

E. E. DURAND.  
SHOE FORM INSERTER.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 30, 1909.

960,518.

Patented June 7, 1910.

Fig. 1.

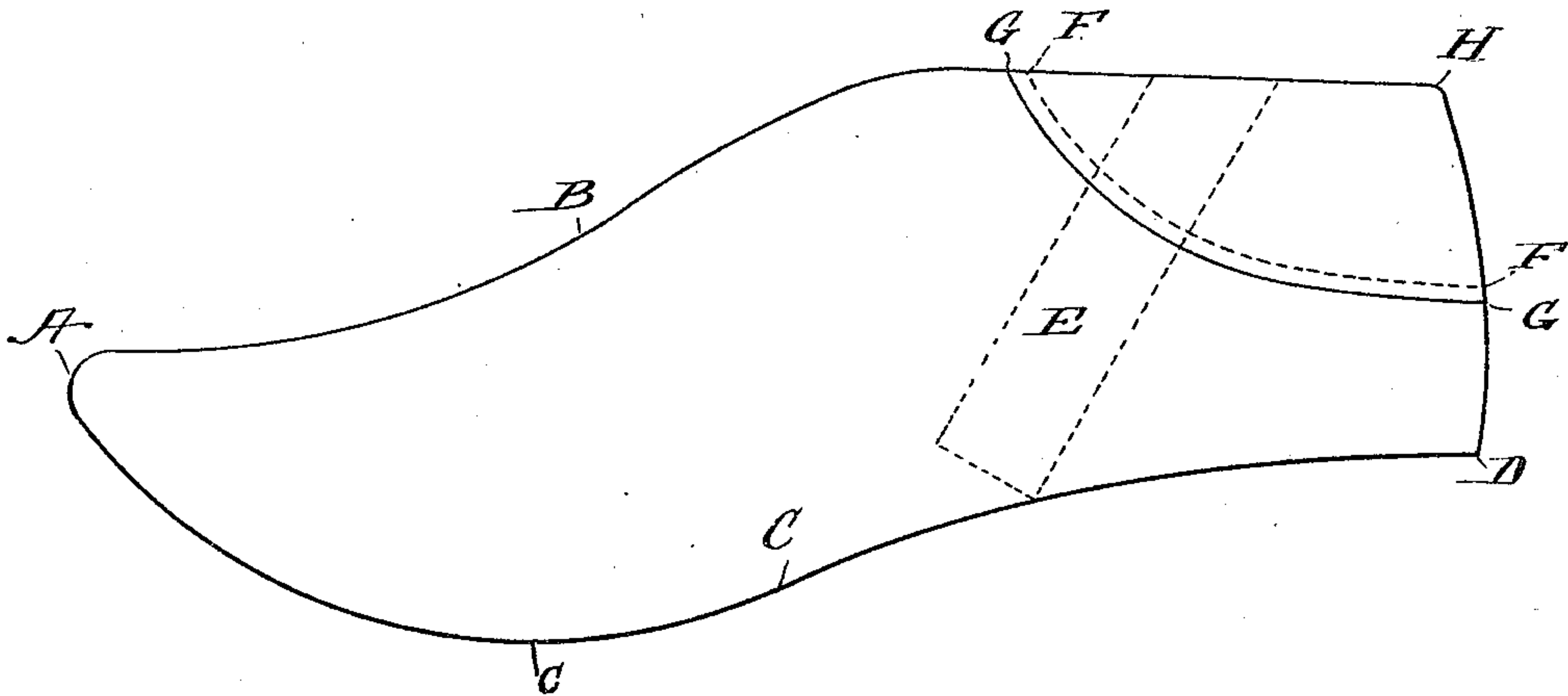


Fig. 2.

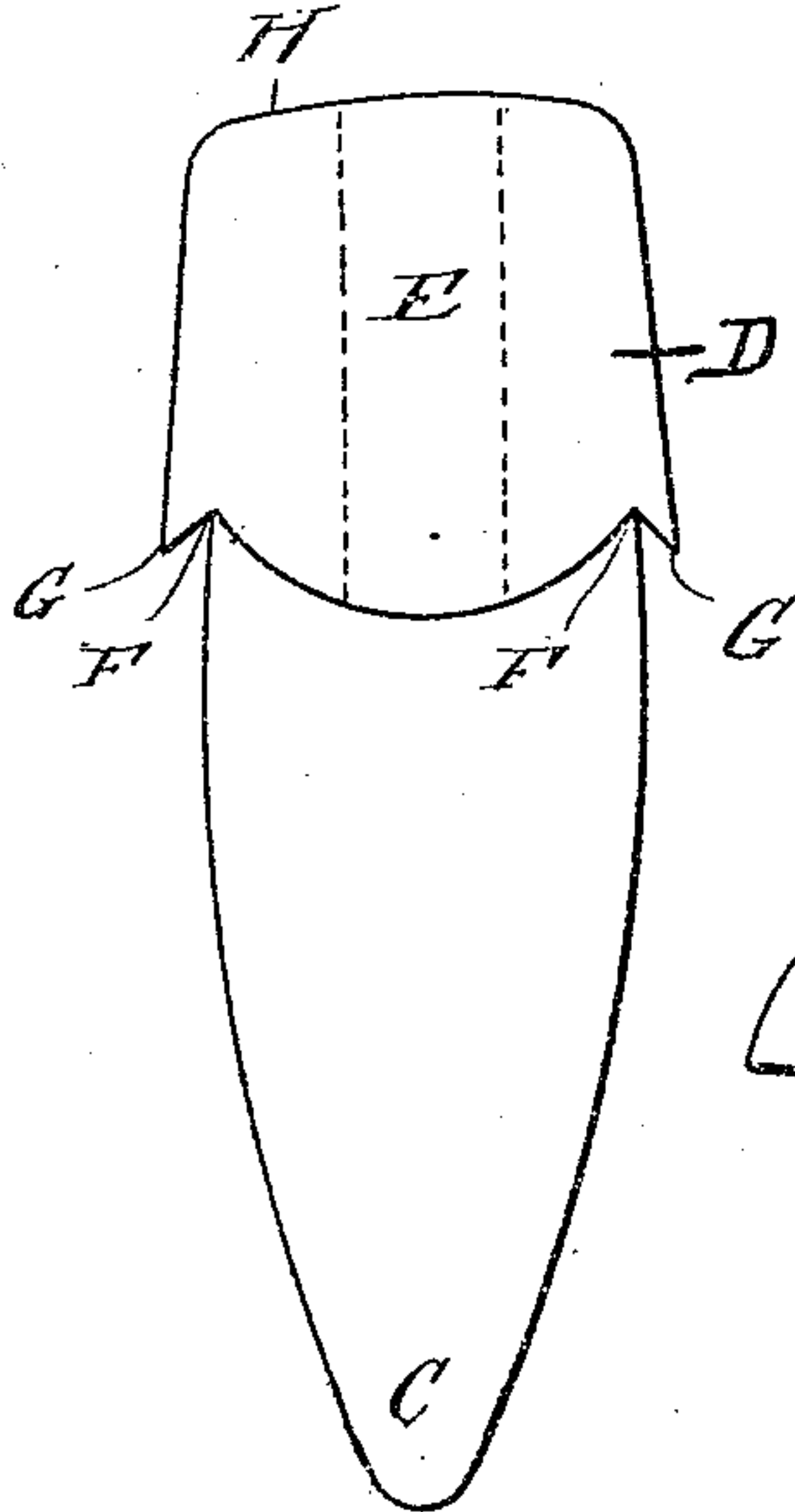
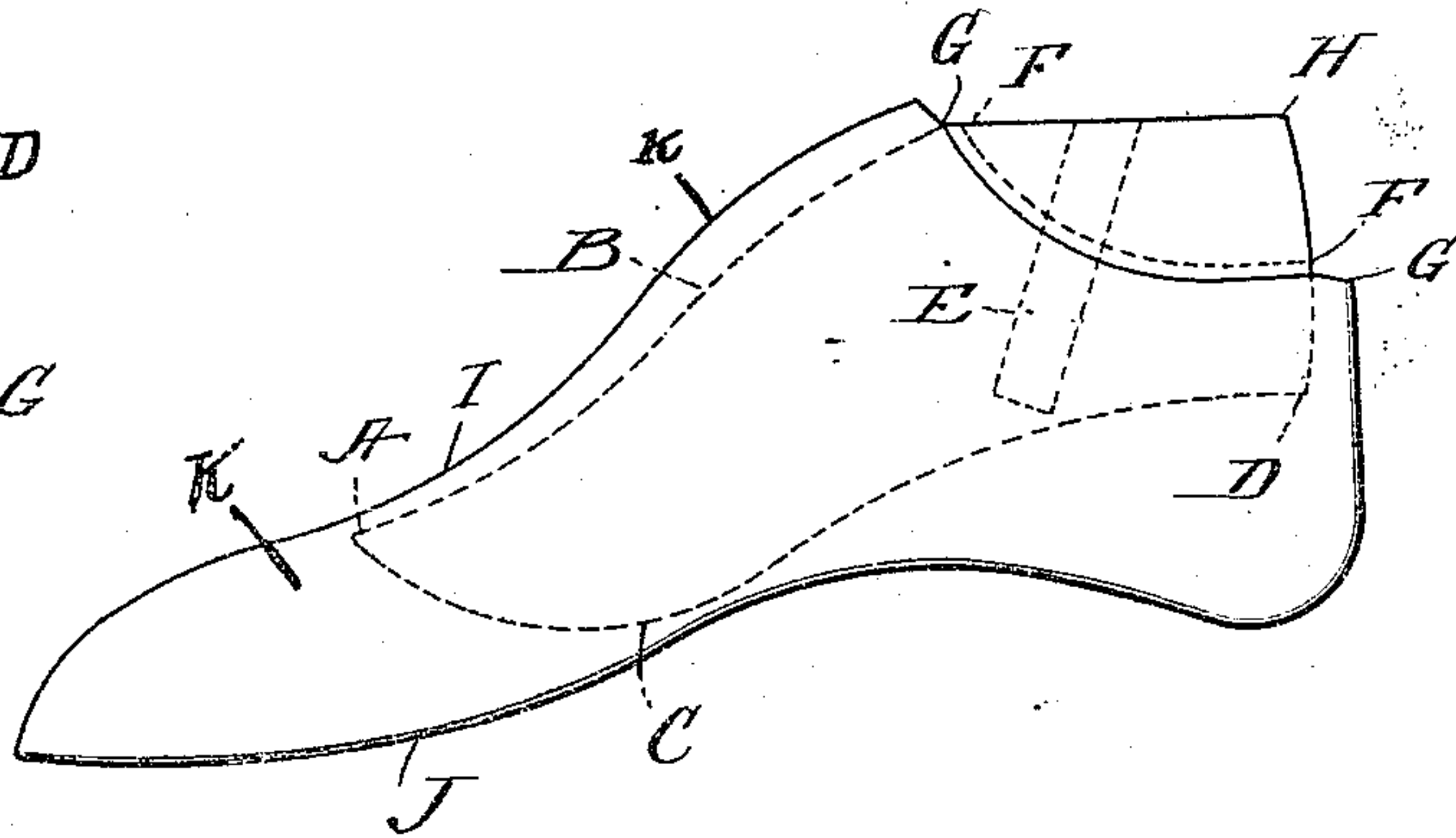


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SHOE-FORM INSERTER.

960,518.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 7, 1910.

Application filed March 30, 1909. Serial No. 486,845.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWIN E. DURAND, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Beverly, in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Form Inserters, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the various letters of reference thereon, which form a part of this specification.

It is known that shoe manufacturers in preparing samples for display have long since extensively used within said sample shoes what are known as hollow shoe forms, which forms consist of sheet leatherboard or other light material molded to the exact form of the last upon which the shoe is made, and which fit tightly in the shoes within which they are placed, thereby eliminating all wrinkles of the upper, and giving a finished effect to the shoes. To obtain the best results, said forms should fit very snugly, and in practice it has been found difficult to satisfactorily insert them with any degree of rapidity without causing a soreness of the operator's hands, as well as experiencing many other difficulties. To avoid these objections, manufacturers have resorted to a two piece form, joined on a hinge at the shank portion, so that the heel may be raised while the toe portion of the form is being inserted, after which the heel portion is dropped into position. The two piece form is however acknowledged to be not as satisfactory in use as the one piece form.

The objects of my invention are first: To provide an interior support to the forms while they are being inserted within the shoes for which they are intended so that said forms may not collapse while being inserted from pressure upon any particular portion thereof. Second, when force is exerted on the top or open portion of the forms in placing them within the shoes for which they are intended, to provide a means which will exert an equal and upward pressure on the interior of the form at that portion just below the instep, so as to thereby cause the forms to contract in width and enable them to enter the shoes more readily. Third, to provide a support to the instep portion of the forms while said forms are being inserted within the shoes for which they are intended.

My appliance is made to use in connection with an ordinary lasting jack on which it fits the same as any ordinary last.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of my device. Fig. 2 is an end or heel view of my device. Fig. 3 shows a hollow shoe form with my device inserted therein.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the various views.

Referring, now, in detail to the drawing: my shoe-form inserter, comprehensively considered, somewhat resembles, in contour, a single-piece shoe-form, which latter is, as is well known, disposed within a sample shoe designed for display and advertising purposes in shop-windows and the like, and also for use of commercial travelers in soliciting orders; advantageously, for the functions it performs, is a solid structure; and may be made in various sizes to fit various sizes of shoe-forms.

K (Fig. 3) represents an ordinary single-piece shoe-form, having an instep-portion  $\frac{1}{2}$ , as usual.

My shoe-form inserter comprises, essentially, a heel-portion D of appropriate depth; an instep-portion B; a toe-portion A, which is curled or bent upward; and what may be called a tread- or sole-portion C, comprising the bottom surface of the device, or that portion thereof extending from the lower end of the heel-portion D to the lower end of the toe-portion A,—what may be called the ball of the inserter (in analogy to the ball of the human foot) being designated by the reference-letter c.

Interiorly of the heel-portion D of the inserter, and extending from the top thereof is an elongated socket E, whereby, in use, as is obvious, the inserter may be positioned upon an ordinary lasting-jack.

The heel-portion D of the inserter is furnished with a lip or shoulder G extending at the one end, from the forward, upper end of the heel-portion D, as shown at G, and terminating, at the other end, at the back of the heel-portion D, at a point intermediate the depth thereof, as shown at F, this lip following a curved line, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3; whereby, when the inserter is placed within a shoe-form, the lip rests against and engages the curved upper rear portion of the shoe-form, supporting the inserter within the shoe-form, with the top portion H of the inserter projecting from the shoe-form, as



shown in Fig. 3. The lip also subserves the function of preventing injury of and damage to the curved edge of the shoe-form, against which said lip rests.

5 It is essential that my inserter shall be made of less length than the shoe-form with which it is designed to be used (see Fig. 3); so that, when force is exerted on the top portion H of the inserter, in placing a shoe-  
10 form within a shoe by the use of my inserter, the upward-projecting toe-portion A will engage with, and exert an equal upward tension on, the interior of the shoe-form, at that portion which is just below the  
15 instep *k* thereof, causing the shoe-form to contract in width at the forward portion thereof, as in the region of the reference-letter J, and thus permit insertion of the shoe-form within a shoe, with ease and ce-  
20 lerity, as will be readily understood.

The instep-portion B of the inserter supports the instep *k* of the shoe-form when the inserter is being disposed within the shoe-form and while the toe-portion A is engag-  
25 ing the interior of the shoe-form to contract the width thereof.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:

30 1. As a new article of manufacture for use

with a shoe-form, in facilitating insertion thereof within a shoe: an inserter insertible within the shoe-form and comprising, in part, a toe-portion engageable with the in-  
35 terior of the form to contract the width thereof when the form is being inserted within a shoe.

2. As a new article of manufacture for use with a shoe-form, in facilitating insertion thereof within a shoe: an inserter insertible 40 within the shoe-form and comprising, in part, a toe-portion engageable with the interior of the form to contract the width thereof when the form is being inserted within a shoe, and a supporting portion for 45 the instep of the form, while the width of the form is being contracted.

3. For use in facilitating the insertion of a shoe-form within a shoe, an inserter insertible within a shoe form and provided 50 with a heel-portion furnished with a lip engageable with the upper edge of a shoe form.

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

EDWIN E. DURAND.

Witnesses:

CHARLES W. LOVETT,  
CHAS. ALLEN TABER.