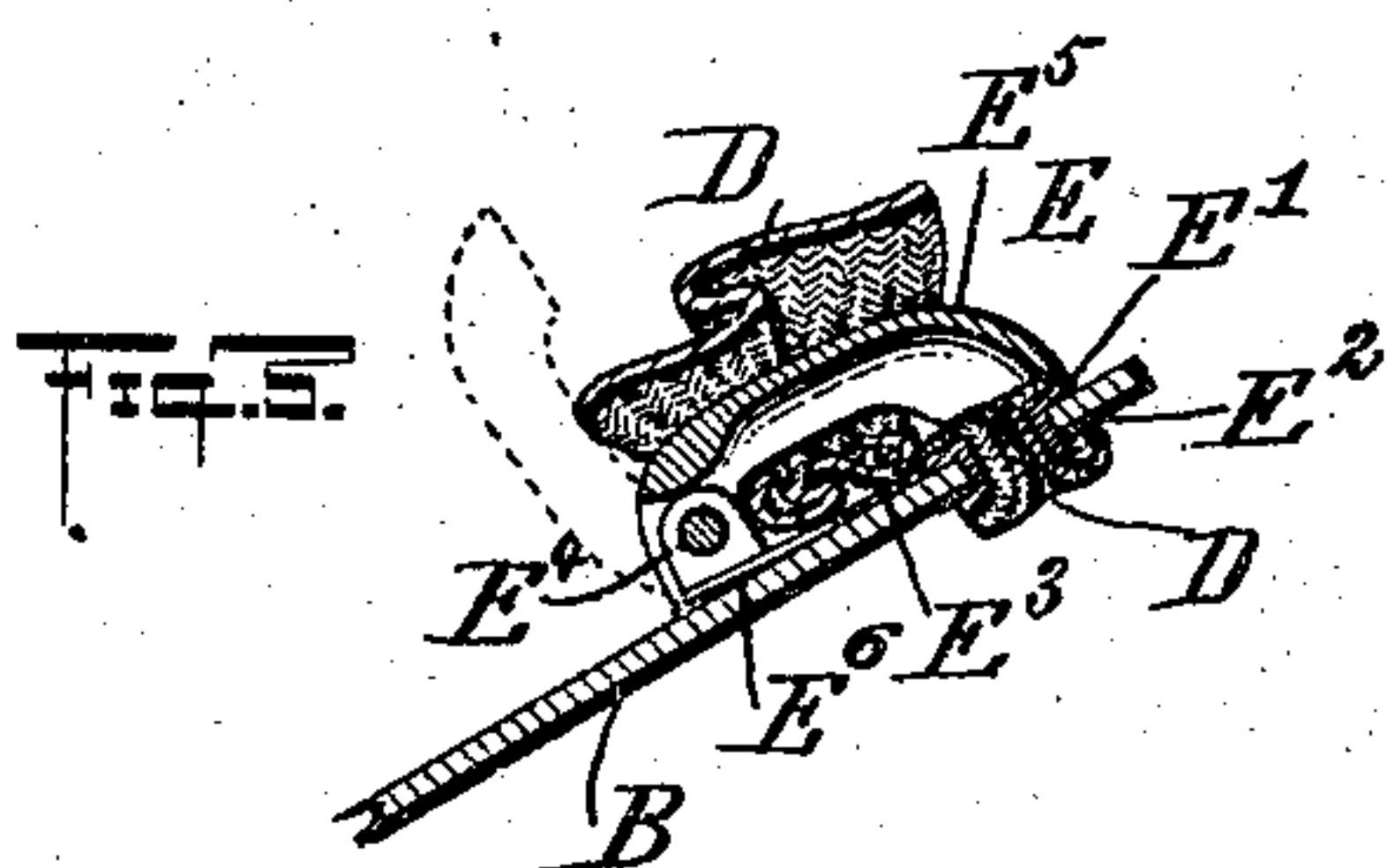
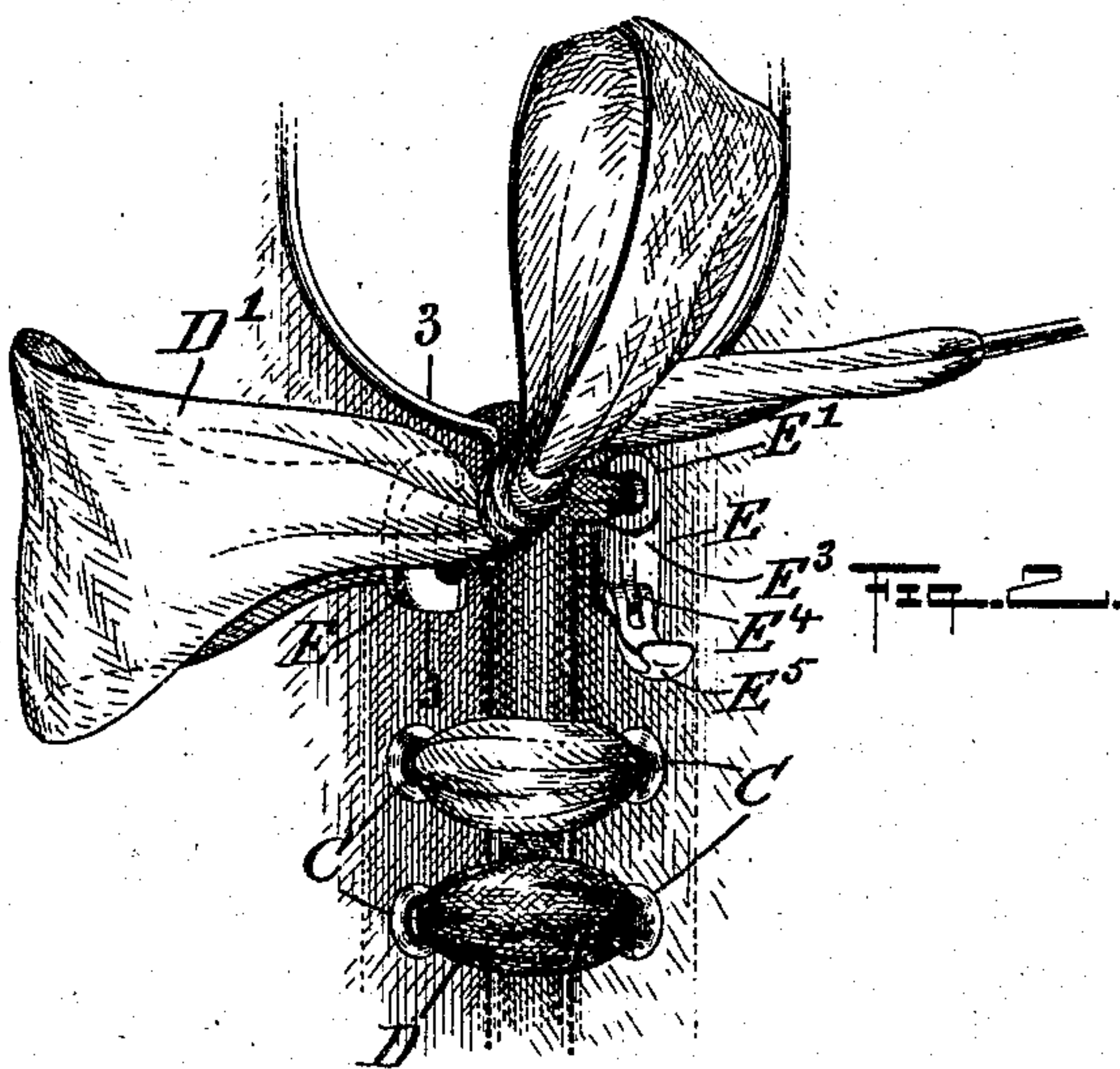
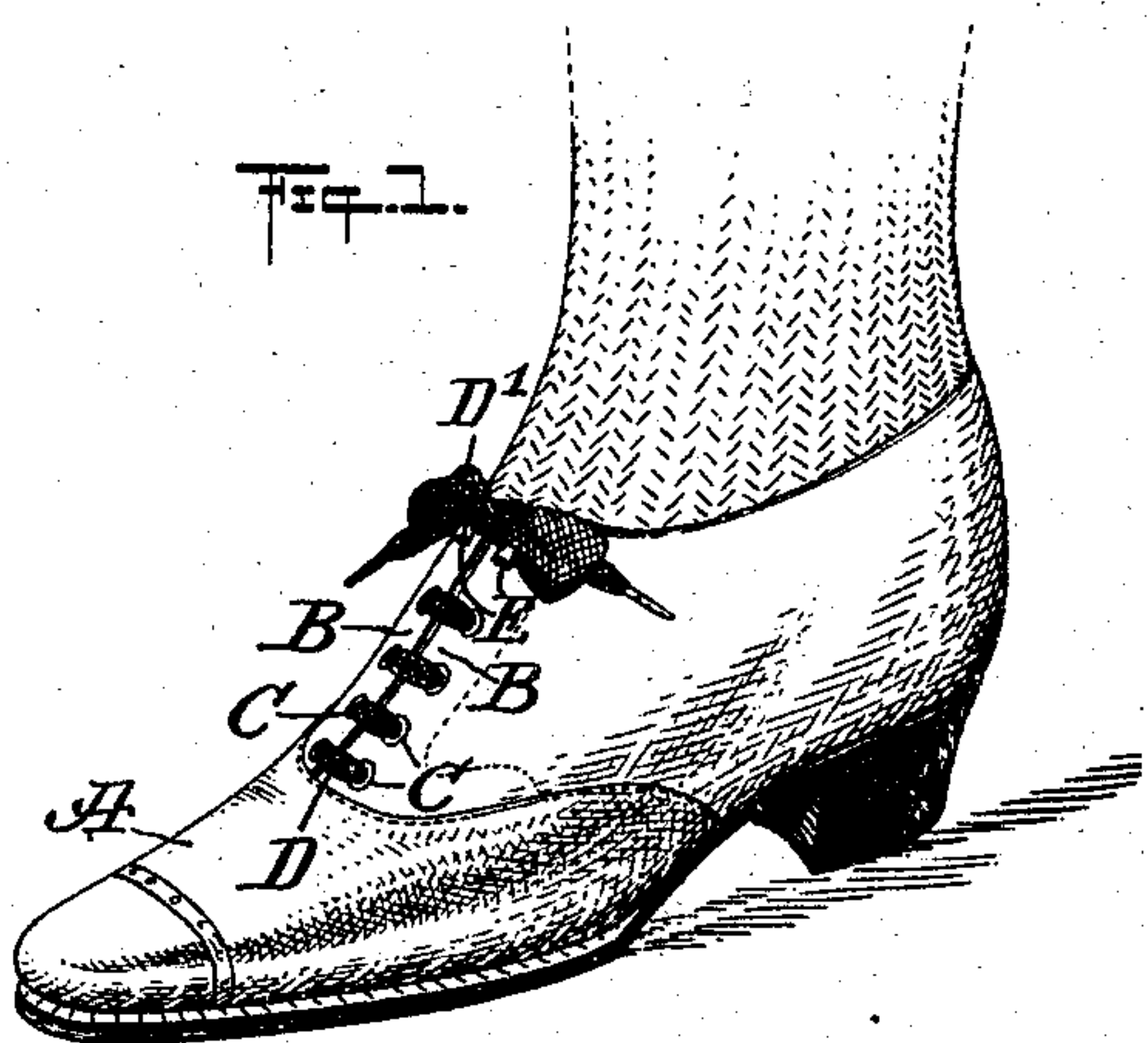


No. 782,673.

PATENTED FEB. 14, 1905.

S. LIPKOWITS.
SHOE LACE FASTENER.
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 30, 1904.



WITNESSES:
G. L. Schenck
Rev. G. H. Foster

INVENTOR
Sarah Lipkowitz
BY *Munn & Co.*
ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SARAH LIPKOWITS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

SHOE-LACE FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 782,673, dated February 14, 1905.

Application filed November 30, 1904. Serial No. 234,871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SARAH LIPKOWITS, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of New York, borough of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Shoe-Lace Fastener, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention relates to foot-gear; and its object is to provide a new and improved shoe-lace fastener or clasp forming an integral part of each flap of a laced shoe or boot and arranged to combine a top eyelet for the passage of the shoe-lace and a clamp for the end of the bow to hold the same at all times in proper position with a view to enhancing the appearance of the shoe on the wearer's foot and to prevent the bow from becoming untied while the shoe is worn.

The invention consists of novel features and parts and combinations of the same, as will be more fully described hereinafter and then pointed out in the claims.

A practical embodiment of the invention is represented in the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improvement as applied. Fig. 2 is an enlarged front elevation of the same, showing one of the clasps open; and Fig. 3 is a sectional side elevation of the same on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2.

The laced shoe or boot A is provided on its flaps B B with rows of eyelets C for the passage of the shoe-lace D, and on the flaps B, at or near the upper ends thereof and in alignment with the eyelets C, are arranged shoe-lace fasteners or clasps E E, arranged for the passage of the shoe-lace D and for holding the shoe-lace bow D' in position, with a view to enhancing the appearance of the shoe and to prevent untying of the shoe-lace while the shoe is worn.

Each of the shoe-lace fasteners or clasps E consists of an eyelet E', secured to the corresponding flap B by having its rear end clenched over a washer E², fitting against the under side of the corresponding flap B. The front

end of the eyelet E' is provided with an integral arm E³, extending with the eyelet E' in alignment with the corresponding row of eyelets C, as plainly indicated in Fig. 2, and on the free end of the said arm E³ is formed a lug E⁴, on which is fulcrumed a retaining-lever E⁵, adapted to overlies the eyelet E' and the arm E³ when the lever is in a closed position, as indicated in Figs. 1 and 3. The retaining-lever E⁵ is pressed on at its fulcrum end by springs E⁶, preferably forming integral portions of the arm E³ to simplify the construction of the shoe-lace fastener or clasp as much as possible, it being understood that the said springs press against the heel of the clamping-lever E⁵ to hold the same firmly in a closed position, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3, or in an open right-angular position, as indicated to the right in Fig. 2 and in dotted lines in Fig. 3.

The clamping-lever E⁵ is rounded off transversely and in a longitudinal direction, so as to form an exceedingly smooth outer surface to prevent portions of the dress of the wearer from being caught by the fastener. The under side of the clamping-lever E⁵ is somewhat concaved or recessed, as plainly shown in Fig. 3, to provide sufficient space between the under side of the lever E⁵ and the arm E³ and its eyelet E' for accommodating portions of the shoe-lace—that is, the terminal thereof and all or a portion of each loop—to retain the latter in position, as indicated in Fig. 1. By having the lug E⁴ arranged as described it forms a stop for the portion of the shoe-lace retained between the arm E³, eyelet E', and the under side of the clamping-lever E⁵ to prevent the shoe-lace from becoming entangled with the spring E⁶.

In lacing the shoe the retaining-levers E⁵ are swung into an open position to permit the wearer to readily pass the ends of the shoe-lace through the corresponding eyelets E' from the rear of the flaps, and when this has been done the terminals of the shoe-lace are drawn together in the usual manner and then the bow is tied, and after this has been done the terminals of the shoe-lace, as well as the entire loop or only the rear portion thereof, are placed

in position over the arms E³ and the eyelets E', and then the wearer swings the clamping-levers E⁵ into a closed position to hold the parts of the shoe-lace mentioned firmly in position to prevent the loops or bow from becoming untied, at the same time enhancing the appearance of the shoe by maintaining the bow of the shoe-lace in its proper shape.

The device is very simple and durable in construction and can be readily applied to laced shoes now in use, it being understood that the shoe-lace fastener in its entirety takes the position or place of the uppermost eyelets now in use.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. A shoe-lace fastener comprising an eyelet for attachment to the upper end of the shoe-flap, to secure the fastener in position and to form a passage for the shoe-lace, an arm extending integrally from the eyelet at the front face thereof, and a spring-pressed retaining-lever fulcrumed on the free end of the said arm and concaved at its under side, between the ends of the lever, the free end of the lever covering the eyelet and the said lever being

rounded off, to provide a non-catching outer surface.

2. The combination of a shoe having flaps, and a row of eyelets on each flap, adjacent to the edge thereof, of shoe-lace fasteners attached to the flaps near the upper ends thereof, each fastener comprising an eyelet approximately in alinement with the row of eyelets on the corresponding flap, the eyelet holding the fastener to the flap and forming a passage for the shoe-lace, an arm extending integrally from the front of the eyelet and in the direction of the corresponding row of eyelets, and a spring-pressed retaining-lever fulcrumed on the free end of the said arm and adapted to completely overlies the said eyelet and its integral arm, to retain portions of the shoe-lace between the eyelet, its arm and the said lever.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SARAH LIPKOWITS.

Witnesses:

THEO. G. HOSTER,
EVERARD BOLTON MARSHALL.