M. A. Johnson,

Shoe Sole.

No. 61,712. Patented Feb. 5, 1867.

Fig. 1.

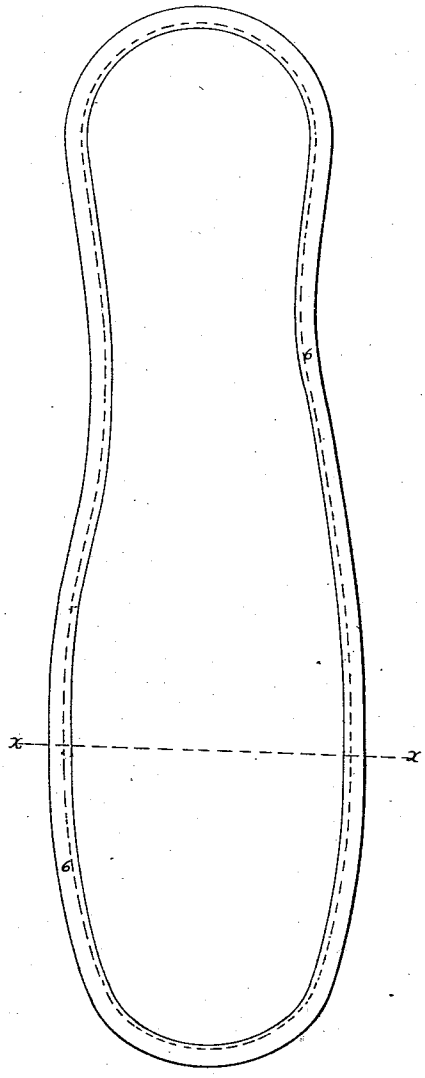


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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Thos. G. Chamberlain

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United States Patent Office.

MOSES A. JOHNSON, OF LOWELL, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 61,742, *dated February* 5, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN INSOLES FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, MOSES A. JOHNSON, of Lowell, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have made or invented certain new and useful Improvements in Insoles for Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a plan of one of the insoles; and

Figure 2 represents a section thereof at the line *x x* of fig. 1.

I am aware that a flat steel spring has been applied to the under side of an insole to give it strength and elasticity. I disclaim any such spring, as it does not accomplish what I aim at. Insoles of various kinds have been made of flexible material, but they will creep or crimp under the action of the feet in walking. And when made of non-flexible material they are hard and cold to the feet. My object is to produce an insole that will be soft to the foot, warm, flexible, but that will not creep, crease, or crimp under the action of the foot in walking. And my invention consists in binding in a wire or its equivalent all around the margin or edge of the insole, where it will be entirely removed from contact with the foot, thus leaving the insole with all the elasticity of a pad or cushion under the foot, whilst the wire prevents it from getting out of shape or position in walking.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawings.

The sole may be composed of layers of several different materials, as, for instance, the under portion, 1, may be of glazed or water-proofed paper, cloth, or thin leather; on this a layer, 2, of felted or sheet hair; on this a layer of paper, 3, and so on until it is sufficiently thick and elastic, and the top portion, 4, may be of Canton flannel or cloth. The sole cut from a fabric thus built up is stitched around the edge and then bound with leather, braid, galloon, or other suitable binding, 6, and as the binding is being sewed or otherwise fastened on, a wire, 5, or its equivalent, is introduced under it and around the edge of the insole, which keeps the sole in proper shape and position. The stitching around the edge, previous to binding and placing in the wire, prevents the latter from working into or between the layers, or getting out of its proper position. Cork may be introduced as one of the layers if quite thin; but I prefer woven or felted goods of some kind as more suitable and cheaper than cork, as it is more elastic and yielding to the foot. I have represented the stiffener as being in one piece, and extending entirely around the insole. The stiffener may be in pieces, and extend only partially around the sole, or at intermediate parts thereof.

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

An insole composed of layers of felted or woven material, or of thin leather or their equivalents, and margined by a wire or its equivalent, secured to the edge of the insole, substantially as described.

MOSES A. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

EUGENE S. MUZZEY,

JEROME J. BARKER.