

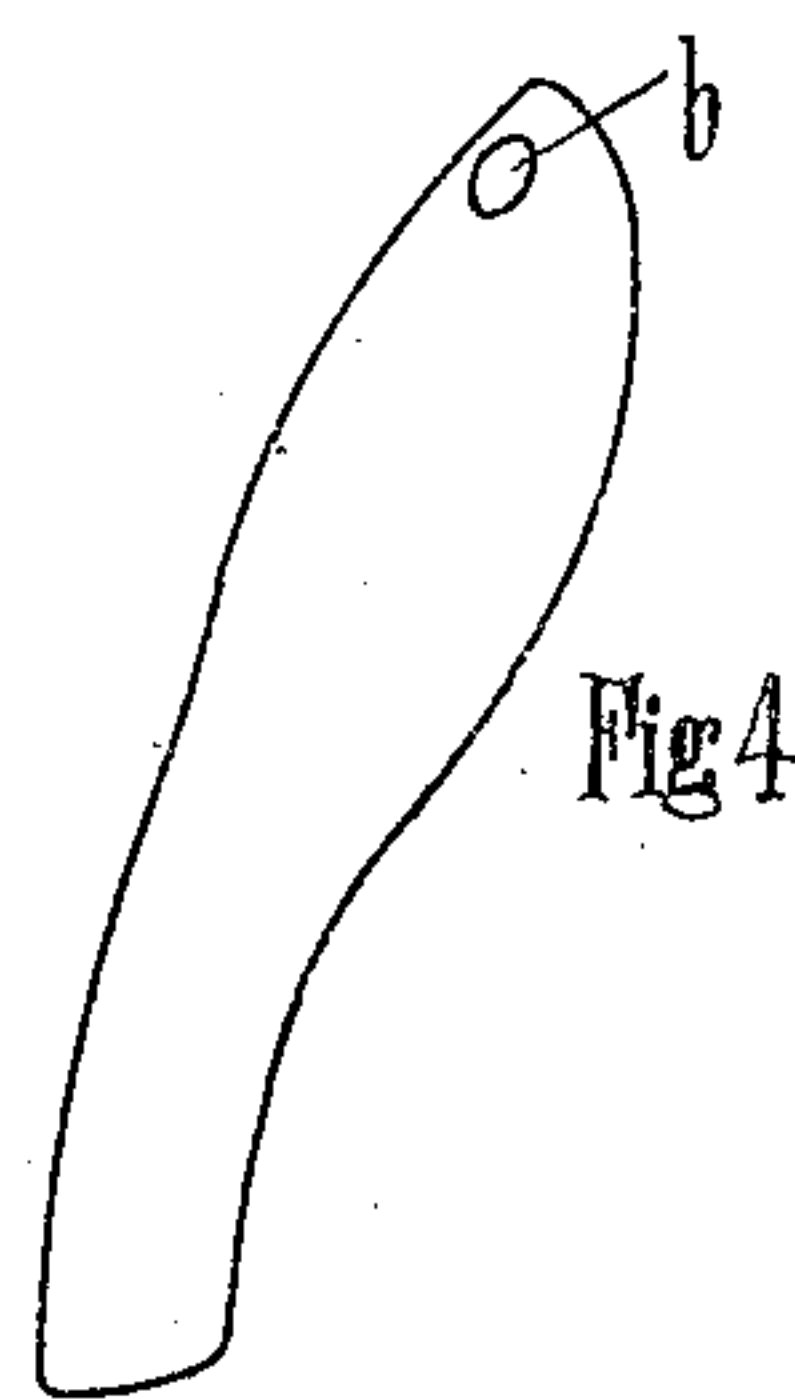
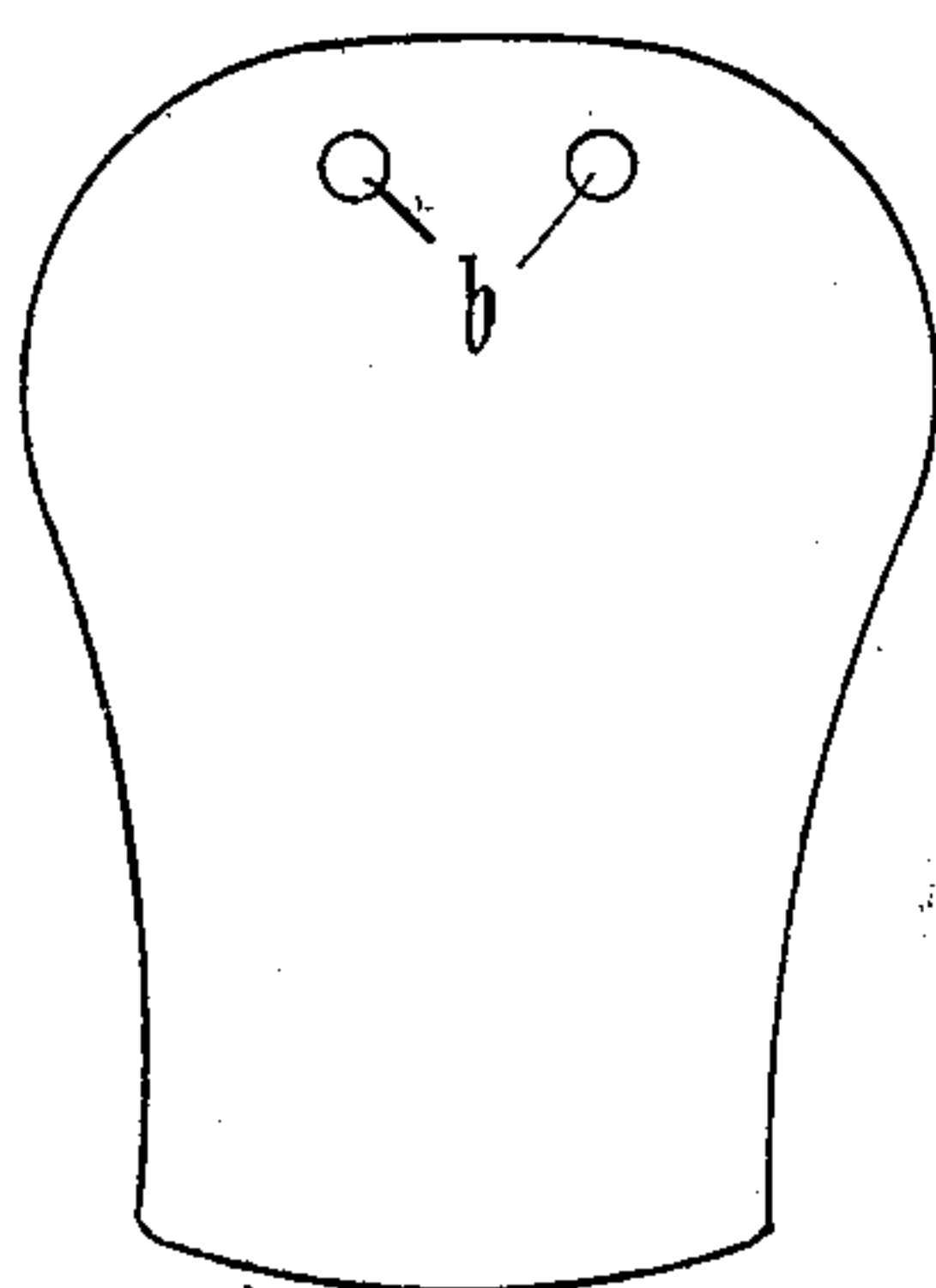
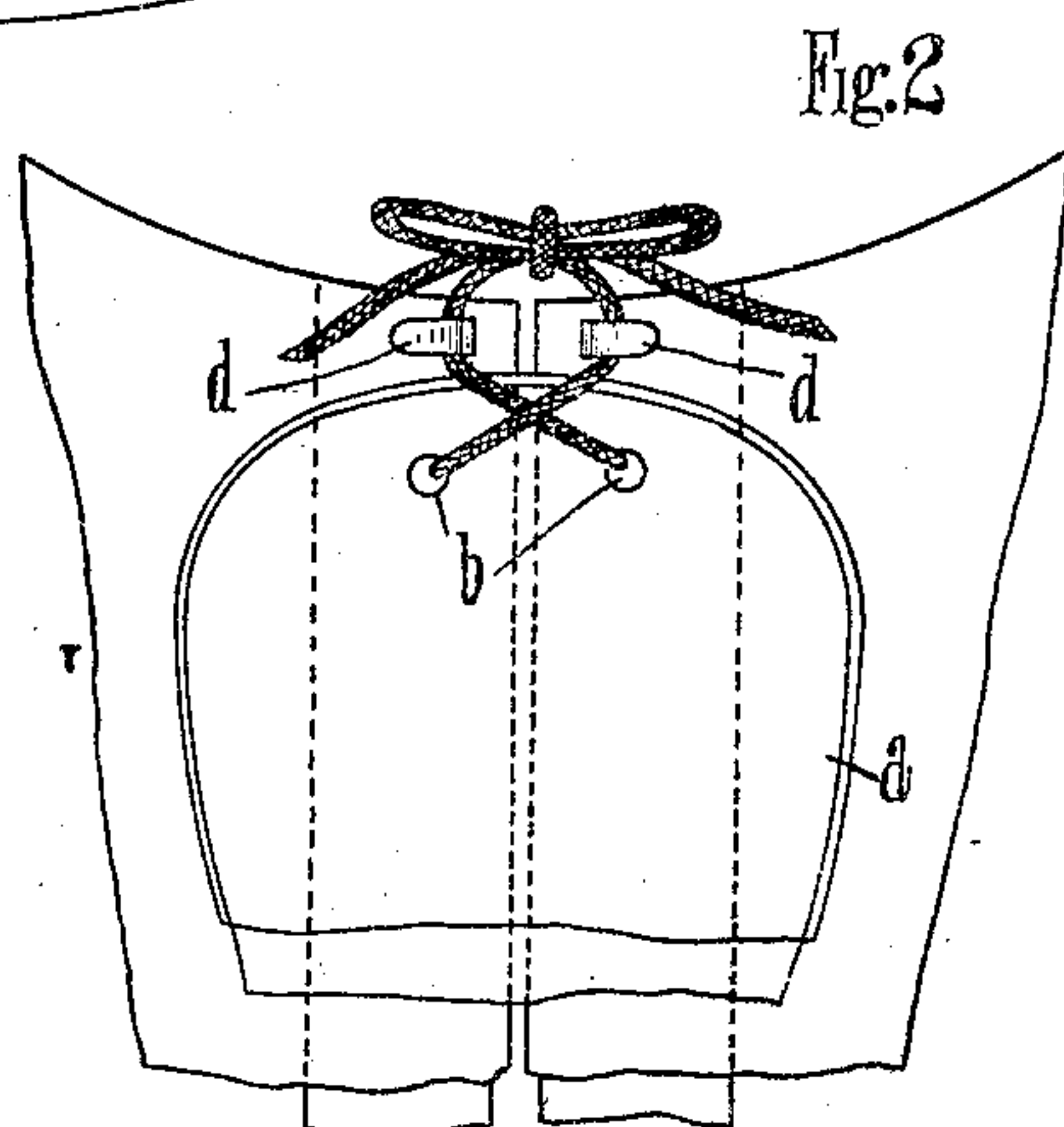
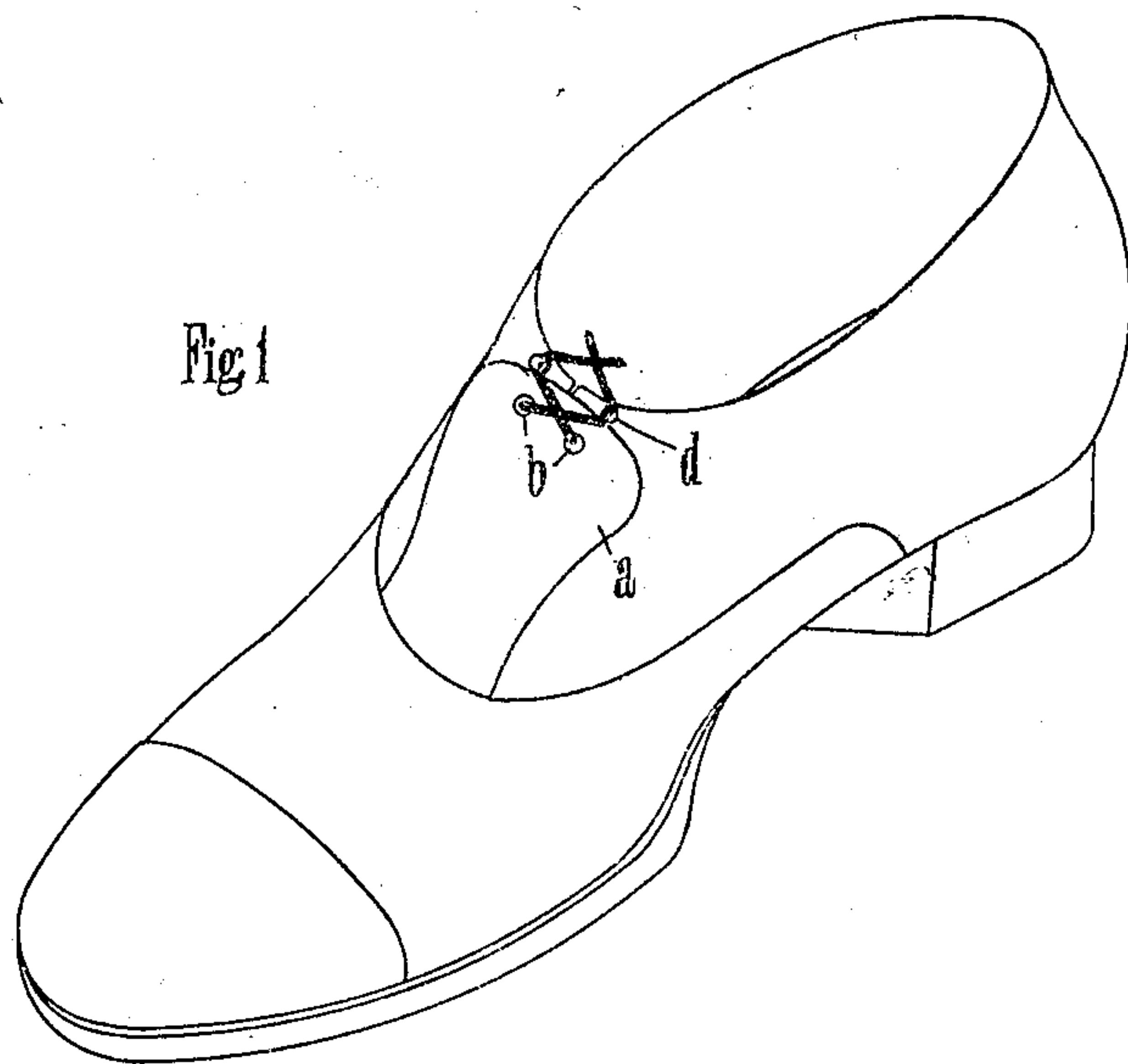
No. 896,880.

PATENTED AUG. 25, 1908..

F. H. ADDIS.

FOOTWEAR.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 28, 1908.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK H. ADDIS, OF BRIDLINGTON, ENGLAND.

FOOTWEAR.

No. 896,880.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 25, 1908.

Application filed March 28, 1908. Serial No. 423,889.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK HENRY ADDIS, a subject of the King of England, residing at 12 Wellington road, Bridlington, in the county of York, England, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Footwear, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improved shoe closure, characterized by the following advantages: Firstly the long lace usually employed is done away with, and a short lace permanently inserted in the tab, and requiring only to be passed around two hooks and tied, is employed. Secondly the slit between the quarters is covered by an external tab curved to the shape of the instep, and offering no sharp edges, nor row of projecting lace portions, which tend to fray the edge of the garment of the wearer. Thirdly the quarters are maintained in close contact with the tab and with one another by means of a stiffening or reinforcement on each quarter, whereby on the short lace being secured around a single pair of hooks at the top of the quarters, the entire closure is firmly and closely held together. Fourthly, while rain and dust are excluded by the external tab, the absence of an inside tongue and of laces underneath the tab adds to the comfort of the wearer and promotes ventilation of the foot.

In the accompanying drawing Figure 1 shows a perspective view of the invention applied to a shoe. Fig. 2 shows a portion of the shoe with the closing device on an enlarged scale, and Figs. 3 and 4 are front and side views respectively of the outside tongue.

The closing device comprises firstly the external tab *a*, formed of a strong light plate preferably of metal and covered with leather or other suitable covering. It might, however, be enameled or coated with a suitable paint or composition. The lower end of this tab is firmly secured to the front seam of the boot between the upper and the vamp. A

pair of reinforcing strips of strong material are secured to or inclosed in the quarters of the shoe underneath the tab, as indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 2. These strips may be of any convenient flexible material. The material I prefer is stiff buckram, but any other material which will give to the quarters the necessary stiffness and elasticity may be employed. At the upper end of the tab I make two perforations *b b* and upon the upper ends of the reinforced adjacent edges of the quarters I place two hooks, catches or fastenings *d d* of any convenient form. The form preferred is illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawing. A short shoe lace is attached to the tab by passing it through the holes *b b*, and this lace when crossed and passed over the hooks in the manner shown, can be tied in a neat bow and will retain the closure firmly in place without any lacing.

I am aware that it is not novel to protect the instep of a boot or shoe by an external tongue or tab; nor to construct said tab of flexible or rigid material; nor to combine such constructions with ordinary lacing, and I make no claim to such constructions in general, but

What I claim is:

The improved shoe closure, comprising a stiff external laterally curved tab attached below to the front seam and having two holes near its upper edge, flexible reinforcements on each quarter, and a hook on each quarter, in combination with a short lace passed through the holes in the tab and adapted to be tied round the hooks and secure the entire closure firmly and closely together without lacing.

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

F. H. ADDIS.

Witnesses:

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