

No. 770,822.

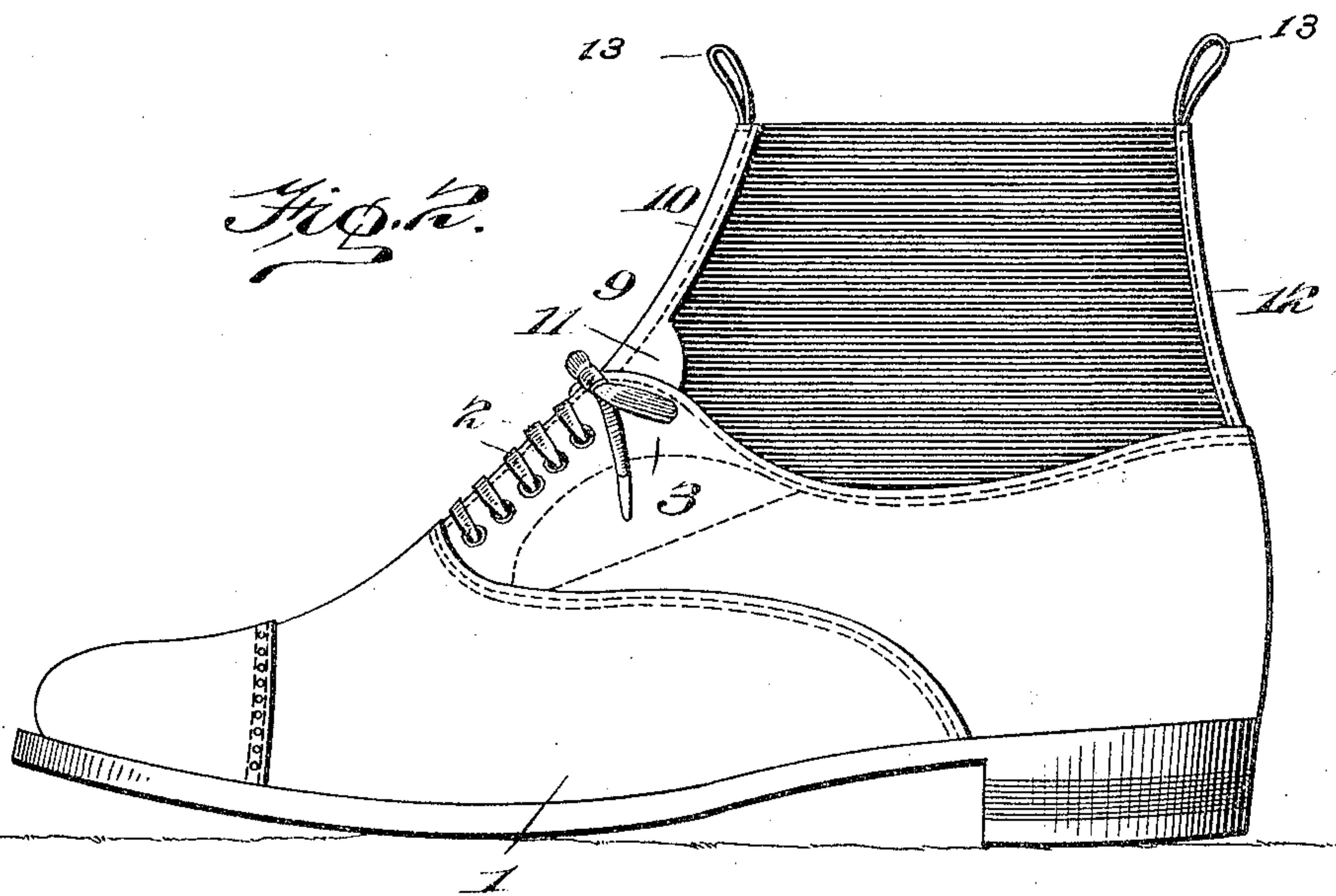
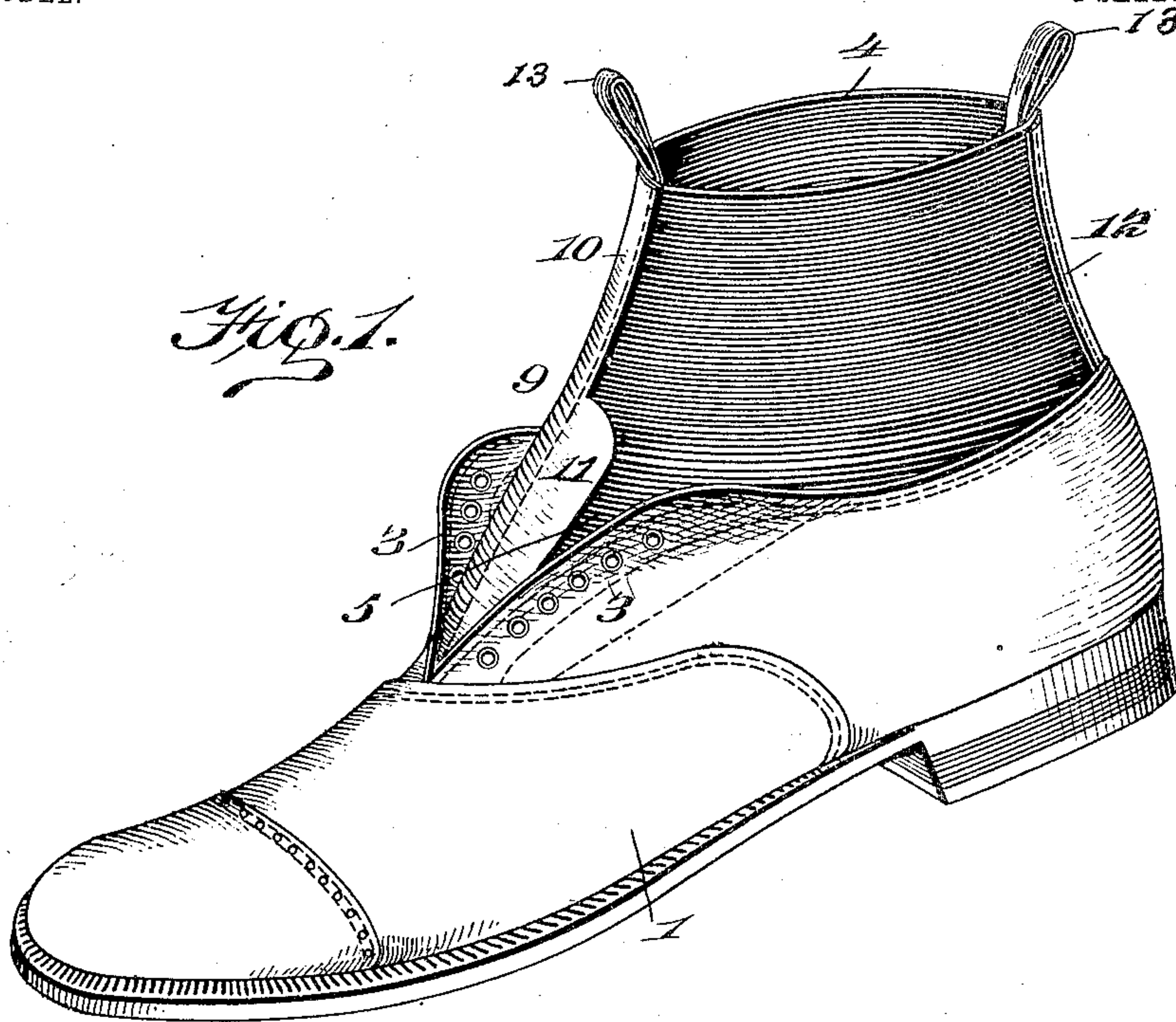
PATENTED SEPT. 27, 1904.

H. F. ROONEY.
SHOE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1903.

NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



Witnesses

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No. 770,822.

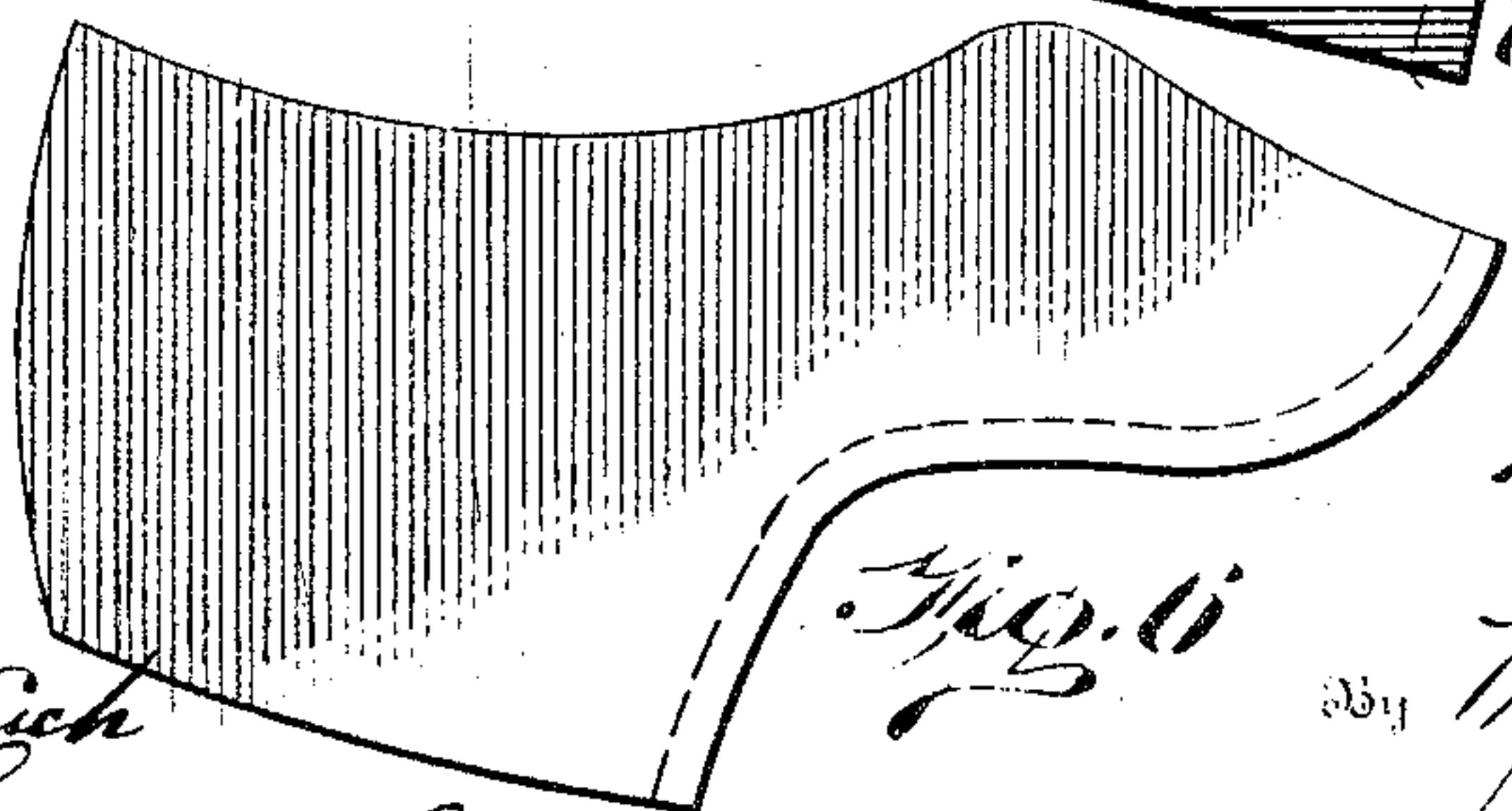
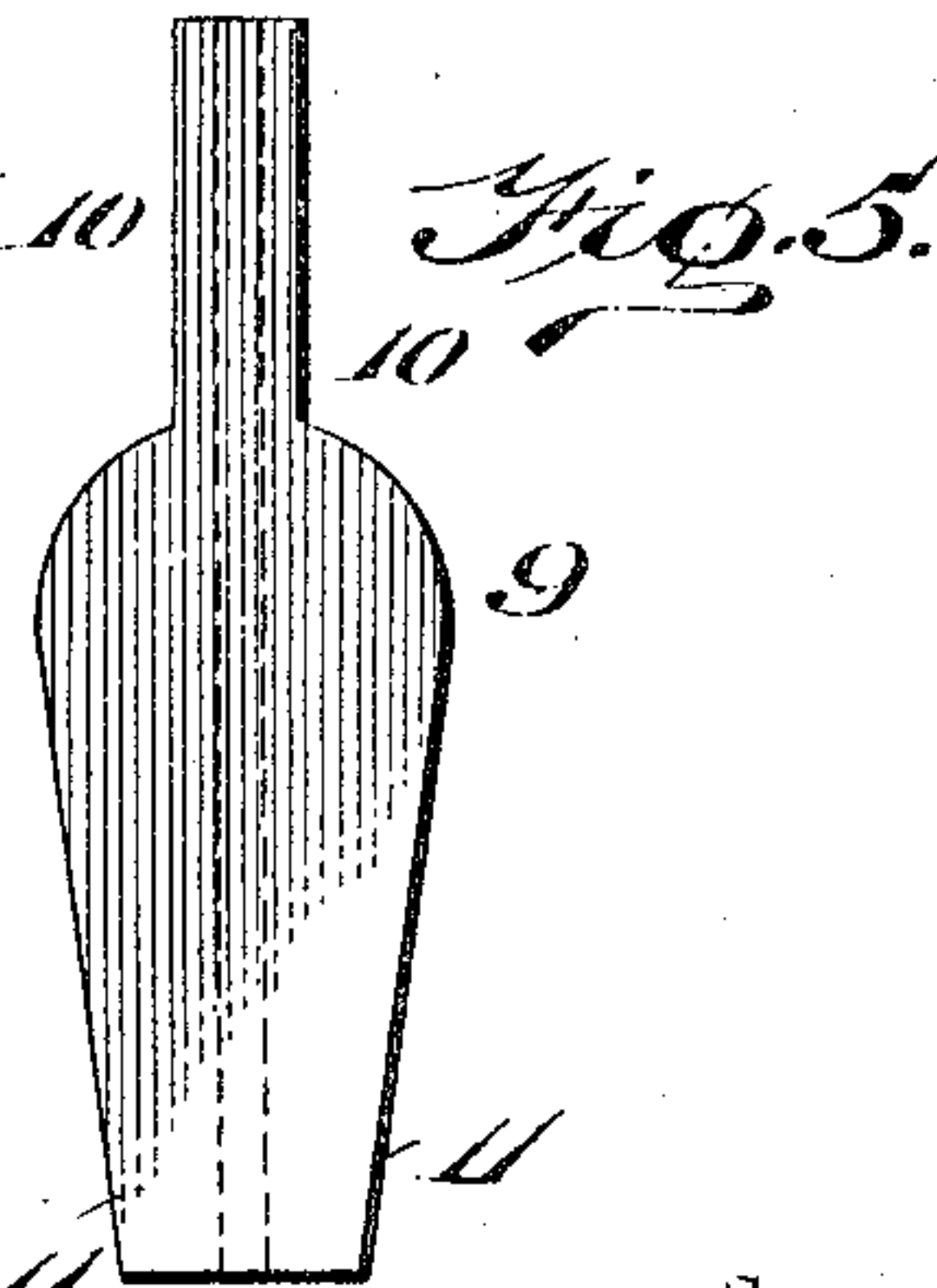
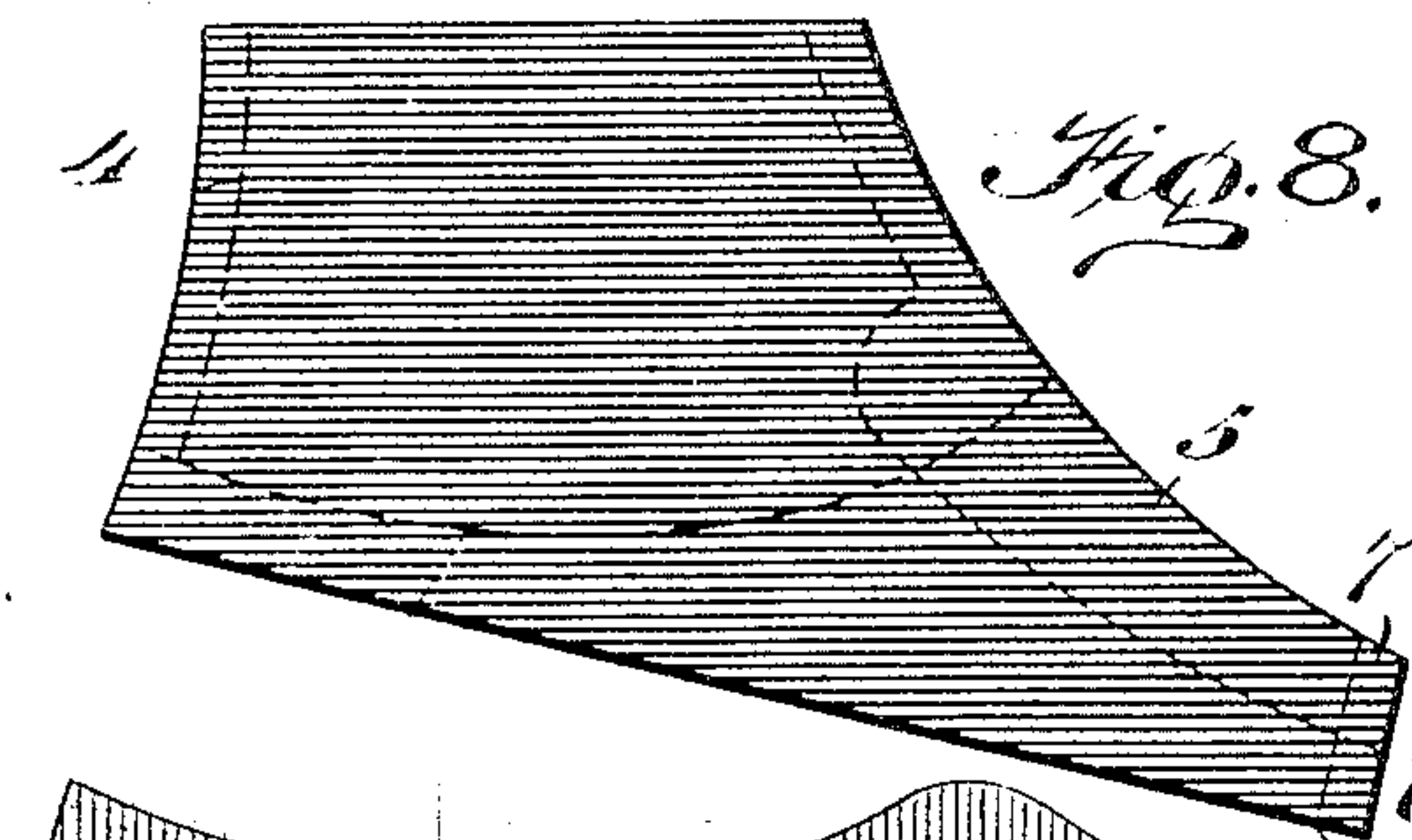
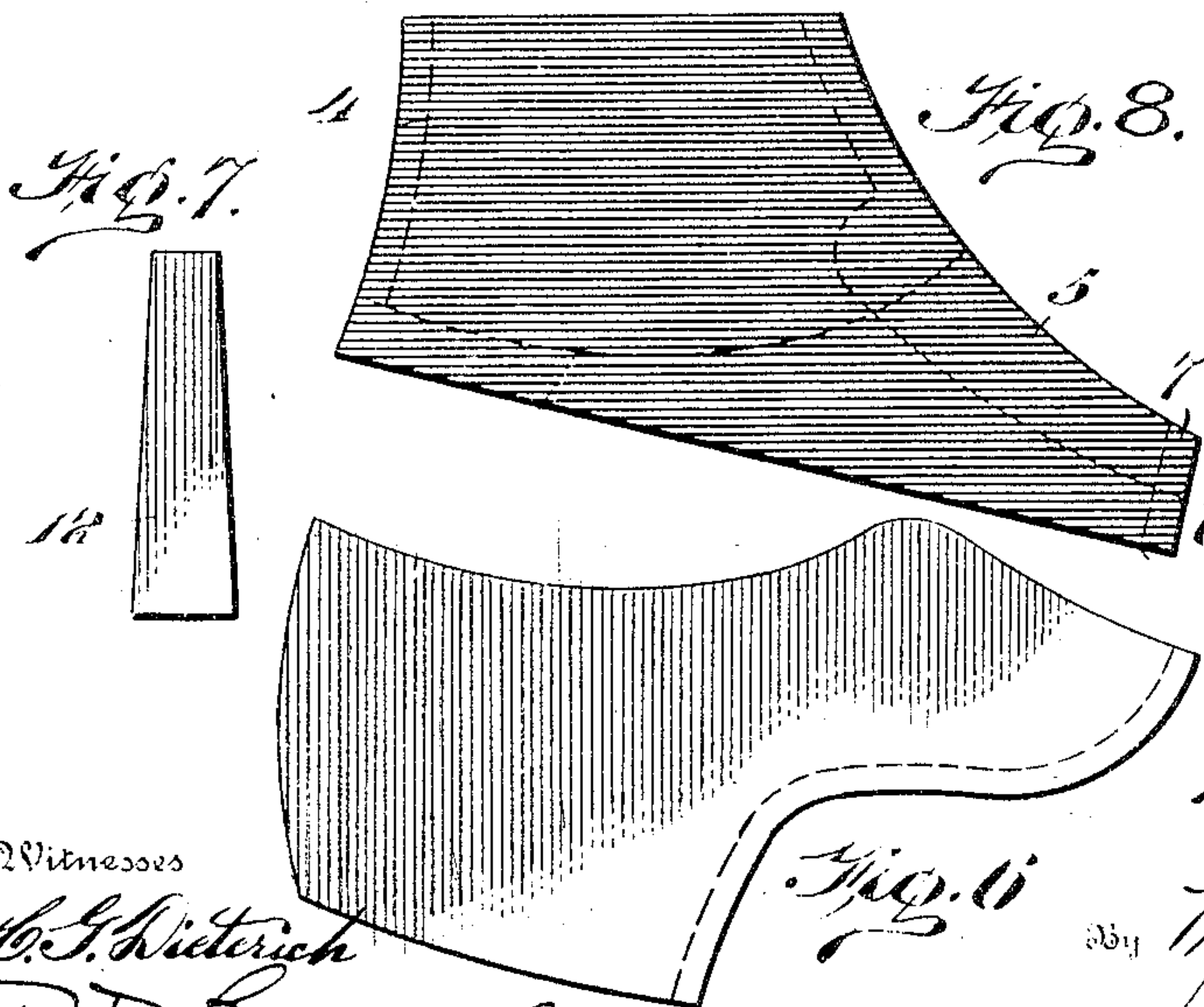
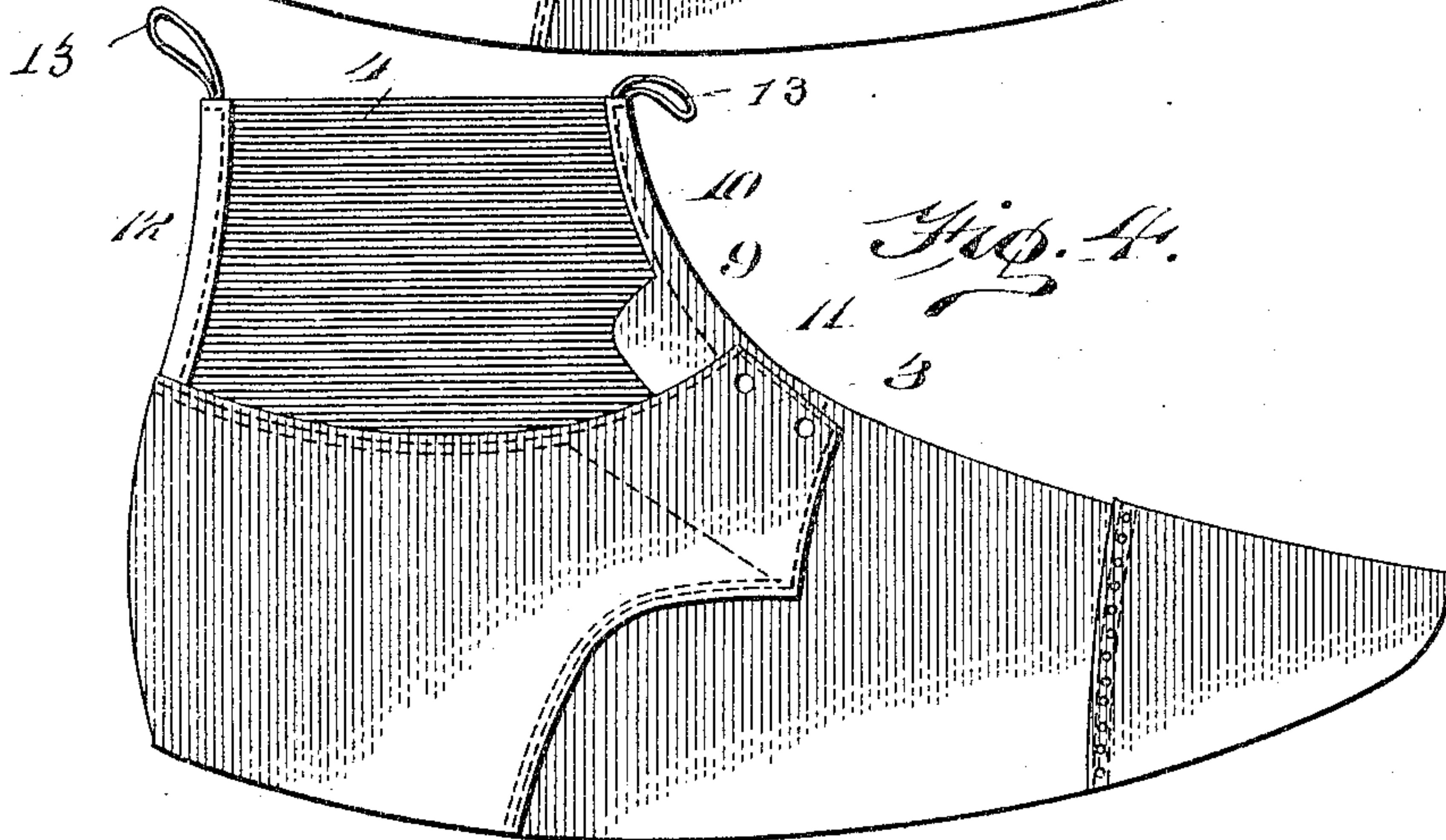
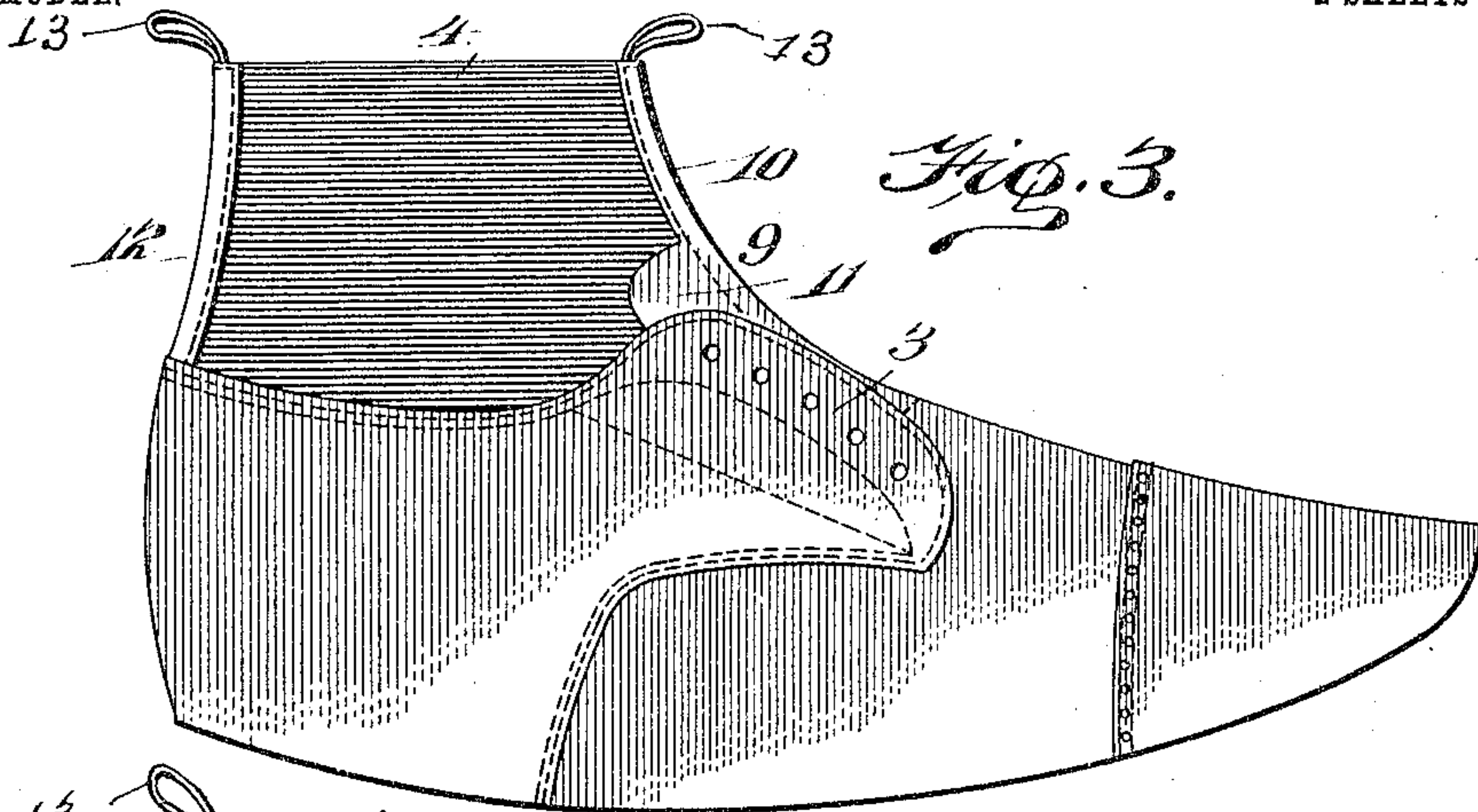
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NO MODEL.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY F. ROONEY, OF RANDOLPH, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 770,822, dated September 27, 1904.

Application filed January 17, 1903. Serial No. 139,478. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY F. ROONEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Randolph, in the county of Norfolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoes; 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-

My invention has application to certain new and useful improvements in shoes.

In carrying out my improvements I have in contemplation the provision of a shoe which shall present when on the foot of the wearer the appearance of being of a type commonly known as a "low-cut" shoe, while at the same time a permanently-closed elastic ankle portion is provided.

It is also the intention of the present invention to provide an instep for a shoe of this character which shall be located below the permanently-closed ankle portion and which is capable of being adjusted by means of a longitudinal opening having eyelets for receiving a lacing-cord.

A further object of the invention is to provide a tongue-piece which shall be fastened to the shoe at a point below the lacing-eyelets and shall be attached to and extend upwardly from such point to the top of the permanently-closed ankle portion.

With these and other objects of a like nature in view the invention consists in the peculiar construction, combination, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described in the specification, illustrated in the appended drawings, and set forth in the annexed claims.

While I have herein shown my improvements applied to shoes of a specific type or form, of course it is obvious and will be understood that I do not wish to confine myself to the particular details of construction and combination of parts as herein set forth, as the same may be more or less materially modified without departing from the scope or spirit of the invention or sacrificing any of the advantages thereof.

In order to fully comprehend the merits of

my invention, reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe of the type commonly known as "Congress Oxfords," embodying my improvements, the lacing-cord being removed therefrom and the lacing-flaps thrown back, illustrating the use of the tongue portion. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a shoe laced and presenting the appearance it would have on the wearer. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of a shoe-upper, embodying my improvements and showing the same applied to a shoe of the "Congress Blucher" type. Fig. 4 is a similar view showing my improvements applied to a shoe of the "Congress French" type. Figs. 5, 6, and 7 are detail views of parts of the shoe without being assembled; and Fig. 8 shows the form of my improved elastic upper portion.

Referring now to the drawings in detail, and in particular to Fig. 1 thereof, the numeral 1 indicates a shoe of the type commonly known as a "low-quarter" shoe. The upper portion thereof—that is, the flaps 3, which are provided with eyelets for a lacing-cord 2—are in this case thrown back to illustrate the construction of my improvements as applied to this shoe. As hereinbefore stated, an essential feature of the invention is the permanently-closed elastic ankle portion, (hereinafter designated by 4,) such ankle portion being adapted by reason of its elastic nature to encircle the ankle of the wearer and fit closely thereto, but at all times permitting ease and comfort in walking or running. This elastic portion 4 extends downwardly below the upper edge of the shoe proper and for practical purposes is preferably cut as shown in Fig. 8, which when assembled in its proper position in the manufacture of the shoe extends from the instep of the shoe rearwardly and upwardly and is secured in this position to the front stay and the vamp by lines of stitching, as shown at 5, 6, and 7 in Fig. 8, the stitching of course penetrating and binding the low-cut shoe permanently with the elastic portion. To further give my improved shoe the appearance of being a low-cut shoe on the foot of the wearer, I provide a stay having the appearance of a tongue 9, of substantially the

shape shown in Fig. 5, and this tongue portion is secured in the front opening of the edge by suitable means, such as stitching, and extending upwardly is sewed or fastened to the permanently-closed elastic ankle portion by means of lines of stitching 10 10, the flap portions 11 11 of the tongue-stay being of course not fastened to the shoe by any other means than the aforesaid lines of stitching 10 10.

10 A suitable back stay of any preferred material, such as leather, may be secured at the back of the shoe to the upper elastic portion by stitching. This back stay 12 I have shown in detail in Fig. 7.

15 It will be apparent that the front and back stays extend to or nearly to the top of the elastic portion, at which point the loops 13 are connected with said elastic portion by means of the stitches which secure said front and back stays in position, the said stays extending down to the leather vamp and having connected to or formed integral with them the usual loop for drawing on the shoe. They thereby effectually guard against destruction
25 of said elastic portion by the strain incident to pulling on the shoe.

The many advantages of a shoe constructed in accordance with my improvements are too obvious to need prolonged description. By
30 my structure it will be seen that I have provided a shoe which when in use on the foot of the wearer shall present the appearance of being a low-cut shoe and at the same time will combine the advantages incident to the type of shoe commonly known as "gaiter-shoe." The permanently-closed elastic ankle portion and adjustable instep portion will permit freedom and ease of movement either in walking or running, as the elastic top extending down from the instep will give a
40 spring to the foot and at the same time insure that the shoe shall at all times fit snugly upon the foot of the wearer, and the leather

flaps coming over the instep retain the appearance of a low-cut shoe. It will also be
45 evident that any style or type of lacing may be used, such as elastic lacing, to further assist and retain this adjustable feature, and when putting on or taking the shoe off of the foot it is unnecessary to tie or untie the lacing.
50 Indeed, if desired, a permanent lacing may be inserted in the shoe.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—
55

1. In a shoe, a bottom portion of non-elastic material provided with flaps at the instep portion thereof, a continuous, closed, elastic ankle portion connected with said bottom portion and continued down over the instep of the
60 wearer, stays connected with said bottom portion at the front and rear of said shoe, and by longitudinal stitches to said elastic portion, said stays serving as reinforcing members for said elastic portion in pulling on the shoe, and
65 connected loops at the upper end of said stays.

2. In a shoe, a non-elastic portion, in combination with a closed elastic ankle portion extending downwardly, and secured thereto below the instep of the shoe, and providing a
70 continuous elastic covering over the instep of the wearer, instep-flaps integral with said non-elastic portion, a front stay and a rear stay connected with said non-elastic portion at one end, and by longitudinal stitches to
75 said elastic portion, said stays comprising reinforcing means for said elastic portion in pulling on the shoe, and said front stay having flaps resembling a tongue, and loops at the upper ends of said stays.
80

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

HENRY F. ROONEY.

Witnesses:

DANIEL LEAHY,
JOHN A. HOYE.