

No. 660,885.

Patented Oct. 30, 1900.

A. J. & R. T. BRAUER.
ANKLE BRACE.

(Application filed June 9, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.



Fig. 2.

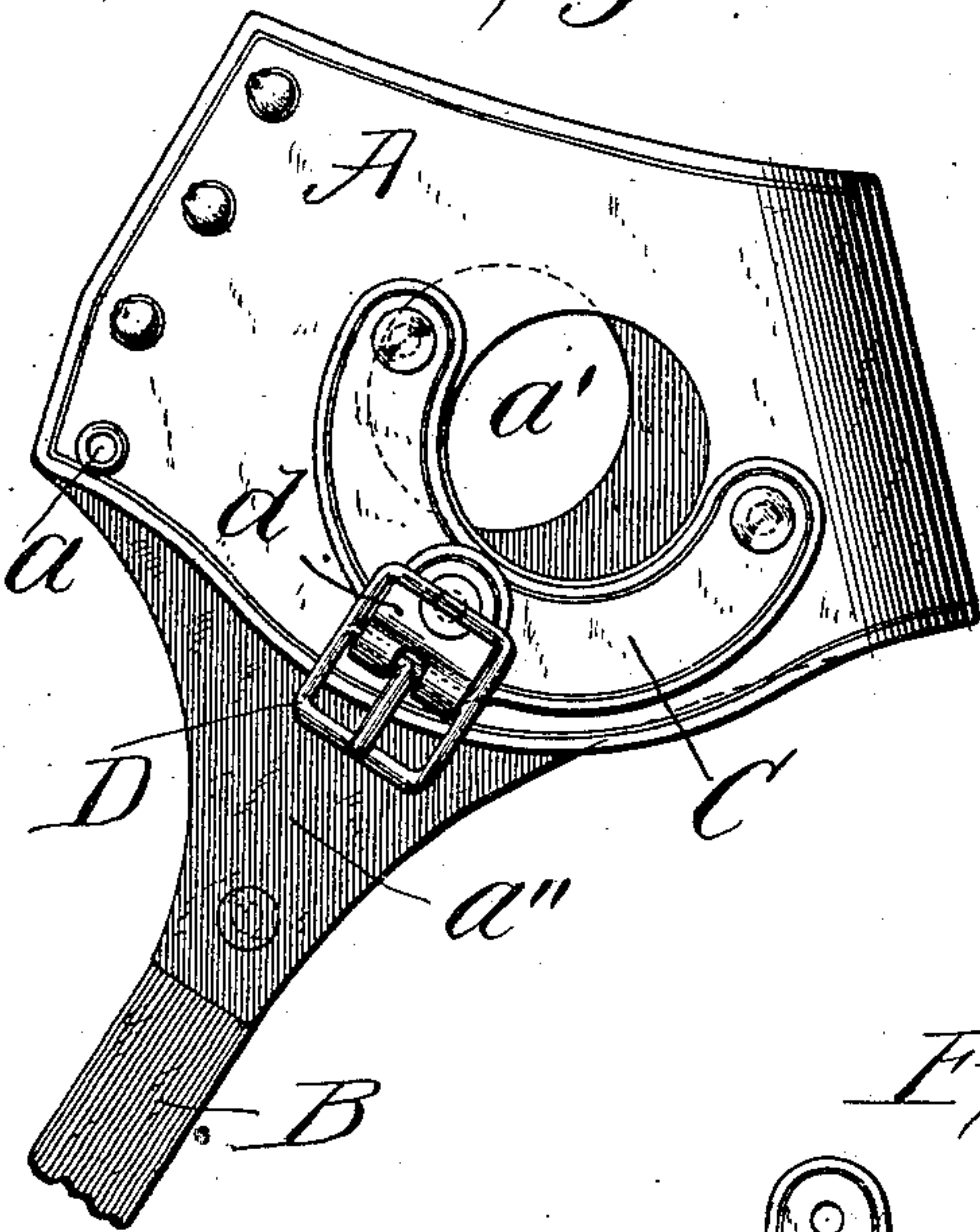


Fig. 3.

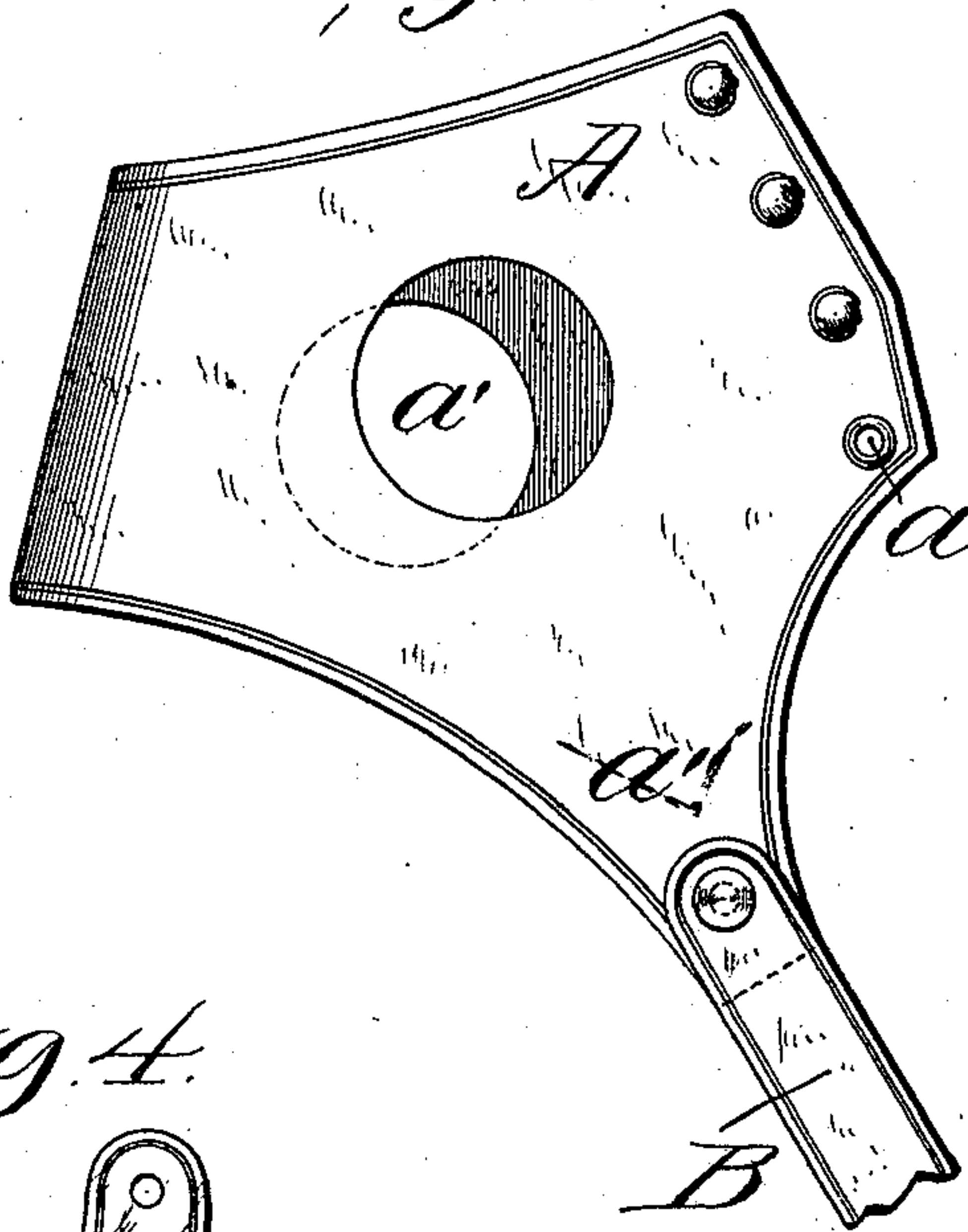
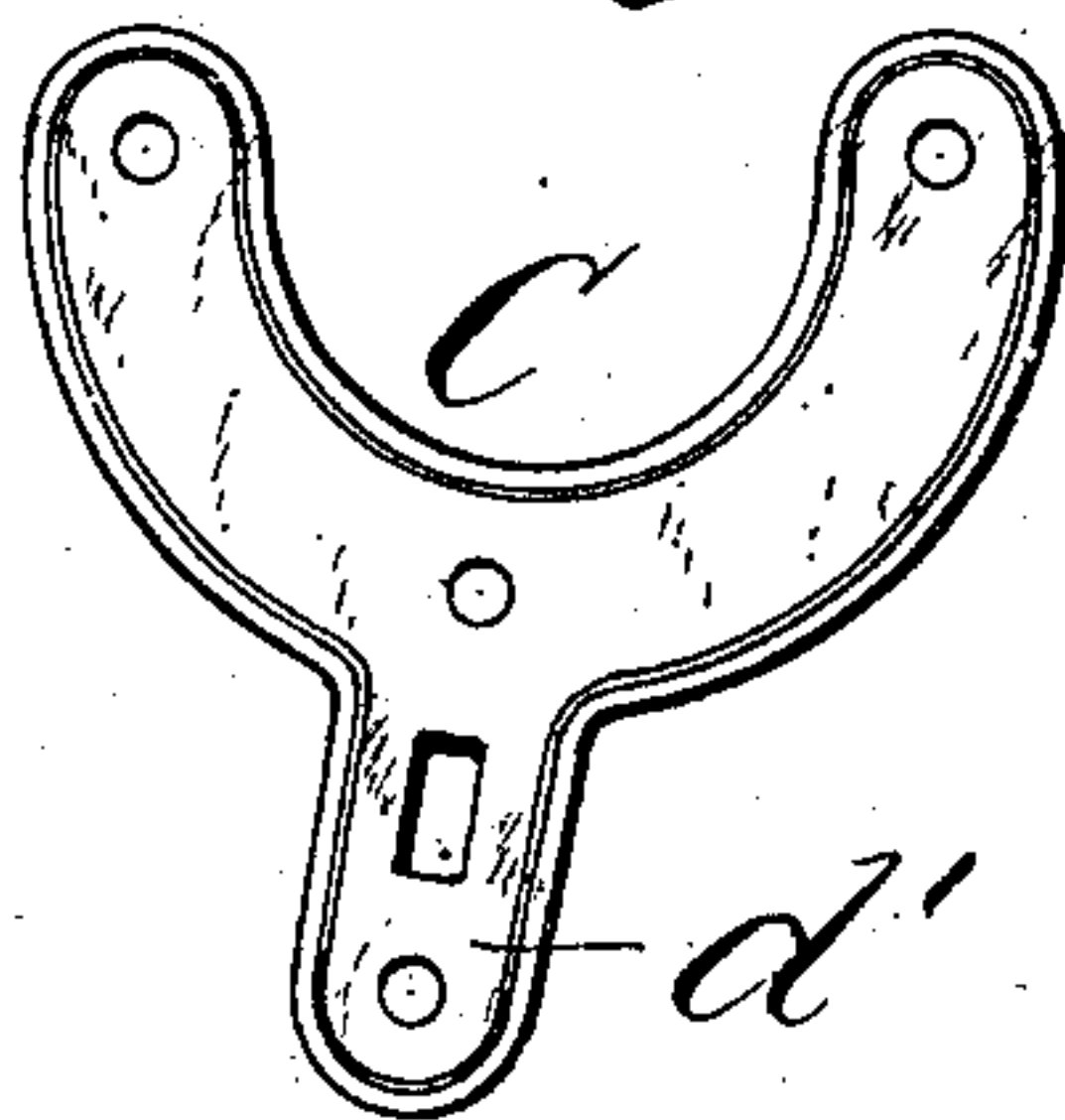


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR J. BRAUER AND ROBERT T. BRAUER, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

ANKLE-BRACE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 660,885, dated October 30, 1900.

Application filed June 9, 1900. Serial No. 19,693. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ARTHUR J. BRAUER and ROBERT T. BRAUER, citizens of the United States, residing at the city of St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Ankle-Braces, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, 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, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view illustrating our improved ankle-brace in position on the foot of a person. Fig. 2 is an elevational view of the brace as seen from the outside. Fig. 3 is a similar view as seen from the inside, and Fig. 4 is a detail view of a modified form of strap connection to the brace.

This invention relates to a new and useful improvement in ankle-braces designed to be worn by skaters for the purpose of stiffening the ankle, but at the same time permitting flexibility of the wearer's foot.

The brace as an entirety is designed to be made of leather or other flexible material, is light, cheap, and easily applied.

With these objects in view the invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts, all as will be hereinafter described and afterward pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, A indicates the body portion of the brace, which is preferably stamped from leather or other suitable material, said body portion being provided at its ends with eyelets *a* to cooperate with a lace by which the brace may be attached to the wearer's foot.

The sides of the brace are perforated, as at *a'*, to accommodate the protruding ankle-bones of the foot. These perforations are desirable in that the brace fits the foot more neatly and snugly and is thus prevented from undue movement, which might chafe the wearer's foot.

One side of the brace, which we will term the "inside," is formed with a tongue or extension *a''*, to which is riveted or secured by suitable means a strap B. This strap may be formed integral with the brace; but in order to save material in stamping out the

brace the strap is generally made of a separate piece.

C indicates a semicircular piece of material which is riveted or otherwise secured at its ends to the outer side of the brace and on each side of the perforations *a'*. This semicircular piece of material C carries a buckle D, said buckle being held in position by a separate piece *d*, riveted to the semicircular piece C, or said buckle may be held in place by a tongue *d'*, formed on the semicircular piece and folded back, where it is held by a rivet.

Strap B, as shown in Fig. 1, is designed to pass under the wearer's foot and be secured in the buckle D, the strap being drawn tight or let out to accommodate different sizes. In lacing the brace in position it may be drawn tight or snug, as desired by the wearer. By securing the buckle to a semicircular piece of material straddling the opening, said semicircular piece being secured at two or more places to the brace, the strain imparted through the buckle is distributed over the side of the brace, so that the pull of the strap will not unduly tighten the brace at any particular point.

We are aware that minor changes in the construction, arrangement, and combination of the several parts of our device may be made and substituted for those herein shown and described without in the least departing from the nature and principle of our invention.

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

1. The herein-described brace comprising a flexible body portion designed to embrace the ankle, a strap for connecting the ends of the body portion, and means for drawing the contiguous ends of the brace in position, said brace being formed with circular perforations or openings opposite the protruding bones of the ankle, substantially as described.

2. The herein-described ankle-brace comprising a flexible body portion made in one piece and designed to embrace the ankle, a strap, means for drawing the contiguous ends of the body portion around the ankle of the wearer, said body portion being provided with circular openings to accommodate the pro-

truding ankle-bones, a buckle for the strap, and a support for said buckle which is attached to the body portion on each side of one of the openings for one of the protruding ankle-bones, for distributing the pull of the strap, substantially as described.

3. The herein-described ankle-brace comprising a flexible body portion made in one piece for embracing the ankle, means for drawing the contiguous ends of said body portion around the ankle of the wearer, and a strap connected to the lower edges of said body portion near its ends, substantially as described.

4. The herein-described ankle-brace comprising a body portion provided with circular openings to accommodate protruding ankle-

bones said body portion embracing the ankle, a semicircular strip secured at its ends on each side of one of said openings, a buckle carried by said semicircular strip, a strap carried by the opposite end of the body portion for cooperating with said buckle, and means for securing the contiguous ends of said body portion in position on the wearer's foot, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof we hereunto affix our signatures, in the presence of two witnesses, this 6th day of June, 1900.

ARTHUR J. BRAUER.

ROBERT T. BRAUER.

Witnesses:

WM. H. SCOTT,

A. S. GRAY.