being passed over said cross-bar, is attached to the inside thereof by some glutinous substance of the nature of glue, paste, or cement. Said hook or fastener consists of one piece of brass or metal, and is composed of a lower round cross-bar and two (2) round parallel side bars, each of which at about the length of one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) the width of said cross-bar bends inward, forming each the shape of an inverted U, with each lower end first and for

two-thirds ($\frac{2}{3}$) of its length inclining inward and then flaring slightly outward, thus at its narrowest point closely embracing the leather near the top of said shoe or gaiter.

5 In Fig. 1 the letters *a a* designate the hook or fastener aforesaid from the cross-bar thereof, where said protector clasps it, to the point where one prong thereof disappears in the inside of said shoe or gaiter. Letters *C C*
10 designate the protector itself as it appears when properly attached to a shoe or gaiter from the point where it clasps the cross-bar of said hook or fastener to the point just outside of the breast of the heel where it, in the
15 form of a cord or thickened band, passes under the sole of said shoe or gaiter.

Fig. 2 shows a bottom view of a shoe or gaiter with the protector in place thereon in the shape of a round cord. Letters *c c* designate the protector in this shape on the inside
20 or breast of the heel under the sole of said shoe or gaiter. I wish it distinctly understood, however, that instead of a cord here the protector may be a thickened band, as
25 heretofore explained.

Fig. 3 shows a back view of a shoe or gaiter with the protector properly applied and placed thereon. Letters *d d d d* designate the protector itself entire, with the exception
30 of the thickened round cord or thickened band, as the part shown will appear when

properly applied and adjusted to a shoe or gaiter for use.

Fig. 4 shows a front or outside view of the hook or fastener used, being that part which
35 in use appears on the outside of said shoe or gaiter and the cross-bar of which the band of said protector clasps.

Fig. 5 shows a back or inside view of said hook or fastener, being the inverted-**U** part
40 which clasps the top of said shoe or gaiter.

The above drawings are all made on a scale of one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) of the actual size.

The protector is to be made on what is known as a "shoe form," so as to closely fit
45 and hug the back part of a lady's or miss's shoe or gaiter.

I claim—

A back-stay protector consisting of a band of rubber, leather, or other suitable material
50 adapted to cover the back-stay of a shoe or gaiter, having a fastening-strap passing under and pressing the inside or breast of the heel thereof, and a brass or metal hook or fastener clasping the upper at the top of the
55 back-stay of said shoe or gaiter, substantially as specified.

OWEN J. RIELEY.

Witnesses:

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