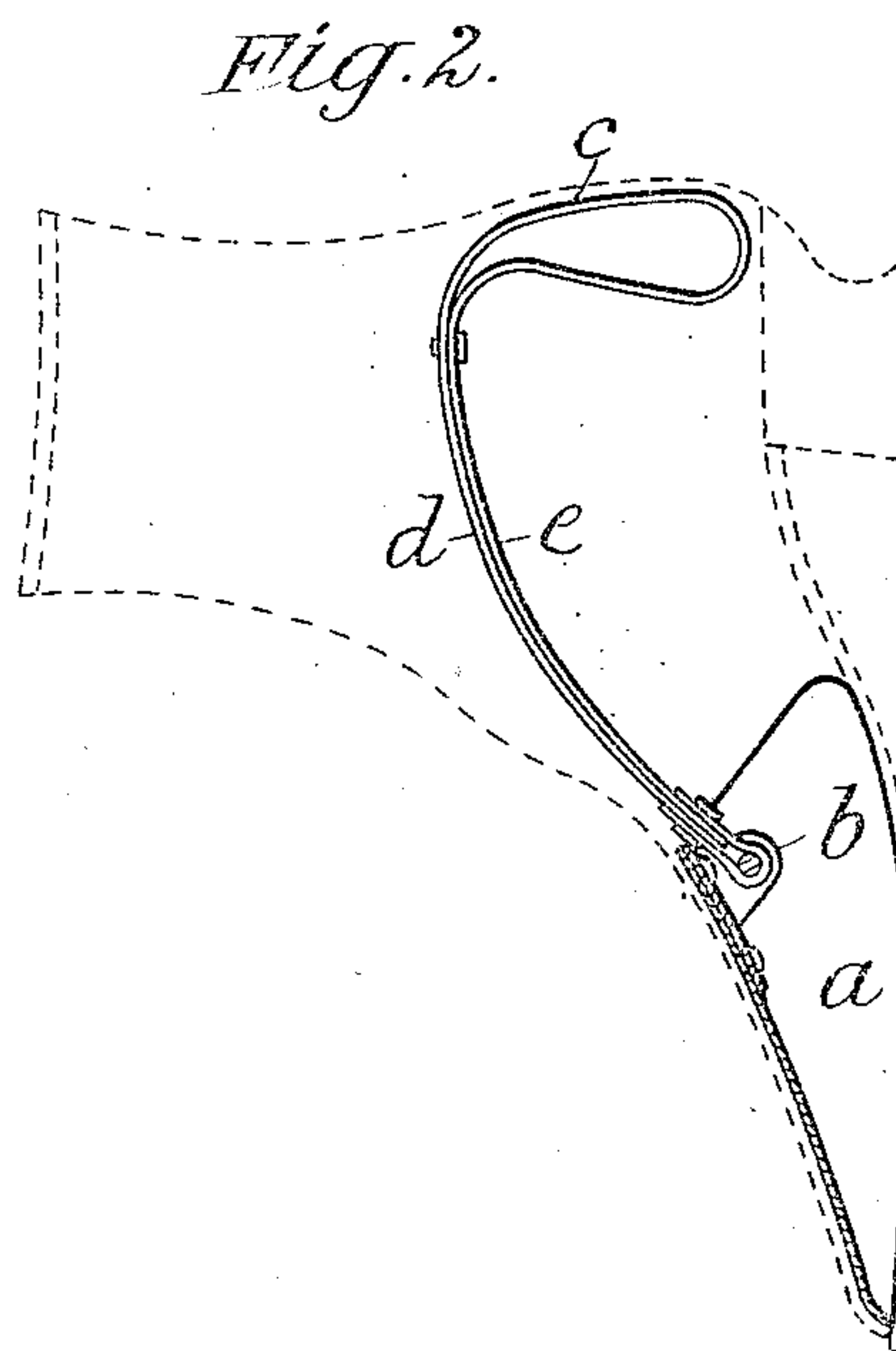
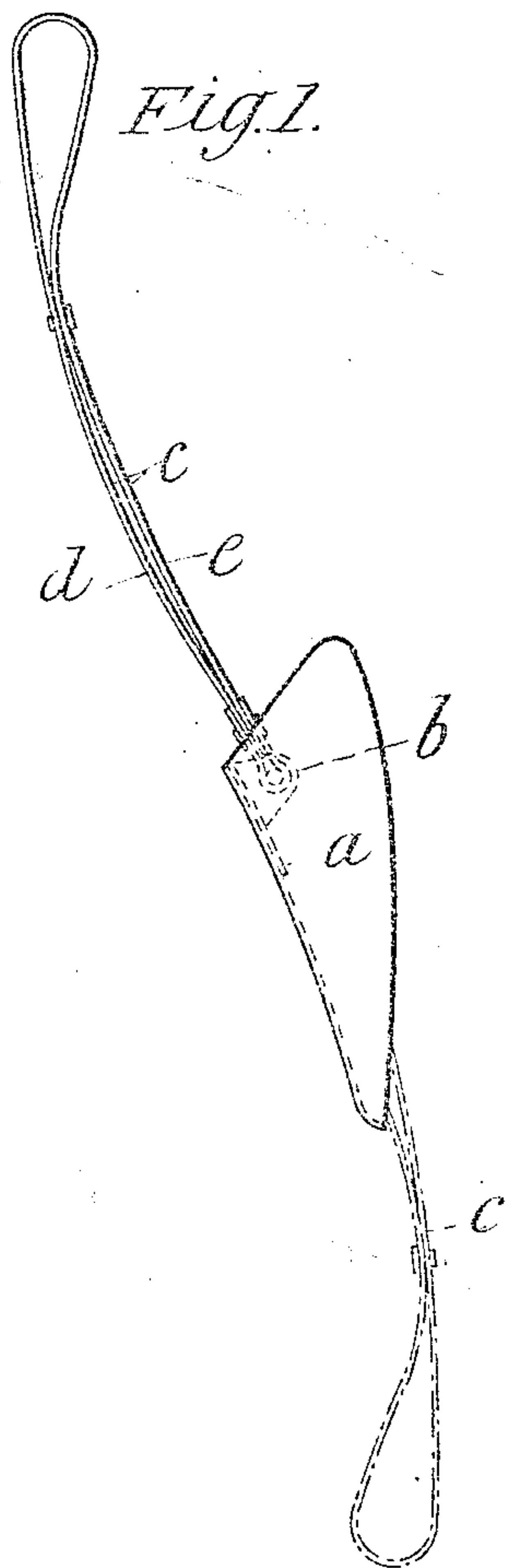


No. 816,453.

PATENTED MAR. 27, 1906.

S. FRENCH.  
BOOT AND SHOE TREE.  
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 12, 1905.



WITNESSES

Samuel Percival  
Albert Jones.

INVENTOR

Stephen French  
By his Attorneys  
Wheatley MacKenzie

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN FRENCH, OF SWANSCOMBE, ENGLAND, ASSIGNOR TO INDUSTRIAL PATENTS LIMITED, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

## BOOT AND SHOE TREE.

No. 816,453.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 27, 1906

Application filed August 12, 1905. Serial No. 273,970.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, STEPHEN FRENCH, a subject of the King of Great Britain and Ireland, whose post-office address and residence is 56 Milton road, Swanscombe, county of Kent, England, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot and Shoe Trees; 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 appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to boot and shoe trees in which a front part, adapted to fit the front part of the upper-leather of a boot or shoe, is pressed against the upper by a bent spring formed to bear against the back of the boot; and it consists in forming the spring in laminated form with two or more layers or strips so arranged that an initial bending of the spring may be effected before the combined strength or reaction of the layers or strips is exerted to resist the bending force.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a boot-tree constructed according to this invention, showing the spring relaxed; and Fig. 2 is a sectional view showing the spring in tension and inserted in a boot, which is indicated by dotted lines.

As shown, the front piece *a* for treeing the front of the boot is provided with lugs or

brackets *b*, to which one end of the spring *c* is pivoted. The spring *c* is formed with two layers or strips *d e*, which are riveted together near the ends, the portion of the upper strip *d* between the rivets being longer than the corresponding portion of the lower strip *e*.

When it is desired to tree a boot, the spring is bent into the position shown in Fig. 2, and it will be readily seen that the initial bending of the spring can be effected with comparatively little effort, the full reaction of the spring not being felt until the two parts *d e* are in contact throughout their whole length.

The form of spring described greatly facilitates the insertion of the tree in the boot.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The herein-described boot or shoe tree consisting of the front piece or tree, a spring composed of a metal strip bent upon itself and pivoted to the tree, the two members of said spring being secured together between the ends of the spring to provide a longer and shorter portion, for the purpose described.

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

STEPHEN FRENCH.

Witnesses:

ALBERT JONES,  
HERBERT C. BOLWELL.