J. G. ROSS.

Form-Plates for Bottoms of Shoe-Lasts.

No. 140,078. Patented June 17, 1873.

FIG. 1

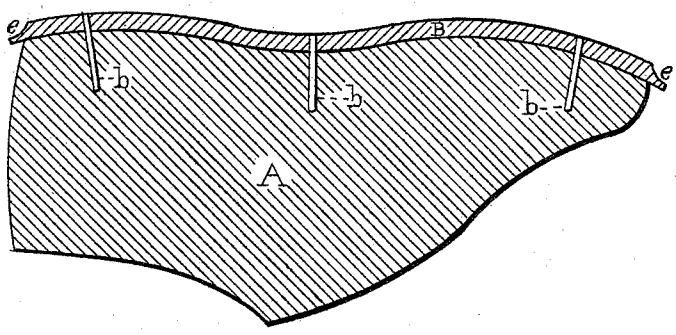

FIG. 2

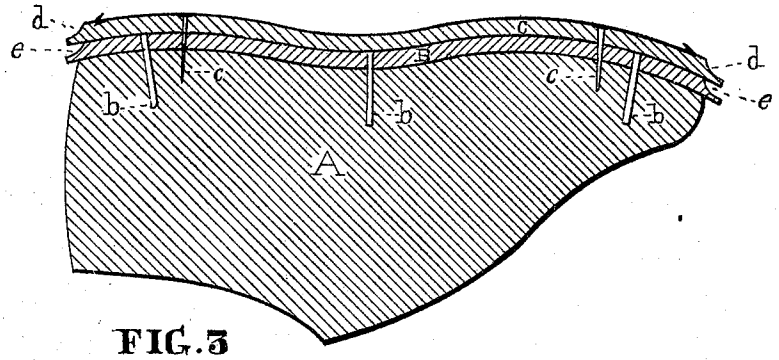

FIG. 3

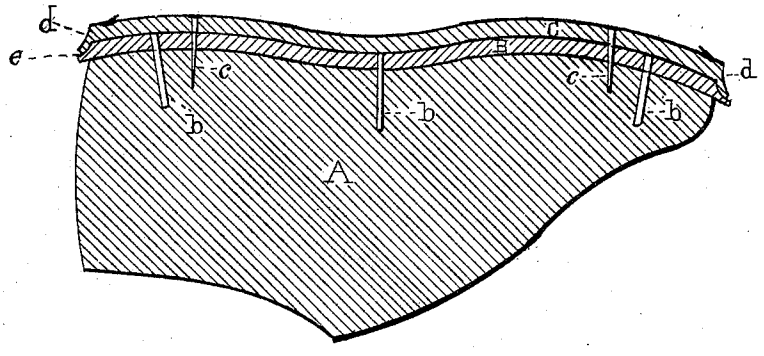

FIG. 4

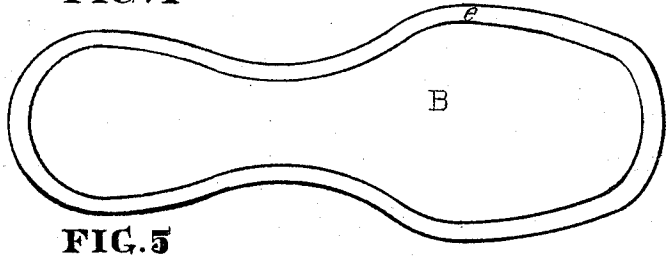

FIG. 5

Witnesses.

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IMPROVEMENT IN FORM-PLATES FOR BOTTOMS OF SHOE-LASTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **140,078**, dated June 17, 1873; application filed May 1, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. ROSS, of the city of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a Form-Plate for the Bottom of Shoe-Lasts, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to a plate made of leather, metal, or other suitable material, detachable from or permanently connected with the bottom of a last used in sewing turned shoes, as hereinafter described.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a last with the form-plate B in connection therewith ready for the reception of the sole. Fig. 2 is a like view with the sole C tacked in position. Fig. 3 is a like view as Fig. 2 with the edge of the sole C turned down into the cove *e* in the outer corner of the edge of the plate B. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the form-plate B. Fig. 5 is an edge view of the same.

Like letters in all the figures indicate the same parts.

A represents an ordinary last. B is a form-plate, represented in detail in Figs. 4 and 5. C is a sole, channeled and beveled ready for the sewing operation, placed in position on the form-plate. The object of the form-plate is to receive at its edge the pressure of the oblique presser-foot, which bears upon the upper at its connection with the sole, from turning the edge of the latter outward from the last, thus allowing the upper presser-foot to force the edge of the sole into the cove of the form-plate, thereby making the bevel to assume a flat surface for sewing.

In sewing all kinds, except pump-gaiters, it is preferable to have the form-plate detachable, so that the last may first be taken out of the shoe, and afterward the plate removed. In this case I make it of leather, or other elastic material, that will yield or spring so as to allow the last to draw off freely, and it to be readily removed from the shoe after the last is withdrawn. I confine the form-plate, when elastic, to the last by means of pins *b b b*, which are fast in the last, and have their outer ends projecting from the bottom of the same to pass through corresponding holes in the form-plate.

For sewing pump-gaiters the form-plate may be permanently attached to the bottom of the last by means of screws, or otherwise. In this case it may be made of metal or other rigid material. When so made, it should have perforations for the tacks *c c* to pass through into the last to secure the sole C, the perforations being larger than the tacks, so that the operator may have no difficulty in driving the latter.

When the sole C is tacked upon the form plate B, as represented in Fig. 2, its beveled edge *d*, by rubbing a tool over the same, is turned into the cove *e*, in the edge of said plate, as seen in Fig. 3, so as to bring said beveled edge into the right position for the stitching of the sole to the upper. This also assists in holding the sole securely to the form-plate. I make the cove *e* of such size and form as will bring the bevel of the sole C into the proper position for stitching. When the uppers are regular—that is, of the same thickness all around—I make the cove equal throughout; but when the heel part is thicker than the toe, I increase the depth and width of the cove in that part, so as to compensate for the extra thickness of the rear part of the upper, and provide in the same manner for any irregularity that may occur in the thickness of the upper, and thus secure a regularity and evenness of the stitching all around. In Figs. 4 and 5 the increased width and depth is shown both at the heel and toe of the plate, as an illustration, in accommodation to increased thickness of the upper at these points.

I claim as my invention—

The form-plate B in combination with the last A and sole C, the said plate having its edge projecting over the vertical surface of the last to receive the pressure of the oblique presser-foot, and a cove in the outer corner of its edge to receive the edge of the sole C, the said plate being either detachable from or permanently secured to the bottom of the last, substantially as described.

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Witnesses:

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