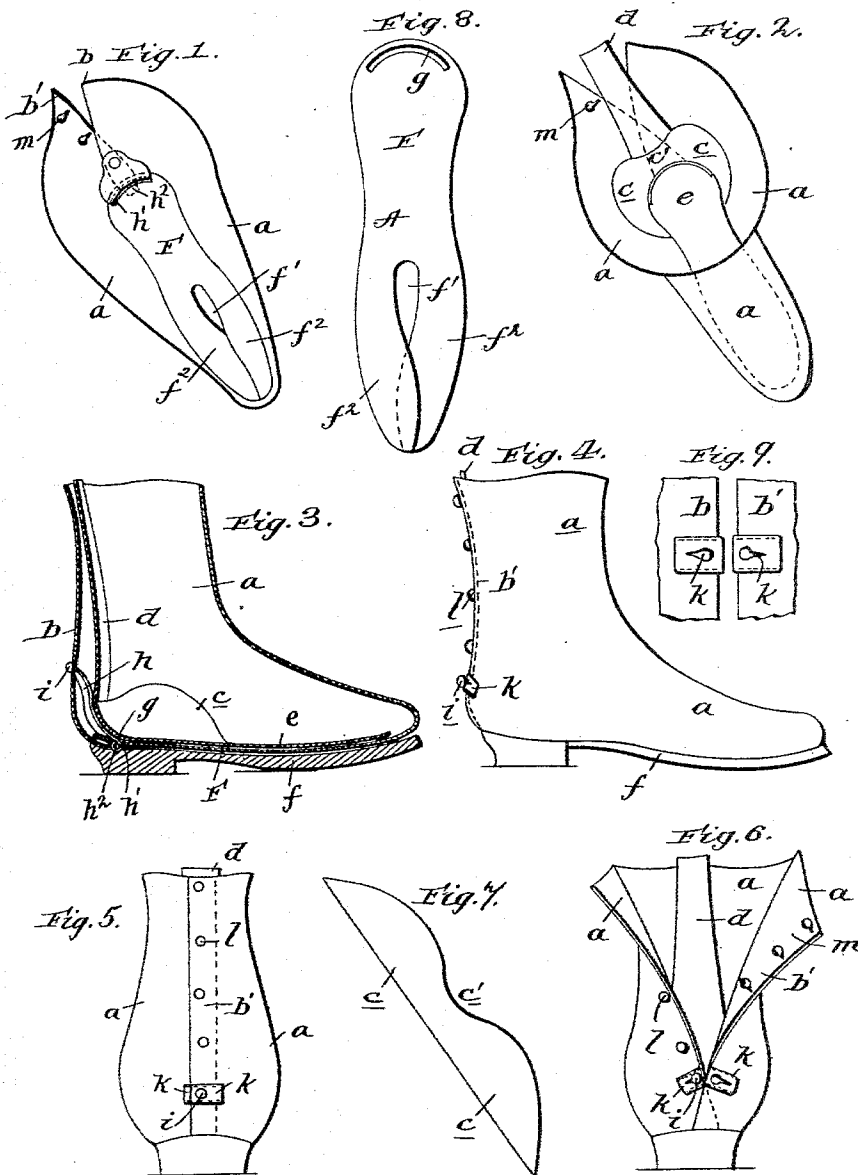


(No Model.)

M. FREUND.
BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 531,841.

Patented Jan. 1, 1895.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MOSES FREUND, OF VIENNA, AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,841, dated January 1, 1895.

Application filed September 22, 1894. Serial No. 523,807. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MOSES FREUND, a subject of the Emperor of Austria-Hungary, residing at 115 Kaiserstrasse, Vienna, Austria-Hungary, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots or Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in boots and shoes; and it has for its general object to provide a boot or shoe adapted to open at the back so as to permit of the foot being readily placed therein.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1, is a horizontal section of a boot or shoe embodying my invention, with the insole and tongue, &c., removed. Fig. 2, is a top plan view. Fig. 3, is a vertical, longitudinal, central section. Fig. 4, is a side elevation. Fig. 5, is a rear elevation with the upper closed. Fig. 6, is a similar view with the upper open. Fig. 7, is a detail view of the heel piece removed. Fig. 8, is a plan view of the filling sole or stiffening plate ready to be inserted in the shoe. Fig. 9, is a detail enlarged view illustrating the apertured plates *k*, with which the flaps of the upper are provided.

In the said drawings similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, referring to which—

f, indicates the outer sole of my shoe which may be of any suitable material and has a suitable heel as *f*². *e*, indicates the insole which may be connected to the outer sole in any suitable manner; and *a*, indicates the upper which is laced over or otherwise suitably connected to the insole. This upper *a*, may be and preferably is formed in one piece, and instead of being open in front in the ordinary manner, it is open up the back as better shown in Fig. 6, so as to permit of the work within the shoe being easily and neatly executed and also to permit of the shoe being easily placed upon the foot. The flaps *b*, *b'*, of the said upper are designed to overlap each other as better illustrated in Fig. 5, and the flap *b*, is provided with a series of buttons as *l*, which are designed to engage holes as *m*, in

the flap *b'*, and hold the same in its closed position as shown.

c, indicates the heel leather which is suitably connected to the insole *e*, and upper *a*, and is designed to serve substantially the same purpose as the counter of an ordinary shoe and also to reinforce the upper. This heel leather *c*, has its upper edge recessed at its middle as indicated by *c'*, so that it will not interfere with the insertion of the foot; and to its recessed or reduced portion is connected the tongue *d*, which is designed to rest on the inside of the overlapping flaps *b*, *b'*, and serve the same purpose as an ordinary tongue.

F, indicates the filling sole or stiffening plate which is interposed between the insole *e*, and the outer sole *f*. This sole or plate *F*, may be made of wood, metal, or other suitable material, and in order that it may be readily interposed between the insole *e*, and outer sole *f*, after the same have been connected, its forward portion is slitted or bifurcated as indicated by *f'*, to form the branches *f*². These branches will give inwardly when the sole or plate *F*, is being inserted and will overlap each other as shown in Fig. 8, so as to permit of the sole being easily pressed to its proper position, but after the sole is in position and there is room enough for the branches alongside each other, they will assume such position as illustrated in Fig. 1, so as to present a flat surface to the foot. The said sole or plate *F*, is provided adjacent to its rear or heel end with a curvilinear slot *g*, and in this slot, the edge *h'*, of the metal or wood heel piece *h*, is inserted, said edge *h'*, being so formed as indicated by *h*², as to enable it to spring into engagement with the plate *F*, thus constituting also a hinge-like connection. This heel piece *h*, is provided on its rear side with a button or stud *i*, which is designed to engage the apertures in the metal plates *k*, on the flaps *b*, *b'*, and serve in conjunction with the buttons *l*, before described, in holding said flaps in their closed position.

In manufacturing my improved shoe, the maker may, by reason of the upper being open up the back, gain ready access to the interior of the shoe to conveniently execute any work necessary therein, and for the same reason

the shoe may be quickly and easily placed upon the foot.

The shoe is further more advantageous for the reason that the unbroken front presents a neat appearance and is not likely to chafe the instep of the wearer as is the lace of the ordinary shoe.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

- 10 1. The herein described shoe comprising an outer sole, an insole, the upper *a*, connected to the insole and open up the back and having the flaps *b, b'*, adapted to overlap and provided respectively with buttons and button
- 15 holes, the leather heel piece *c*, connected to the upper and having the recess *c'*, in its upper edge at its middle, a sole or plate *F*, interposed between the insole and outer sole, and the heel plate *h*, connected with the plate
- 20 *F*, and resting between the heel leather *c*, and the upper and having a button or stud *i*, adapted to engage the flaps *b, b'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The herein described shoe comprising an outer sole, an insole, the upper *a*, connected 25 to the insole and open up the back and having the flaps *b, b'*, adapted to overlap and provided respectively with buttons and button holes, the heel leather *c*, connected to the upper and having the recess *c'*, in its upper edge 30 at its middle, the sole or plate *F*, interposed between the insole and outer sole and having its forward end bifurcated to form portions *f²*, adapted to overlap each other, and the heel plate *h*, connected with the plate *F*, and resting 35 between the heel leather *c*, and the upper and having a button or stud *i*, adapted to engage the flaps *b, b'*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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

MOSES FREUND.

Witnesses:

DEAN B. MASON,
HARRY BELMONT.