(No Model.)

E. L. SPRAGUE.

BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 259,230. Patented June 6, 1882.

Fig. 1.

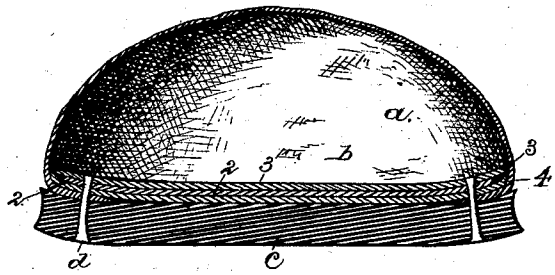


Fig. 2.

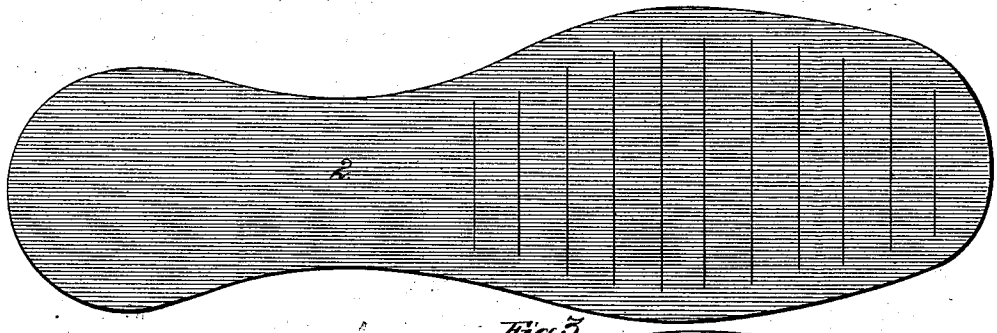
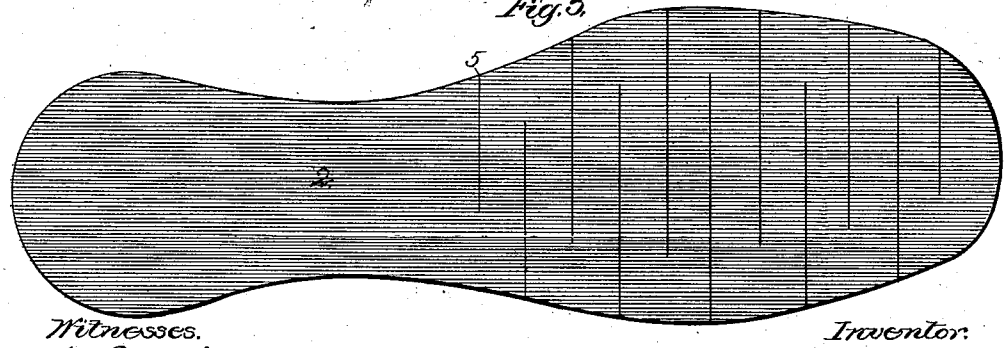


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWIN L. SPRAGUE, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,230, dated June 6, 1882.

Application filed May 23, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWIN L. SPRAGUE, of Boston, county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots and Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

My invention relates to shoes, and is shown embodied in a shoe having the upper and sole united by nailing.

The invention consists in a boot or shoe having an insole composed of sheet metal and leather-board, the metal fastenings uniting the outer sole and upper being driven through the metal part of the inner sole, as hereinafter described. When leather-board alone is used as an insole it is liable to become softened by moisture, when it will lose its hold upon the fastening-pegs and allow the upper to become separated from the sole. This I obviate by placing a metallic lining-sole beneath the sheet of leather-board, or between two sheets of leather-board, as the case may be, it protecting the leather-board from moisture, and itself affording a firm hold for the nails or fastenings.

In order to prevent the edges of the metallic sole from cutting the upper drawn over them, it is made of a smaller size than the leather-board parts thereof, the edges of which overhang the said metallic sole, and themselves come in contact with the upper, which is thus protected from the said metallic portion of the insole.

Figure 1 is a vertical cross-section of a shoe provided with my invention; Figs. 2 and 3, plan views of the metallic sole, showing different methods of slitting it for the purpose of reducing the stiffness of the shoe.

The upper *a* is drawn over the edges of the insole *b* in the usual manner, and provided with an outer sole, *c*, connected with the said insole, as by the nails *d*, which pass through the edges of the upper and are upset or clinched at the inner surface of the insole *b* in the usual manner to connect the sole and upper firmly together.

The insole *b* is composed of a metallic plate, 2, placed between two sheets of leather-board, 3 4, cut in proper form in the usual manner. In order to prevent the upper from being cut and worn by the edge of the metallic portion 2 of the insole, the said metallic portion is made smaller than the leather-board 3 4, so that the edges of the latter overhang the former, and themselves receive the upper *a*, preventing it from coming in contact with the edge of the said metallic portion 2.

The metallic portion 2 of the insole may be provided with transverse slits 5, which may either extend across its middle portion, leaving the edges intact, as shown in Fig. 2, or may extend alternately from the opposite sides, as shown in Fig. 3, passing from one edge across nearly to the other.

The portion 4 of the leather-board at the under side of the insole may be omitted, if desired. The metallic portion 2 of the insole protects the leather-board 3 above it from the effects of moisture penetrating the outer sole, and thus prevents it from softening to permit the nails *d* to draw through, while the said metal portion itself affords a firm hold for the said nails.

A sole may be constructed in this manner having the advantages of a leather sole at much less cost.

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, a boot or shoe consisting of an upper, outer sole, and inner sole, placed within the shoe above the inturned edges of the upper, the said inner sole being composed of metal and leather-board, the latter being extended at its edges beyond the edges of the metal, the sole-fastenings uniting the upper and the outer sole passing through both the metallic and leather-board portions of the inner sole, as shown and described.

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

EDWIN L. SPRAGUE.

Witnesses:

JOS. P. LIVERMORE,

B. J. NOYES.