

No. 726,201.

PATENTED APR. 21, 1903.

C. G. STROMBECK.
SHOE CLEANER.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 2, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

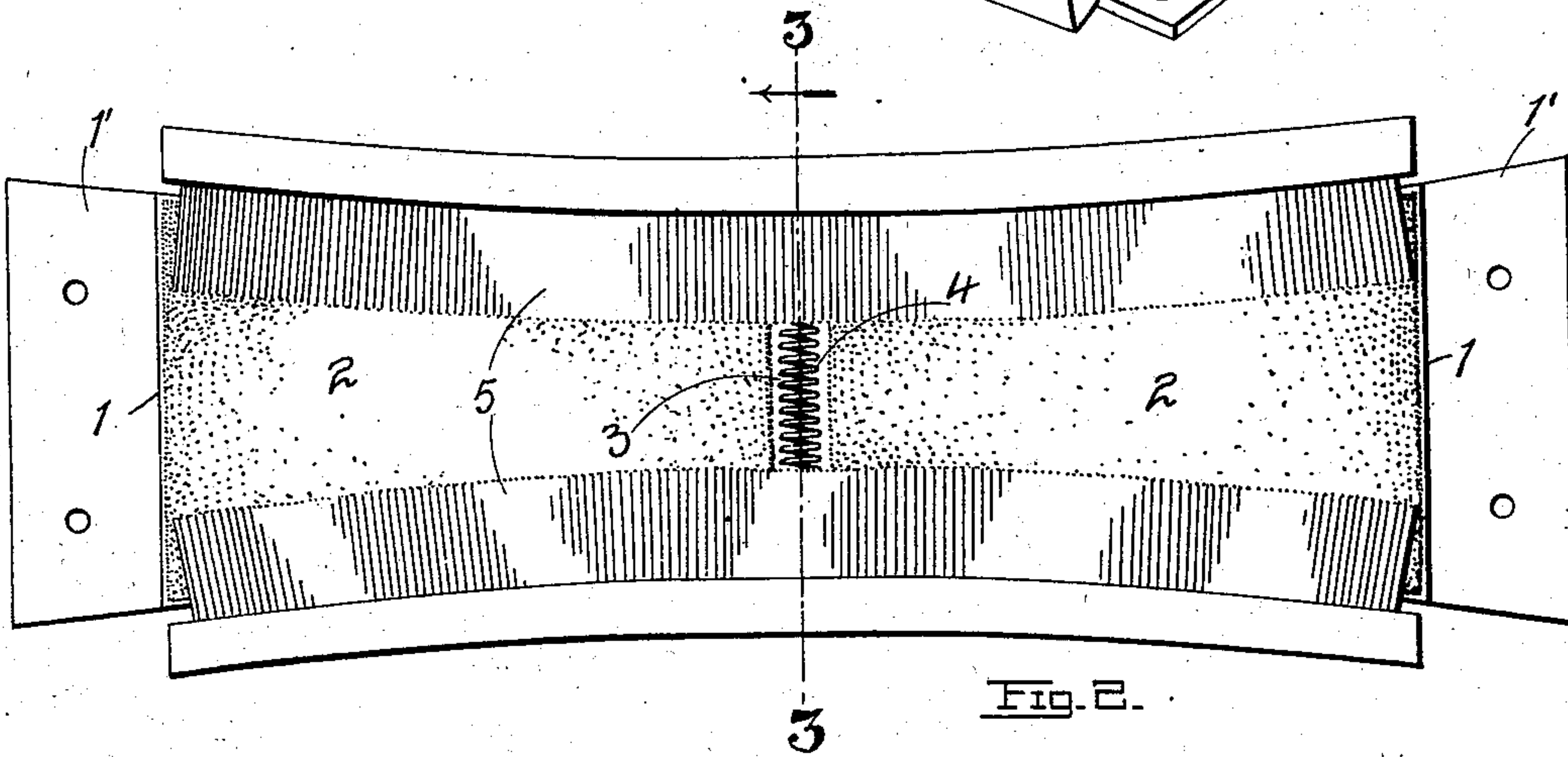
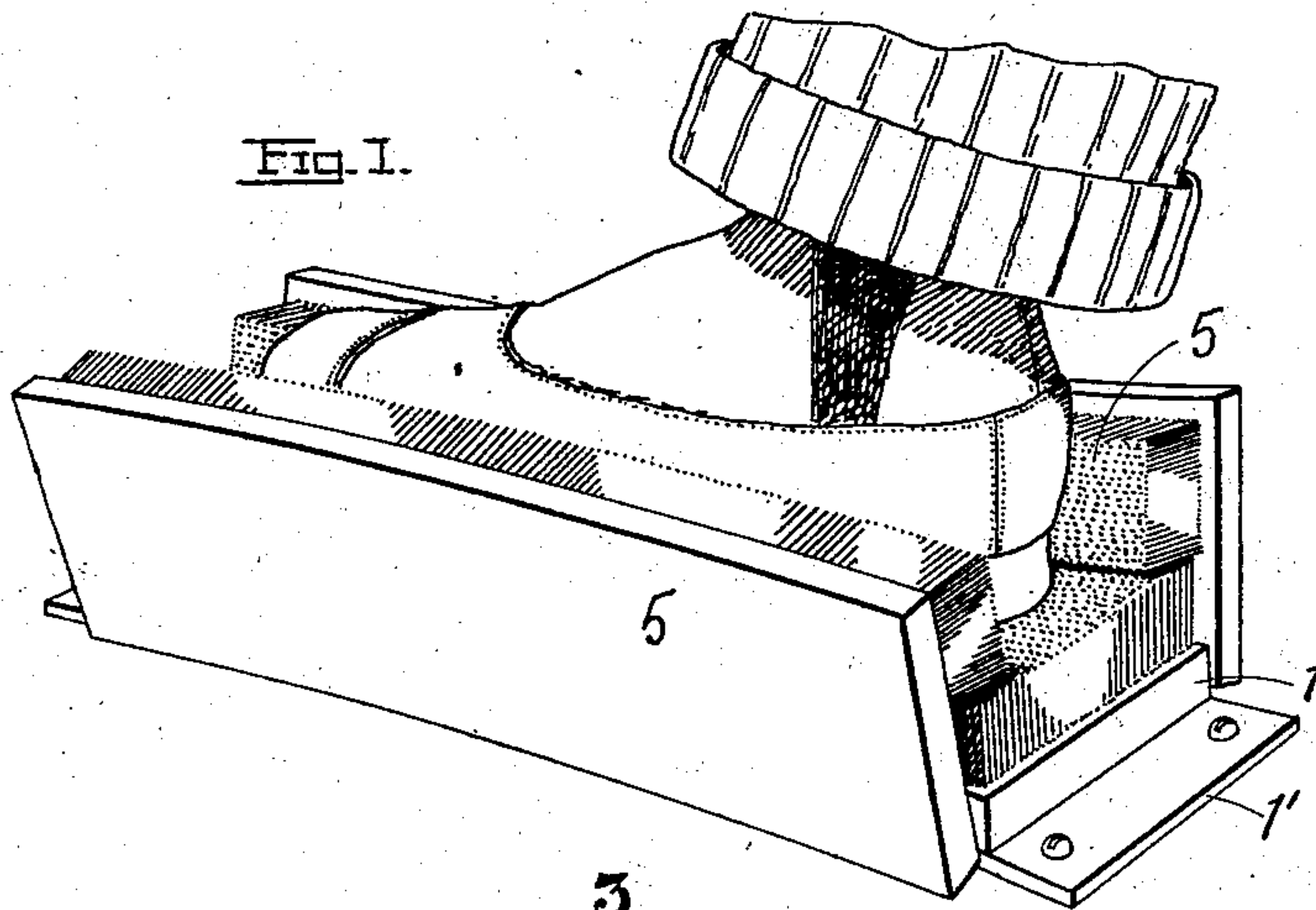


Fig. 2.

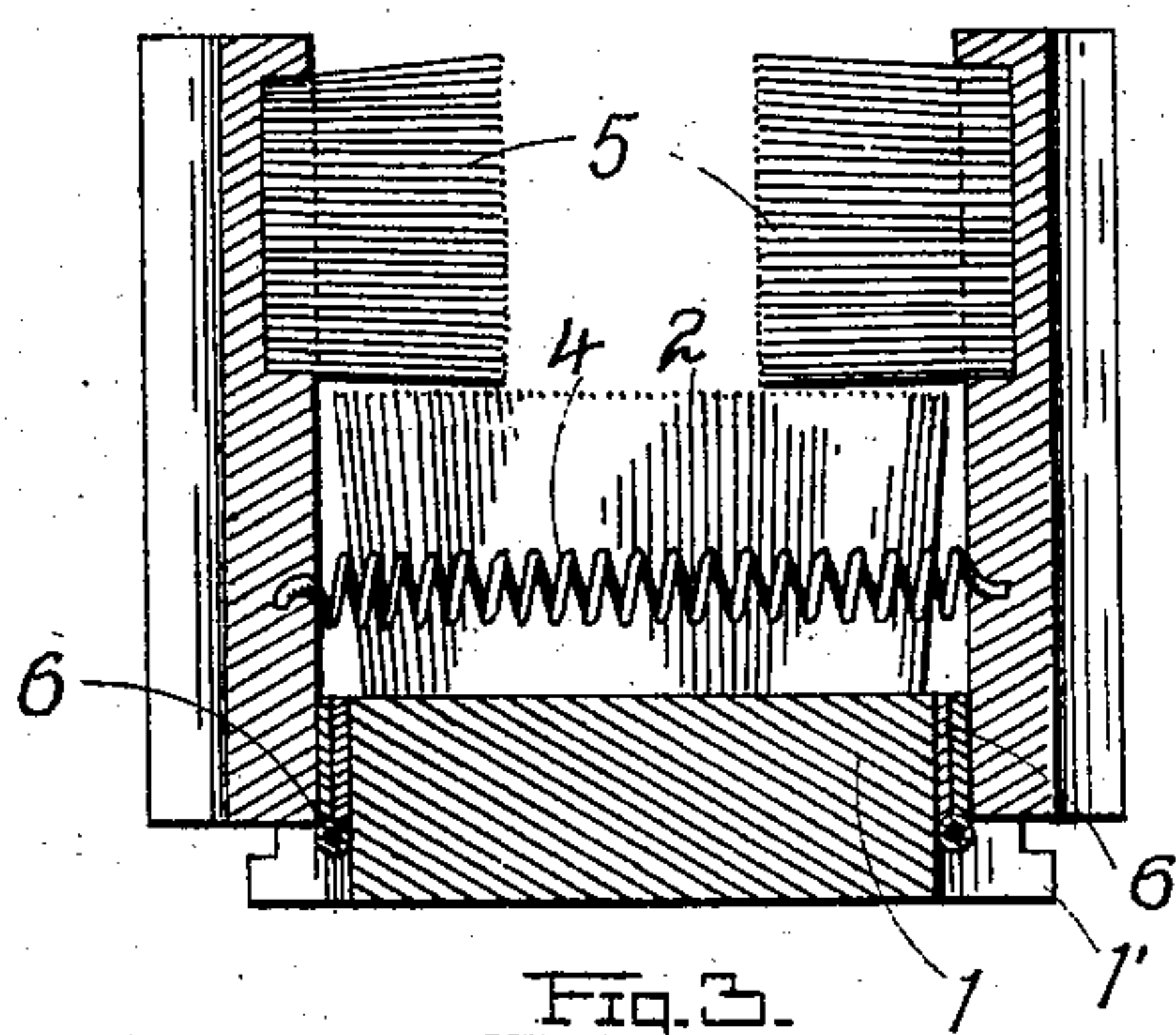


Fig. 3.

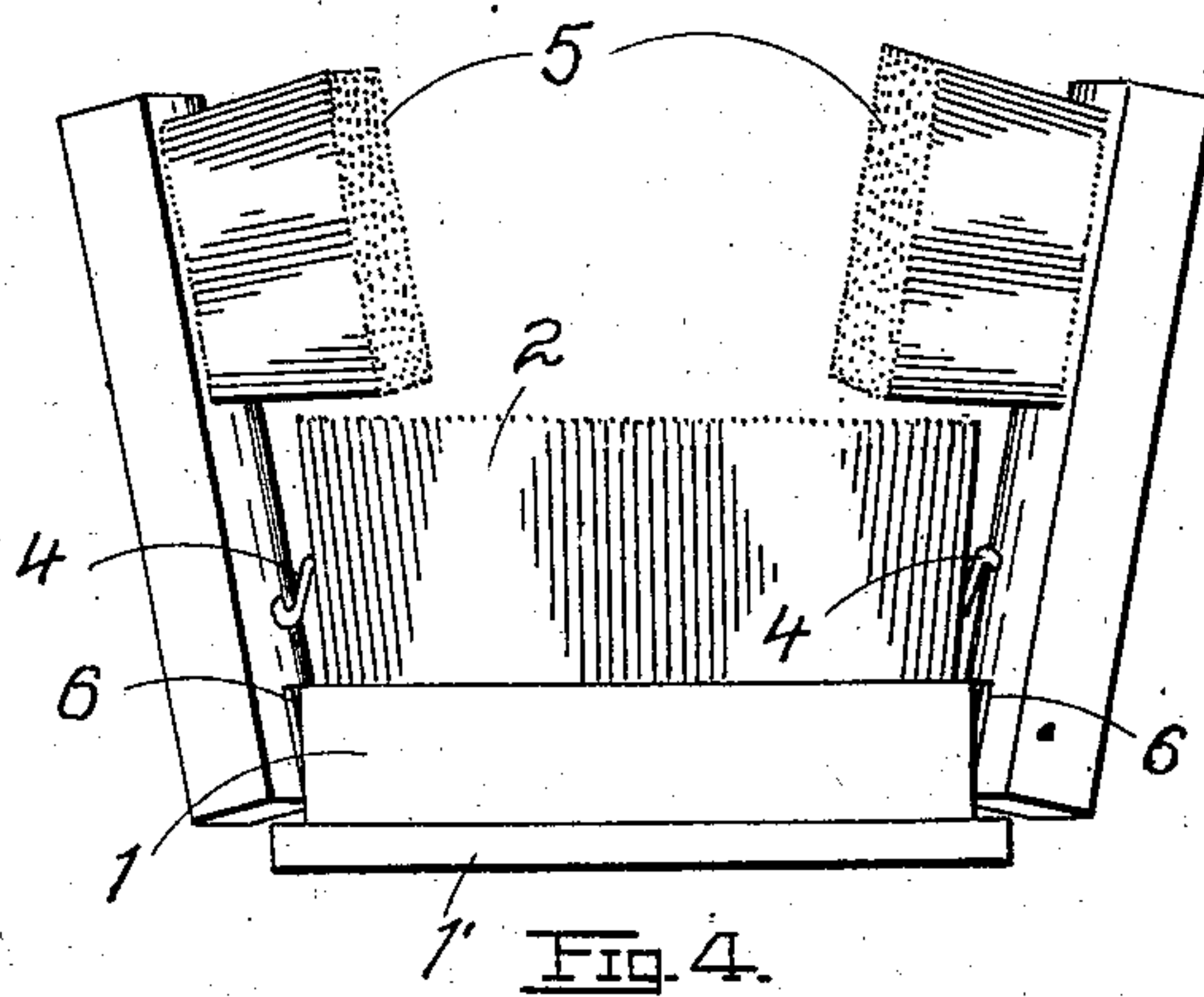


Fig. 4.

Witnesses
Thos. J. Nawn
G. L. Budy

Inventor
Charles G. Strombeck
By His Attorney
Ernie S. Searcy

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES G. STROMBECK, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

SHOE-CLEANER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 726,201, dated April 21, 1903.

Application filed February 2, 1903. Serial No. 141,560. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES G. STROMBECK, a citizen of the United States, residing at St. Louis, State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Cleaners, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

My invention has relation to improvements in shoe-cleaners; and it consists in the novel arrangement and combination of parts more fully set forth in the specification, and pointed out in the claim.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the application of my invention. Fig. 2 is a top plan thereof. Fig. 3 is a transverse section on line 3 3 of Fig. 2; and Fig. 4 is an end view showing the sides, however, slightly tilted outwardly.

The object of my invention is to construct a shoe-cleaner which will simultaneously remove the dirt from the sides as well as the bottom of the shoe or boot, one containing a minimum number of parts, one which is simple and durable, and one possessing further and other advantages better apparent from a detailed description thereof, which is as follows:

Referring to the drawings, 1 represents a suitable base-plate having extensions 1', adapted to be secured to the floor. The top of said plate is provided with brushes 2 2, separated by a space 3, said space accommodating a transversely-disposed coiled spring 4, whose opposite ends are secured near the bases of the lateral hinged brushes 5 5, said brushes 5 5 being secured to the sides of the plate 1 by hinges 6. The brushes 5 5 are convex inwardly, flaring outward at either end, so as to gradually guide and admit the shoe between them, Fig. 1, the cleaning operation beginning the moment the shoe is inserted, the said side brushes spreading or opening outward, Fig. 4, according to the width of the shoe inserted between them.

It will be seen that I employ a single spring, and this is not only protected against damage by being depressed below the plane of the upper surfaces of the brushes 2 2, but connecting, as it does, both of the side brushes any change of tension in the spring will affect both brushes simultaneously, and the pressure of the latter against the shoe will be the same on both sides of the shoe. This is impossible in constructions where the lateral hinged brush is controlled each by an independent spring, as it seldom happens that the tension of the two springs would be the same.

Reference to Figs. 1, 3, 4 shows that the bristles of the brushes 5 5, though overlapping, yet clear those of the brushes 2 2 in their oscillations, so that the efficacy of the brushes 2 2 is not in any wise impaired and any dirt that may lodge in the space between them can be readily removed.

It is to be understood, of course, that I do not wish to limit myself to the precise details here shown and described, as these may in a measure be departed from without affecting the nature or spirit of my invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

A shoe-cleaner comprising a base-plate, two brush-sections disposed along the top thereof, lateral brushes flaring outwardly at their ends hinged along the sides of the base-plate, a spring confined in the space between the brush-sections of the base-plate and depressed below the plane of their upper surfaces, the opposite ends of the spring being coupled to the hinged brushes, the bristles of the latter overlapping the upper surfaces of the brush-sections, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES G. STROMBECK.

Witnesses:

EMIL STAREK,
G. L. BELFRY.