

JOHN WILD.

Improvement in Overshoes.

No. 124,525.

Patented March 12, 1872.

Fig. 1.

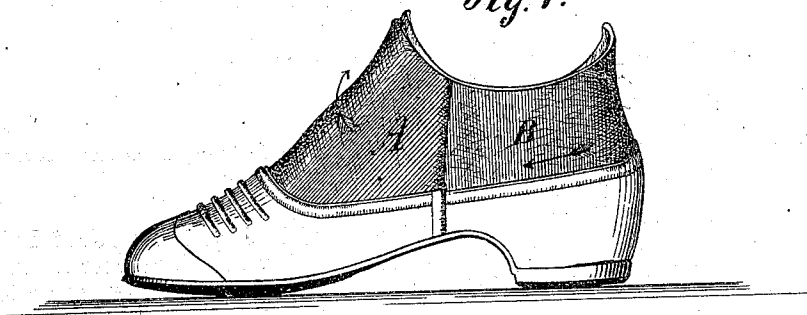
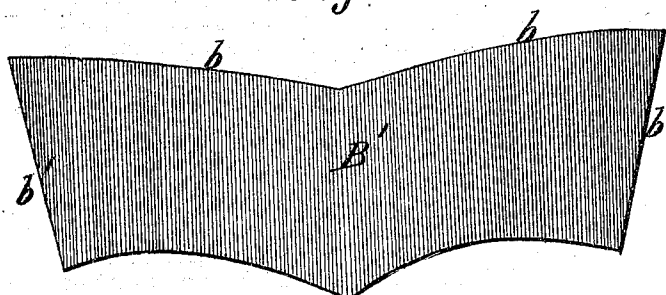


Fig. 2.



Black Netting

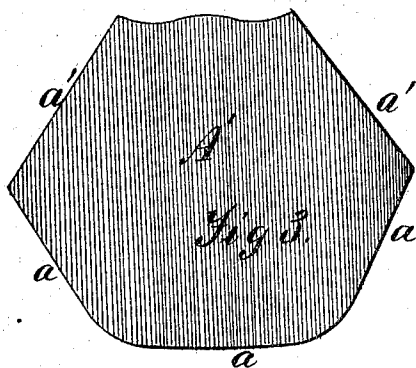
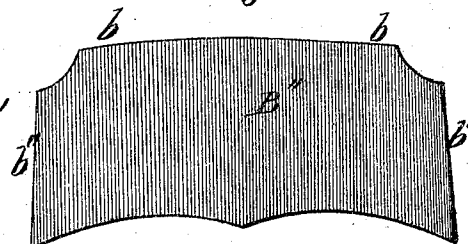
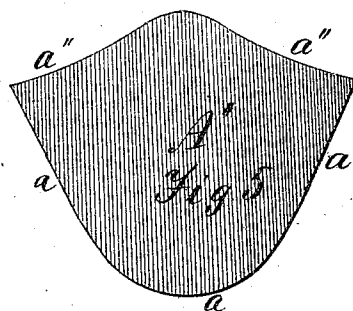


Fig. 4.



Inside Lining.



Witnesses.
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IMPROVEMENT IN OVERSHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 124,525, dated March 12, 1872; antedated February 24, 1872.

SPECIFICATION.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN WILD, of Woonsocket, in the county of Providence and in the State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Arctic Overshoes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of a waterproof overshoe constructed in accordance with my improvement. Fig. 2 represents the form of the outside textile quarter. Fig. 3 illustrates the form of the outside textile vamp. Fig. 4 shows the form of the quarter lining. Fig. 5 represents the form of the vamp lining. Figs. 2 to 5 are drawn on a larger scale than Fig. 1.

The same letters, where used, indicate identical parts.

This invention relates to that class of rubber overshoes the vamps and quarters of which consist of an elastic textile fabric, combined with rubber, to render it water-proof. The textile fabrics suitable for this use, whether knit or woven, are practically elastic in one direction only, and the ordinary manner of cutting and applying the required piece or pieces of the fabric is such that the line of elasticity runs in one direction throughout, either lengthwise of the shoe or crosswise. In the former case the vamp is practically inelastic in a direction across the foot, and in the latter case the elasticity of the fabric serves no useful purpose in the quarter, and leaves the shoe practically inelastic lengthwise, so that, in order to make a snug and comfortable fit around the ankles, elastic side gores have to be used. The object of my invention is to so cut and dispose the textile fabric as to render the portion of the shoe it forms elastic in two directions, namely, lengthwise in the quarter and crosswise in the vamp; and this is accomplished by forming the quarter and vamp of separate pieces, united by ankle seams, and cut out of the fabric with due regard to the required lines of elasticity, as will be generally explained in the following description and specifically pointed out in the claim.

The sole, heel, and foxing of the overshoe,

illustrated in Fig. 1, consist of India rubber, and the vamp A and quarter B are composed of an exterior and interior textile fabric, with an interposed layer of rubber. All the parts are united together while the rubber is in its green or plastic state, and the article then undergoes the vulcanizing process in the usual manner to produce the finished shoe. For the pieces of textile fabric any woven or knit goods possessing the requisite elasticity, and otherwise suitable for the purpose, may be employed. The shade lines in the figures, representing the patterns of woven or knitted pieces used in the construction of the vamp and quarter, indicate the lines in which the fabric is practically inelastic, by which expression is meant that the goods is devoid of elasticity in so far as this quality can subserve any useful purpose in the class of articles under consideration, though it may possess a certain slight degree of elasticity in such direction. From the nature of the fabric it is elastic in a direction at right angles to these shade lines, so that, as the vamp pieces A' and A'' (the former being the exterior and the latter the lining) are united along their edges *a* to the foxing of the shoe, the natural lines of elasticity of the vamp will run across the foot, as indicated by the arrow in that part of the shoe shown in Fig. 1. On the other hand, the natural lines of elasticity of the quarter pieces, B' and B'', representing, respectively, the exterior and the lining, when thus united along their edges *b* to the foxing and heel, will run lengthwise of the shoe, as indicated by the other arrow in Fig. 1. In uniting the exterior vamp and quarter pieces the respective edges *b'* *b''* of the former are sewed to the corresponding edges *a'* *a''* of the latter, whereby the ankle seams, one of which is in view in Fig. 1, are formed. In similar manner the corresponding edges *a''* *a'''* and *b''* *b'''* of the lining pieces are sewed together.

In the foregoing I have confined myself to the description of my improvements as applied to overshoes, gaiters, or boots in which the soles, heels, and foxing consist of rubber, because the primary object was the improvement of this class of goods; but it is evident that my invention was equally applicable to such goods in which these enumerated parts are of leather.

In consequence of the above-described manner of cutting and disposing the textile pieces of the vamp and quarter, I am enabled to furnish a neater, better-fitting, and more comfortable article of this class than has ever before been put upon the market.

I do not intend to claim broadly a shoe with an elastic, textile, or knitted upper, which is elastic longitudinally in the quarter and transversely in the vamp, for I am aware that such uppers have been knitted in one piece in such a manner as to effect this result; but limit my claim to a shoe with an elastic upper cut in two parts, and disposed in the way explained, whereby I am enabled to accomplish the desired object at a much smaller cost than where

such upper is made in one piece, and at the same time furnish as durable and neatly-fitting an overshoe as any ever made.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A rubber overshoe or boot, the upper of which consists of two pieces cut out of a plain piece of an elastic, knitted, or woven fabric in the manner described, so that the lines of elasticity of the upper will run longitudinally in the quarter and transversely in the vamp.

JOHN WILD.

Witnesses:

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