(No Model.)

W. CARTER.

FOOT COVERING.

No. 296,314. Patented Apr. 8, 1884.

Fig. 1.

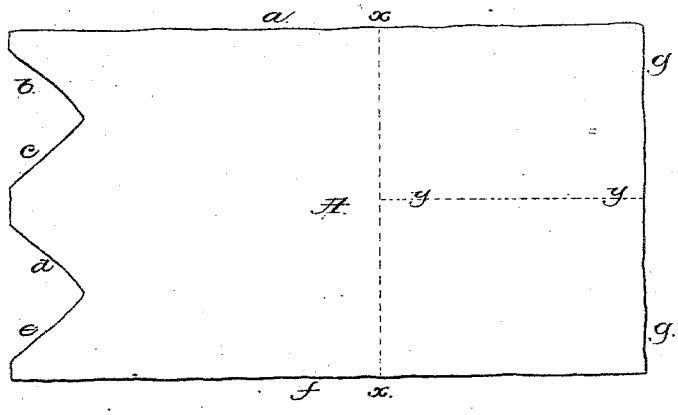


Fig. 2.

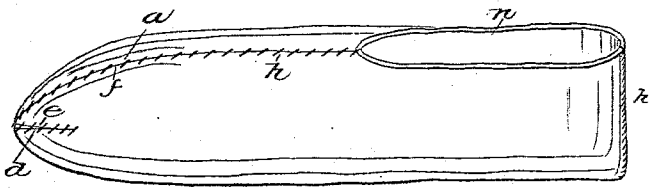
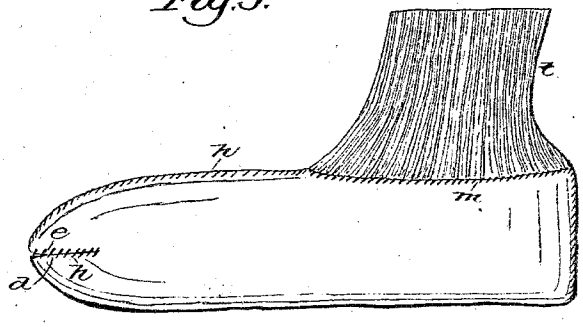


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM CARTER, OF HIGHLANDVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

FOOT-COVERING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 296,314, dated April 8, 1884.

Application filed March 15, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM CARTER, of Highlandville, county of Norfolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Foot-Coverings, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My invention has for its object the production of a covering adapted to be worn either over a stocking or a shoe, or directly upon the naked foot as a house-slipper for night use; and it consists in a foot-covering the main body of which is composed of knitted material fulled into ultimate shape, and having an elastic top to embrace the ankle.

Figure 1 represents a knitted blank from which to make the body part of my foot-covering. Fig. 2 shows the same with its edges united to form the body of the foot-covering. Fig. 3 shows the elastic top added to complete the article.

In the manufacture of my improved foot-covering, I take a thick knitted blank, A, made from coarse yarns, and shaped as shown in Fig. 1, and having, preferably, selvage-edges at *a b c d e f*, although, if desired, the blank may be cut out from a flat web of knitted fabric; but in such case the seams could not be made as smooth. The body of the foot-covering is formed by uniting the edge *b* with edge *c*, and the edge *e* with edge *d*, and the edge *a* with the edge *f*, back to the dotted line *x*, and then the part *g* of the blank, doubled centrally in longitudinal direction, is united with itself, making a vertical seam at the heel, leaving the body as represented in Fig. 2, where *h* shows the stitches. The seam formed by uniting the edges *a f* falls at the top, and extends longitudinally of the foot, where it is felt less than it would be at the bottom of the foot, and enables one to make the opening *n* of greater or less length for the connection with the body of the elastic or rib-knitted top *t*, which is joined therewith by means of stitches, as at *m*.

Before applying the elastic knitted top, the body part A, closed at its edges, as in Fig. 2, will be shrunk and fulled or felted together by usual methods, and placed on a last to give to the body the shape of the last, and thereafter, or before the final shaping of the body on the last, the body may, and preferably will, be teaseled to produce a nap or soft woolly surface, which is more agreeable for the foot than would be a coarsely-knitted fabric not so treated.

The selvage-edges enable the seams to hold more firmly than were the edges *a f b c*, &c., cut edges.

The seams in the body may be entirely concealed by the teaseling to which it is subjected.

The body A may have a leather sole applied to it by means of "compo," or by stitching.

The longitudinal seam made by uniting edges *a f* might be along the bottom of the body part; but in such event the blank would have to be split or divided on the dotted line *y y*.

It is old to form a shoe or moccasin from a single piece of leather the blank whereof is shaped and cut to this end. It is also old to form the uppers of knitted fabric with an attached leather sole; and I am aware that the fulling and teaseling of knitted fabrics are not original with me; hence I claim none of these things, broadly, and my invention, as herein claimed, consists in the construction of an improved knitted foot-covering, economically and expeditiously formed, and greatly improved in appearance and comfort by fulling and teaseling.

I claim—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a foot-covering composed of a knitted fabric seamed substantially as shown and described, fulled, shaped to a last, and teaseled, and provided with an elastic anklet or top, as set forth.

2. The herein-described blank for a shoe-upper, it having selvage-edges to be joined in the formation of the seam at the top of the foot, and also for the attachment to it of the anklet or top, substantially as described.

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

WILLIAM CARTER.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,

FRED. A. POWELL.