

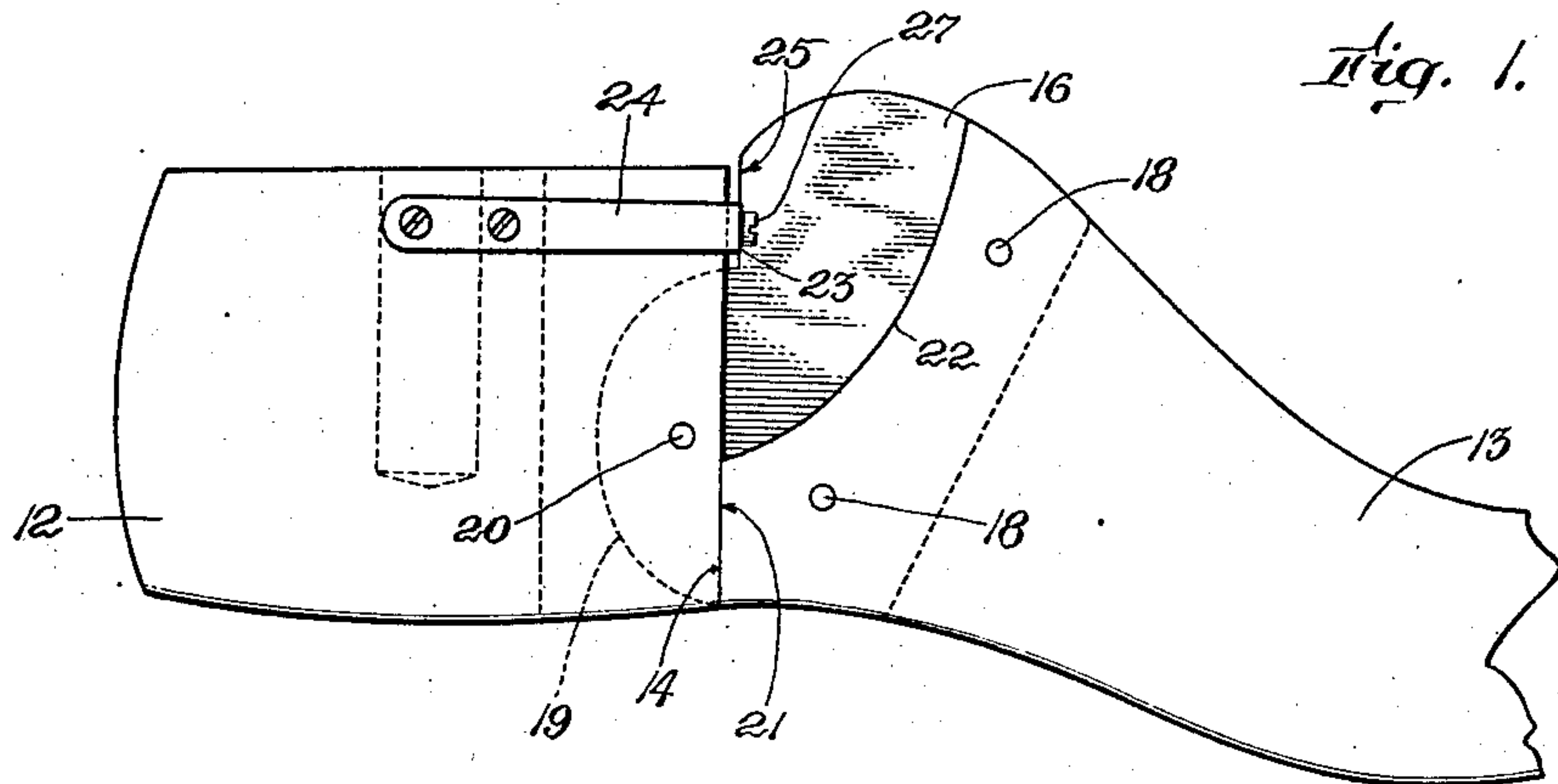
E. Y. AUSTIN.

LAST.

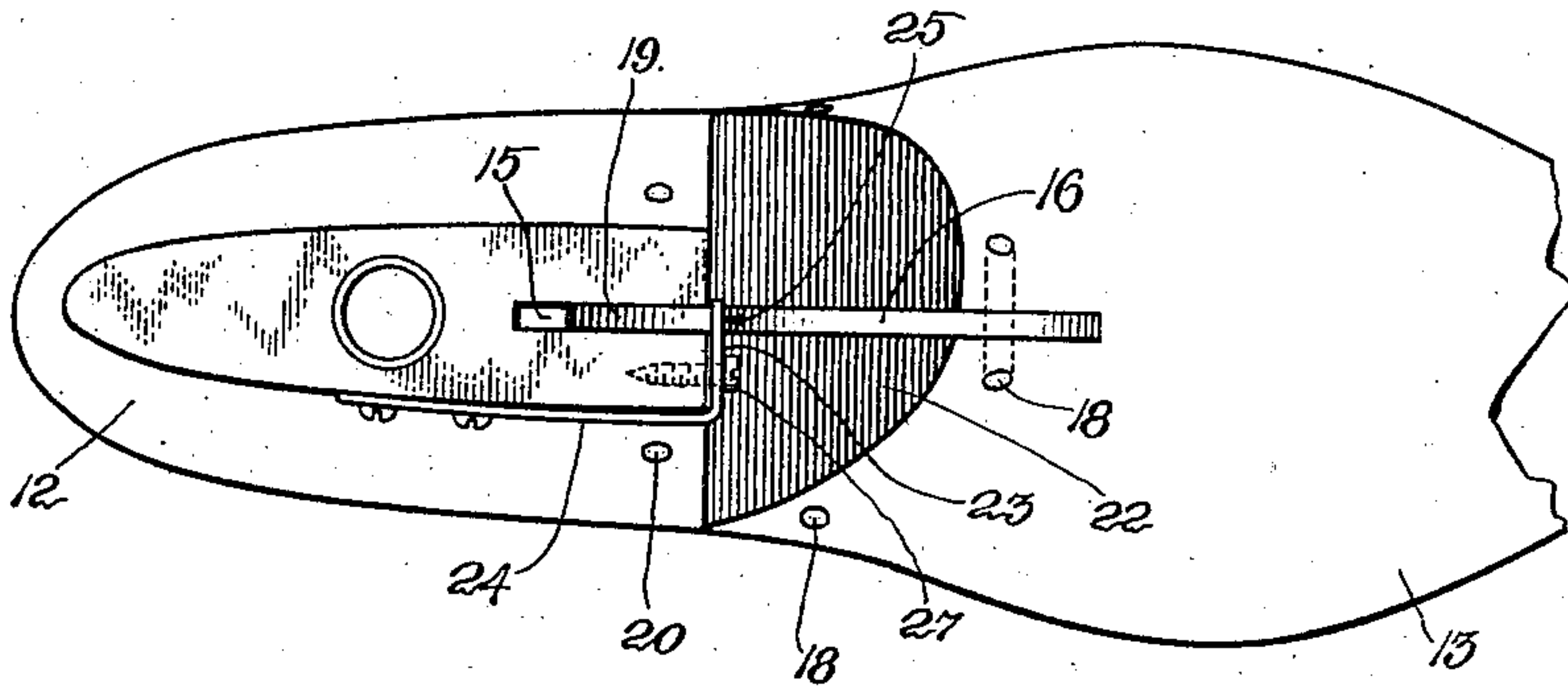
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 19, 1909.

931,372.

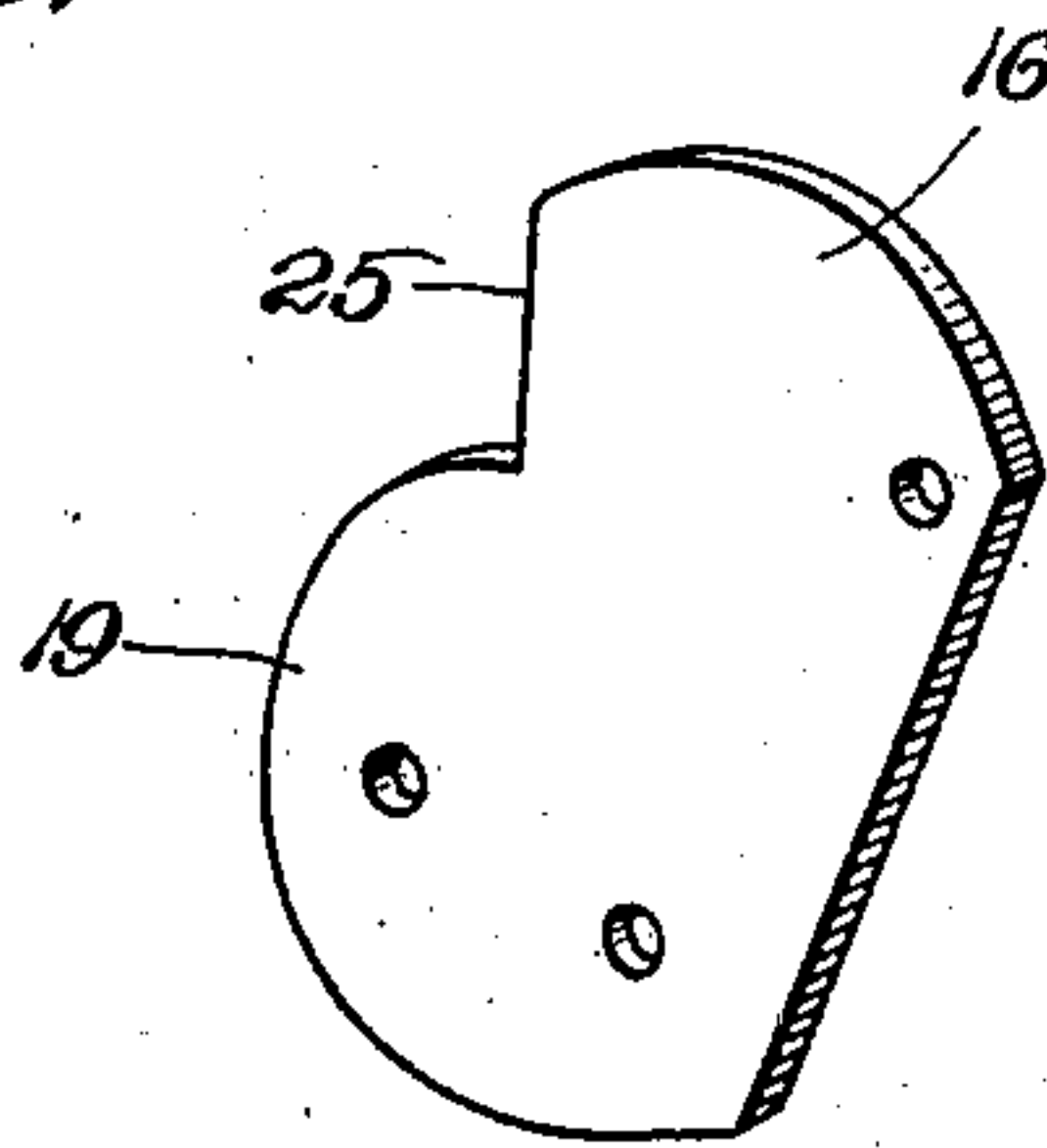
Patented Aug. 17, 1909.



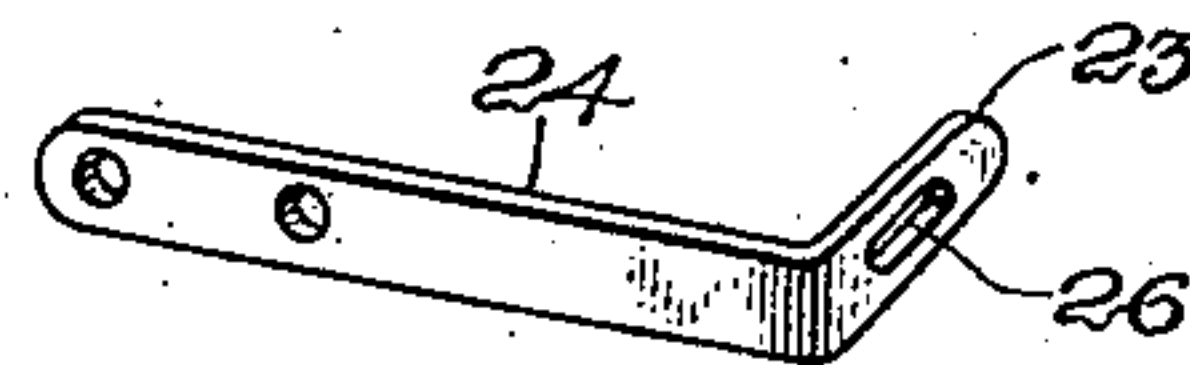
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD Y. AUSTIN, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

LAST.

No. 931,372.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 17, 1909.

Application filed February 19, 1909. Serial No. 478,837.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD Y. AUSTIN, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lasts, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to lasts which are divided transversely into a heel-part and a fore-part, said parts being pivotally connected so that one is adapted to swing relatively to the other to shorten the last, the parts being provided with reciprocal bearing surfaces arranged to abut against each other when the last is in its extended adjustment.

The invention has for its object to provide an improved construction of a last of this character, both as regards the hinge connection between the heel and fore-parts, and also as regards means for locking the two sections in their extended adjustment.

The invention consists in the improvements which I will now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification,—Figure 1 represents a side view of a last embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a top view of the same. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the hinge plate; and Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of the locking member shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The same reference characters indicate the same parts in all the figures.

In the drawings,—12 represents the heel-part and 13 the fore-part of a transversely divided last. The heel-part has a substantially vertical bearing face 14, which forms the front end, and preferably extends from the bottom to the crown or top of the last. The heel-part is provided with a slot 15 which is formed in the bearing face 14, and extends backwardly therefrom a suitable distance. The fore-part 13 is provided with a hinge plate or member 16 which is a metal plate inserted in a slot or sawkerf formed for its reception in the rear end of the fore-part, the hinge plate being secured to the fore-part by suitable means, such as rivets 18. The plate 16 has an ear 19, which enters the slot 15 in the heel-part and receives a pivot pin 20 which constitutes a hinge connection between the parts 12 and 13. The inner end of the fore-part has a bearing

face 21 which is formed to abut against the bearing face 14 below the axial line of the pivot 20, the inner end of the fore-part being cut away at 22 to form a space above the reciprocal bearing surfaces of the heel and fore-parts to permit either part to swing upon the pivot 20 for the purpose of shortening the last, the hinge-plate 16 being adapted to swing into the slot 15 when the parts are adjusted to shorten the last.

It will be seen by reference to Figs. 1 and 2 that a space is formed between the upper portions of the heel and fore-parts when the last is extended, the hinge part 16 occupying the central portion of said space. I utilize the space thus formed for the reception of a locking member which is adapted to engage the parts of the last within said space and lock the last in its extended adjustment. The said locking member is preferably a metal tongue 23 having a resilient shank 24 which is attached to one side of the heel-part 12, the locking tongue or member 23 projecting across the upper portion of the end face 14 of the heel-part, and engaging a face or shoulder 25 formed on the hinge plate 16, the locking member normally projecting across the hinge plate, as indicated in Fig. 2. When it is desired to shorten the last, the locking member 23 is withdrawn from engagement with the hinge plate so that the last parts are free to swing relatively to each other in a direction required to shorten the last. The resilience of the shank 24 is sufficient to normally hold the locking member 23 in its operative position. The locking member is preferably provided with a slot 26 which receives a confining screw 27, the length of the slot being such that while the locking member can move sufficiently to be disengaged from the hinge plate, its displacement will be suitably limited.

It will be seen that the described last is extremely simple and durable in construction, and is adapted to be firmly held in its extended adjustment.

I claim:

A last comprising a heel-part having a bearing face at its front end, and a slot formed therein, a fore-part having a hinge plate projecting rearwardly from its inner end and pivoted to the heel-part within said



slot, the inner end of the fore-part being  
formed to abut against the bearing face of  
the heel-part below the pivot, and cut away  
above the pivot to form a space which per-  
mits a shortening adjustment of the parts,  
and a locking member projecting across the  
end face of the heel-part and engaging the  
parts of the last within said space and

adapted to automatically lock the last in its  
extended adjustment.

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

EDWARD Y. AUSTIN.

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