

(No Model.)

E. BRAZIER.
COUNTER STIFFENER.

No. 485,604.

Patented Nov. 8, 1892.

Fig. I.

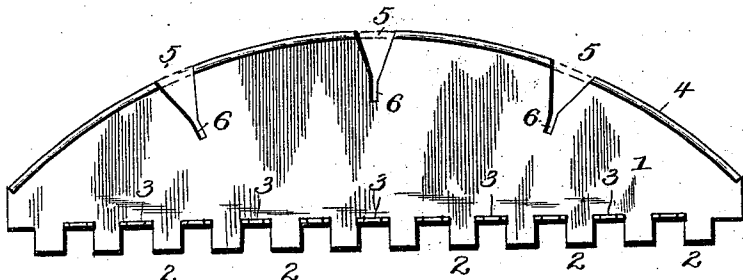


Fig. II.

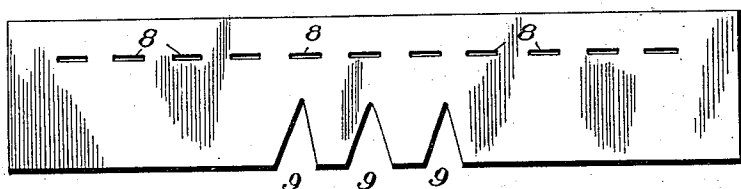


Fig. III.

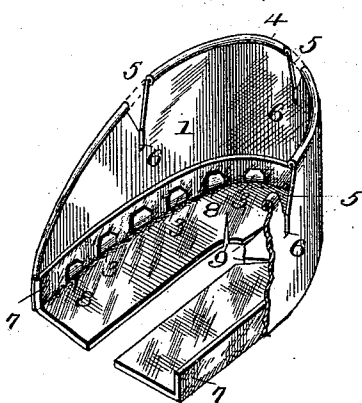
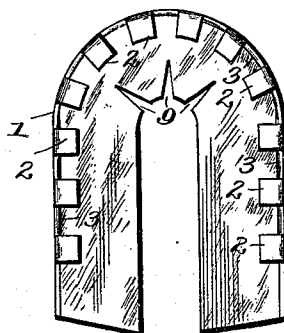


Fig. IV.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN BRAZIER, OF NORTH TOPEKA, KANSAS, ASSIGNOR TO ELEANOR J. BRAZIER AND MARY B. WATT, OF SAME PLACE, AND THOMAS B. PEACOCK, OF TOPEKA, KANSAS.

COUNTER-STIFFENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 485,604, dated November 8, 1892.

Application filed January 26, 1892. Serial No. 419,323. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN BRAZIER, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Topeka, in the county of Shawnee and State of Kansas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boot or Shoe Counter Stiffeners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in boot or shoe counter stiffeners in which the stiffener is formed of metal—preferably of sheet-steel—and the “upturn” is formed of leather, rubber, or any other like fabric, the two parts being fastened together in the peculiar manner hereinafter described; and the object of my invention is to furnish and provide a cheap, durable, easy, efficient, and serviceable counter-stiffener.

The cheaper stiffeners heretofore put upon the market are those in which glue forms a large part of the stiffening composition and are not durable or serviceable. Upon becoming wet they soften and break down. There are also metal stiffeners; but the sharp lower edge, pressing upon the upper of the boot or shoe where it turns under to engage the insole, cuts the leather and fails as a cheap and efficient stiffener. Its sharp upper edge also cuts the upper and the lining, raising a further serious objection to their use. These objections and many others I obviate by the peculiar construction of my counter-stiffener, which is constructed and formed as illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure I shows the metal part of my stiffener before forming. Fig. II shows the leather part ready to be joined to the metal. Fig. III shows the two parts united and formed ready for use in the boot or shoe. Fig. IV is a bottom view showing the serrated seat upon which the leather rests.

Similar figures refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

1 is the metallic sheet which forms the stiffener, having its lower edge serrated.

The alternate serrations 2 2 2, &c., turning in at right angles to the sheet, form the seat or rest upon which rests the upturn of the leather 7. The alternate serrations 3 3 3, &c., passing through the slits 8 8 8, &c., near the edge of the leather, rubber, or fabric on the line of the angle of the upturn, are pressed up and back, pressing and binding the leather, rubber, or fabric firmly to and against the face of the metallic sheet. When the counter is “formed” by bending the sheet, with the leather, rubber, or fabric, to the desired curve, the notches 9 9 9 in the upturn relieve the fullness in the material and prevent “bulging” and makes a smooth bottom on which the insole rests.

5 5 5 are notches (one or more) with the extensions 6 6 6 cut deeper to regulate the stiffness of the metallic sheet to any desired graduation.

4 is a bead on the upper edge of the metallic sheet to obviate the difficulty of a sharp metallic edge cutting the upper and the lining.

The sheet may be made with or without the bead 4 and the notches and extensions 5 and 6, as may be desired. It will also be observed that when the upper is drawn under the counter and secured through the upturn of 7 there is no sharp metallic edge presented to cut and destroy it, the serrations 2 2, &c., and 3 3, &c., presenting a rounded or flat surface of pressure. It is thus, it is believed, a very great and very desirable improvement in counter-stiffeners is effected and a cheap and durable stiffener is obtained which meets and removes many if not all objections.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A counter-stiffener for boots and shoes, consisting of a metallic counter having the inwardly-projecting segments and the upwardly-projecting segments and the leather upturn seated on the inwardly-projecting seg-

ments having slits through which the upwardly-projecting segments extend, substantially as described.

2. A counter-stiffener for boots and shoes,
5 consisting of a metallic counter having its upper edge beaded and notched and a segmental lower edge, the inturned alternate segments providing a seat for the upturn and

the leather upturn secured to the counter by means of the alternate segments 3 3, substantially as shown and described.

EDWIN BRAZIER.

Witnesses:

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