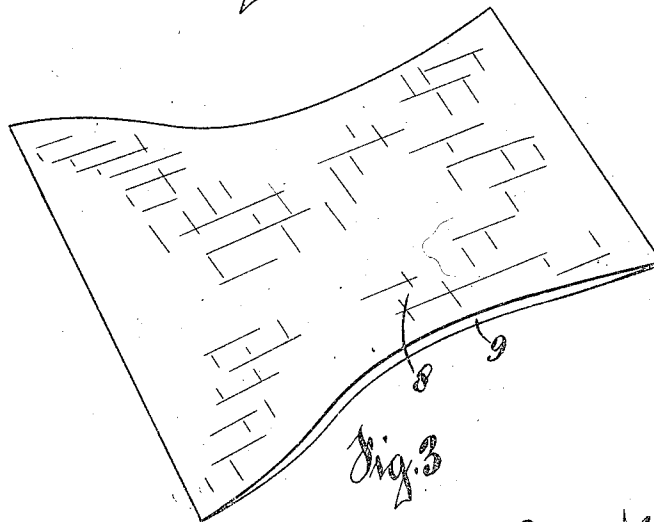
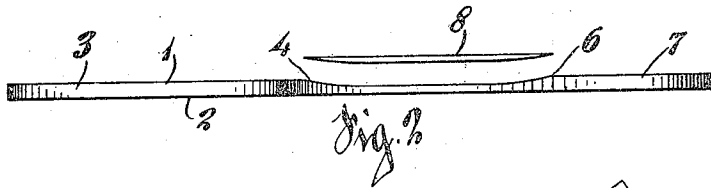
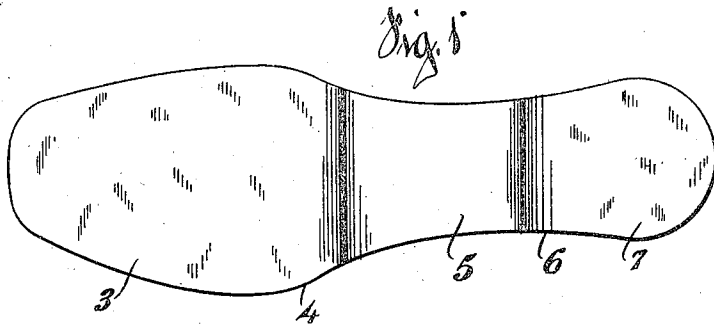


W. FOWLER.
OUTER SOLE FOR SHOES.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 3, 1915.

1,154,623.

Patented Sept. 28, 1915.



Inventor
William Fowler
by Allen & Allen
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM FOWLER, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES E. KRIPPENDORF, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

OUTER SOLE FOR SHOES.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM FOWLER, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the city of Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Outer Soles for Shoes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to a novel construction of outer soles for shoes. Its object is threefold.

It consists firstly, in the production of a uniform light edge of the sole in the shank; secondly, in the reduction of the weight of the shoe; and thirdly, in the saving of a portion of the leather for other purposes.

It is old in the art to bevel the edge of the sole at each side of the shank for the purpose to reduce the thickness of the same. This, however, does not produce a uniform thickness of the edge because the shape of the sole has to be trimmed in accordance with the line of the inseam and thus more is cut away on some parts of the beveled edge than on others, hence the result is an uneven thickness of the edge. One of the objects of the invention is to remedy this difficulty.

In carrying out my invention, I take off a split of the flesh side of the sole from the ball to the breast of the heel. The sole, thus prepared, aside from the advantages above stated, enables me to produce with less labor a more perfect, uniform light edge of the sole in the shank, than by the process used at present.

These objects I accomplish by that certain method of cutting or splitting the sole, to be hereinafter more specifically described, and its novelty duly claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the sole. Fig. 2 is a side view. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the split.

The outer sole of a shoe which is cut out in a uniform thickness and to the proper size for the desired last, has a flesh side 1 (unfinished) which is turned upwardly when made up in a shoe, and a smooth side 2

which is turned downwardly. The portions of the sole are the toe portion 3, ending at the ball 4, the shank 5 ending at the breast 6 of the heel seat, and the heel seat 7.

In my new method of preparing the soles I make a cut clear across the sole at the ball of the shank on the flesh side of the sole by an appropriate slicing machine. I split off a portion of leather 8 from the shank. This portion 8 at the line where the initial cut is made is not as thick as the balance of the split, but the split except at the points where the cut is started and finished is of a uniform thickness 9. The split terminates at the breast of the heel, and is taken off of the whole width of the shank, leaving, except at the ball of the shank and the breast of the heel, a uniform thin edge for the shank. The split is thus of sufficient size and thickness to be used in making heel lifts, for example, and in other ways not necessary to mention, wherein a small piece of leather is employed. The sole will be considerably lighter owing to the removal of this split, resulting in a lighter shoe. Moreover, at the ball of the shank, the shoe will be more flexible. But a single cutting is necessary instead of a shaving down of segment-shaped pieces at each side of the sole, and the resulting edge on the shank of the sole will be of a perfectly uniform thinness.

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

1. A leather outer sole for shoes having a shank portion from the flesh side of which a split of leather has been cut, leaving said shank portion of uniform thickness throughout, and of less thickness than adjacent portions of the sole.

2. A leather outer sole for shoes having a shank portion from the flesh side of which a split of leather has been cut, leaving said shank portion of uniform thickness throughout and of less thickness than adjacent portions of the sole, said cut terminating at the breast of the heel and at the ball of the shank.

WILLIAM FOWLER.