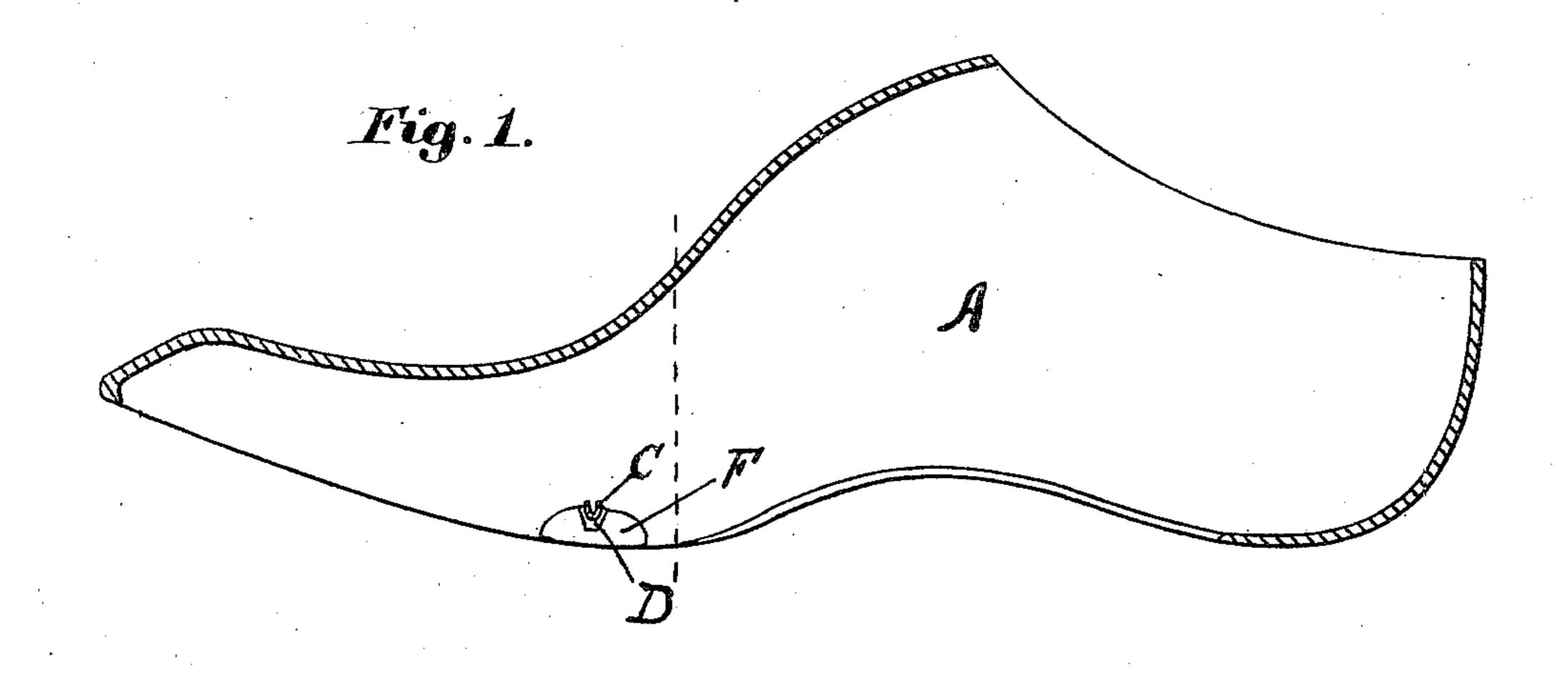
No. 682,225.

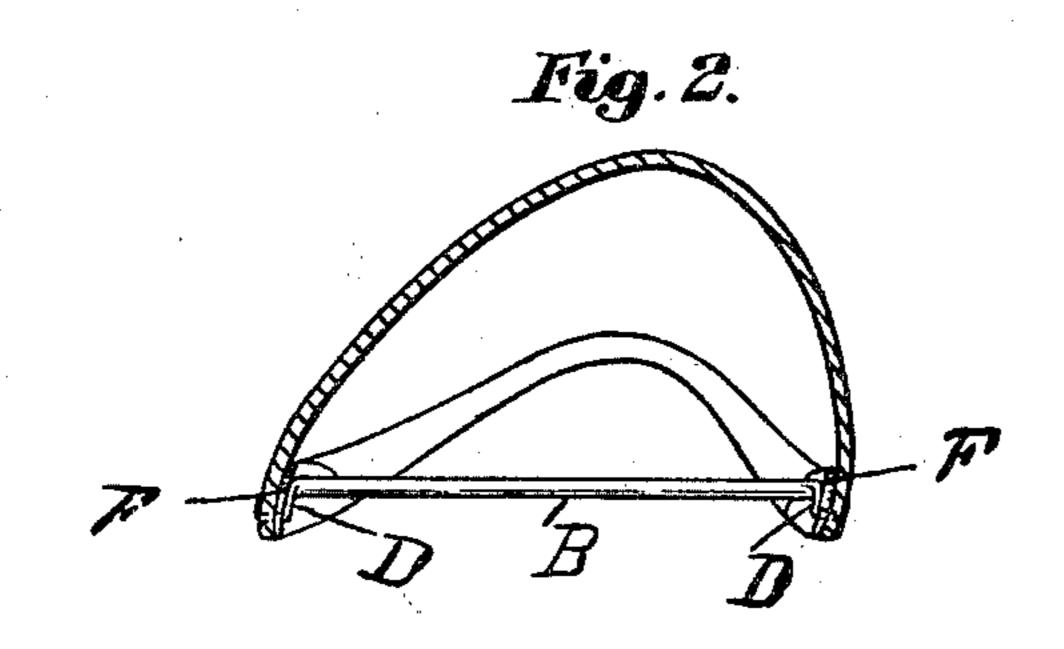
Patented Sept. 10, 1901.

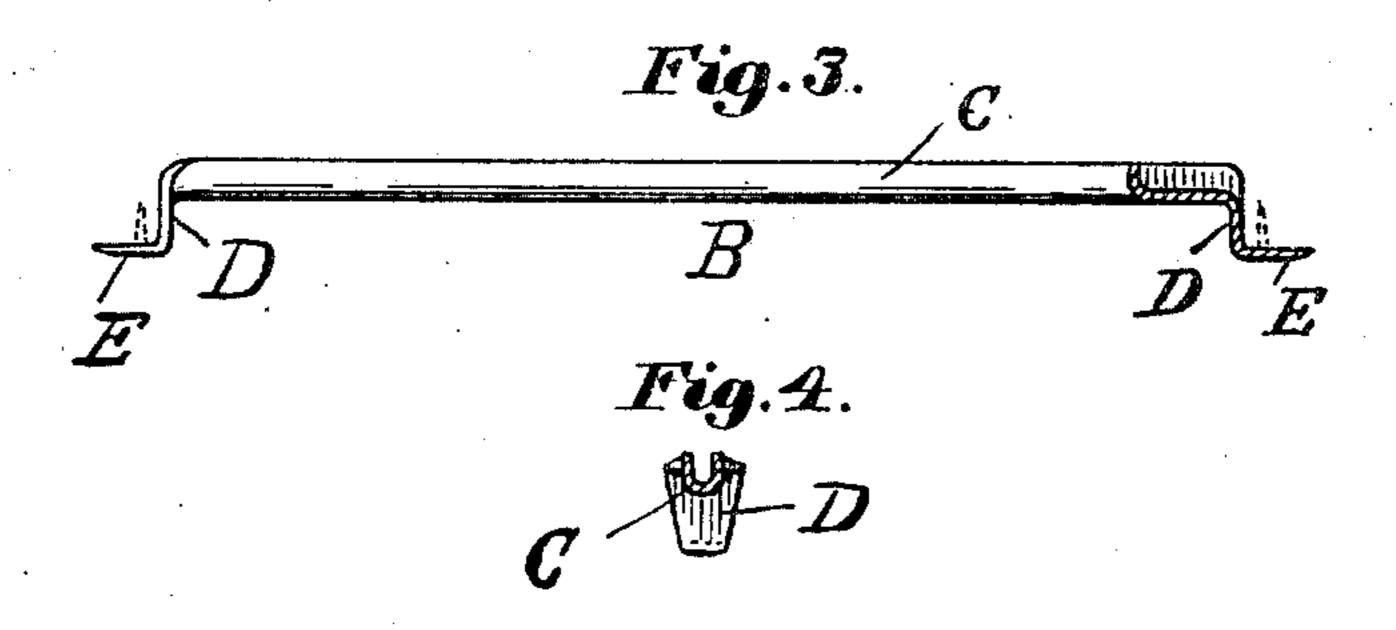
## W. L. C. NILES. SHOE FORM.

(Application filed Dec. 13, 1900.)

(No Model.)







WITNESSES

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## United States Patent Office.

WALTER L. C. NILES, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## SHOE-FORM.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 682,225, dated September 10, 1901.

Application filed December 13, 1900. Serial No. 39,725. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER L. C. NILES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachu-5 setts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Forms; and I do hereby 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 ap-10 pertains to make and use the same.

The present invention relates to lasts and forms for boots and shoes, and more particularly to improvements in lasts and forms used as followers in factories and as fillers for dis-15 playing sample shoes, and which are generally made hollow, of some vulcanized or indurated fiber. Such a hollow form is shown in Letters Patent of the United States No. 594,551, granted to me and dated the 30th 20 day of November, 1897. The form of this patent embodies a brace extending from side to side at the ball portion, designed to support the sides of the form to prevent lateral com-

pression. This brace consists of a bar with 25 pointed ends, which is supported at its ends in end rests or seats, in which the pointed ends of the brace fit. Some difficulty has been encountered in the use of the form with the brace so constructed, as it sometimes hap-30 pens that it becomes displaced and falls out of its seats or rests. Moreover, such brace was made of wood and would often get broken.

The object of the present invention is to provide a strong yet light brace—one that is 35 not easily broken, that cannot become displaced, and which will afford a more effective support for the sides of the form.

To the above ends the present invention consists of the improved form which will now

40 be described and claimed.

The present invention is shown in the ac-

companying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a longitudinal vertical sectional view of a form embodying the same. 45 Fig. 2 shows a transverse section taken on the dotted line, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the improved brace removed from the form and partially in section at one end. Fig. 4 shows a transverse section through the brace.

Similar letters of reference will be employed to designate corresponding parts.

In the drawings, A is the hollow bottomless form, made of vulcanized or indurated fiber, substantially like the form of the patent hereinbefore referred to, and B is the lateral brace, 55 connected to the sides of the form near the bottom and extending laterally across the ball portion. The brace B is made of metal, and comprises the bar C, which at each end is bent substantially at right angles, forming 60 the pressure-sustaining shoulders D, from which extend outwardly at right angles the pointed clenching-prongs E. The brace is fastened to the sides of the form by means of the clenching-prongs, which effectually pre- 65 vent its displacement, and the shoulders D, resting against the inner face of the sides, provide a firm support and prevent lateral compression. For lightness and strength the brace is formed of sheet metal, the bar por- 70 tion C being bent into U shape in section, from the ends of which depend the broad shoulders D, as clearly shown in Fig. 4. I prefer to secure to the inner face of the sides reinforcing-pieces F, through which the at- 75 taching - prongs are passed and which strengthen the sides of the form.

My improved brace is light and strong and

can be cheaply made and inserted.

Having described my invention, I claim as 80 new and desire to protect by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. A hollow form provided with a brace, consisting of a bar provided at each end with angularly-disposed bearing-shoulders and 85 clenching-points, clenched in the sides of the

form, substantially as described.

2. A hollow form provided with a brace, consisting of a bar substantially U-shaped in cross-section and having at each end down- 90 wardly-turned broad bearing-shoulders, and clenching-points projecting from the shoulders cleuched in the sides of the form, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature 95

in presence of two witnesses.

WALTER L. C. NILES.

Witnesses:

R. B. IRESAN,

T. HART ANDERSON.