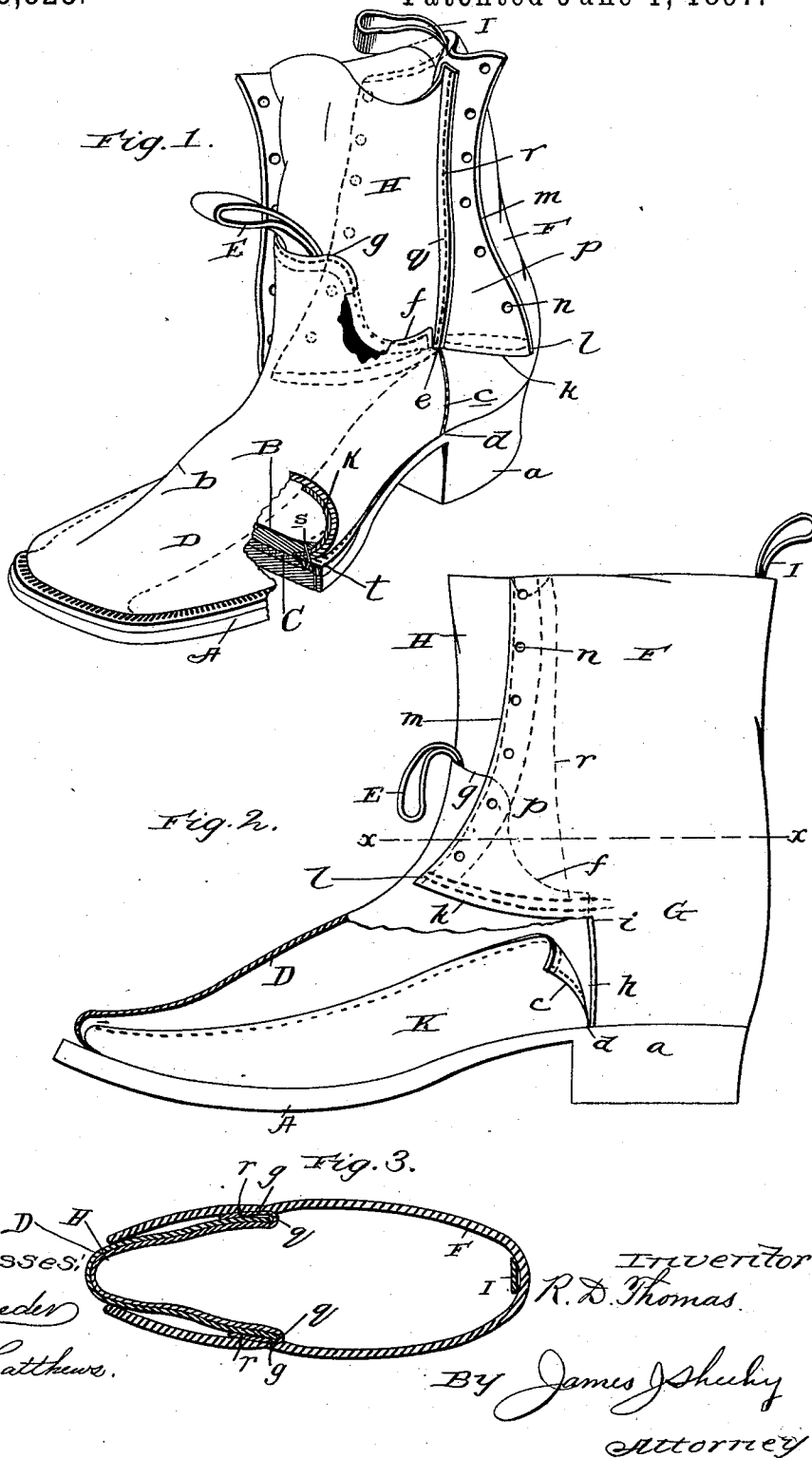


(No Model.)

R. D. THOMAS.
COMBINATION BOOT AND SHOE.

No. 583,828.

Patented June 1, 1897.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RUDOLPH D. THOMAS, OF LOCKWOOD, MISSOURI.

COMBINATION BOOT AND SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 583,828, dated June 1, 1897.

Application filed May 17, 1894. Serial No. 511,530. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RUDOLPH D. THOMAS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lockwood, in the county of Dade and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Boot and Shoe; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention has relation to a combination boot and shoe; and it has for its prime object to produce an article which will possess all the advantages of a boot and shoe without having any of the disadvantages of either.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the device that it will have the resisting qualities of a boot and the comforts of a shoe.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the device as to obviate the objections heretofore experienced of slipping at the heel, there being no side seams to come in contact with the ankle, and the ankle will be well supported, so as to strengthen the same.

A further object of the invention is to afford a smoothness from the toe to the heel, which has heretofore been found only in boots.

Other objects and advantages will appear from the following description and claim when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device with parts in section and parts broken away. Fig. 2 is a side elevation with the vamp partly in longitudinal section, illustrating one of the inner side linings or foxing; and Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view taken in the plane indicated by the dotted line *x x* on Fig. 2.

Referring by letter to said drawings, A indicates the outer sole, B the inner sole, and C the intermediate or filling sole. The sole A may be of the ordinary or any approved construction and provided with a suitable heel *a*.

D indicates the vamp. This vamp is formed from a single piece of material and is of a peculiar configuration, having its lower edge adapted to be secured to the sole, as will be presently described, and is crimped lengthwise, as shown at *b*. This vamp has a straight-

cut portion *c*, which extends from the point *d* just above the heel to the point *e*, or in a plane at the top of the counter. From this point *e* the vamp is cut forwardly and upwardly in a curvilinear manner, as shown at *f*, and extends in the center of the shoe and well up into the same in a curved manner, as shown at *g*. This center extension *g* may be of a height commonly employed in an ordinary shoe, and to the center of this center extension and on the inner side thereof is secured one of the pull-straps E, which is looped in the ordinary manner to receive the finger of the wearer.

F indicates the quarter. This quarter is also of a peculiar construction and may be formed from either one or two pieces. When making the quarter of two pieces, I would unite the parts at the rear above the heel in the usual manner. I shall describe the quarter as being made from a single piece of stock, as such a description will enable any one skilled in the art to make it in two parts. The quarter has a straight vertical portion *h* at or about the forward terminus of the heel, which may comprise the forward terminal edge of the counter G. This straight portion extends from the heel to a point *i*, and it is thence cut forwardly and upwardly in a curvilinear manner, as shown at *k*, terminating in the forwardly-projecting point *l*, and from this point the material is cut in a rearwardly and upwardly sloping manner, as shown at *m*, and this upwardly-sloping portion is provided at a suitable distance from its marginal edge with either eyelets or buttons, as the case may be, eyelets *n* being preferably placed at the lower portion and buttons at the upper portion to receive a lace in the ordinary manner. It will be observed that the counter has flaps *p*, which extend forwardly, so as to cover the ankle.

The construction thus far described would leave a front opening in the shoe or boot above the central extension and between the lateral flaps, and this central opening is closed by a thin or soft leather piece H. It will be observed that the quarter may extend as high up the leg portion as desirable, so as to prevent the appearance of a boot, and the soft leather or closing piece has its lower edge cut transversely to conform to the upper curvi-

linear edge of the center piece comprising an extension of the vamp, and these two curved edges of the closing-piece and the vamp extension are united by stitches with the closing-piece on the inner side of the vamp extension. The vertical side edges *g* of this closing-piece II are sewed on the inner sides of the quarter, as indicated by the vertical dotted line *r*, thereby closing the entire front of the shoe. The rear of the shoe is provided with a pull-loop I.

In constructing the shoe the inner sole B is beveled on its under marginal edge, as shown at S, and an inner foxing or side lining K is placed with its lower longitudinal edge against the beveled edge of the inner sole. The vamp is then placed against the inner foxing or side lining and a welt *t* placed on the other side of the latter, when the whole is sewed or otherwise secured together. The inner linings extend a sufficient distance up the sides of the vamp and are disposed longitudinally from the toe to the counter, as better shown in Fig. 2 of the drawings. The outer sole may be secured to the welt or otherwise attached with the interposed filling-sole in position.

By the construction described it will be seen that I have a boot which may be as easily placed on the foot as an ordinary shoe and that the leg portion is entirely closed around the sides. It will also be seen that the upper can be drawn as tightly as desired across the ankle, thereby strengthening the same and preventing the heel from slipping, which has been found so objectionable heretofore.

The leg portion can be made as high as desired, with the seam in the back of the shoe when used for army purposes, and when used as a plow-shoe the back seam can be omitted,

which is very desirable, as there will be no seam at this point to rip.

It should be observed that the flaps *p* are secured by stitches along the curvilinear portion *h* to the vamp at a point about the ankle, so that the lace can be drawn over the ankle and the shoe secured very tightly at this point.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

A combination boot and shoe essentially comprising an extra-length vamp-piece formed with an integral front upwardly-disposed extension *g* having an upward projection approximately equaling the height of an ordinary shoe, said vamp-piece also having opposite straight cuts *c* near the heel, the quarter extending from the base of the counter the full height of the upper and formed with opposite straight vertical portions registering with the corresponding portions *c* of the vamp-piece, and with opposite closing-flaps having at their front lower corners points secured to and extending well around the vamp-piece at about the ankle-line, a soft flexible closing-piece II attached at its lower edge to the vamp extension *g* and at its side edges to the inner sides of said closing-flaps, a pull-strap attached to the rear top edge of the quarter, and a separate front pull-strap arranged in front of the closing-piece II and attached at its lower edge to the central top edge of the extension *g*, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

RUDOLPH D. THOMAS.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS P. ADAMS, Jr.,
BEN LAUGHLIN.