(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

O. P. HURD.

BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 528,724. Patented Nov. 6, 1894.

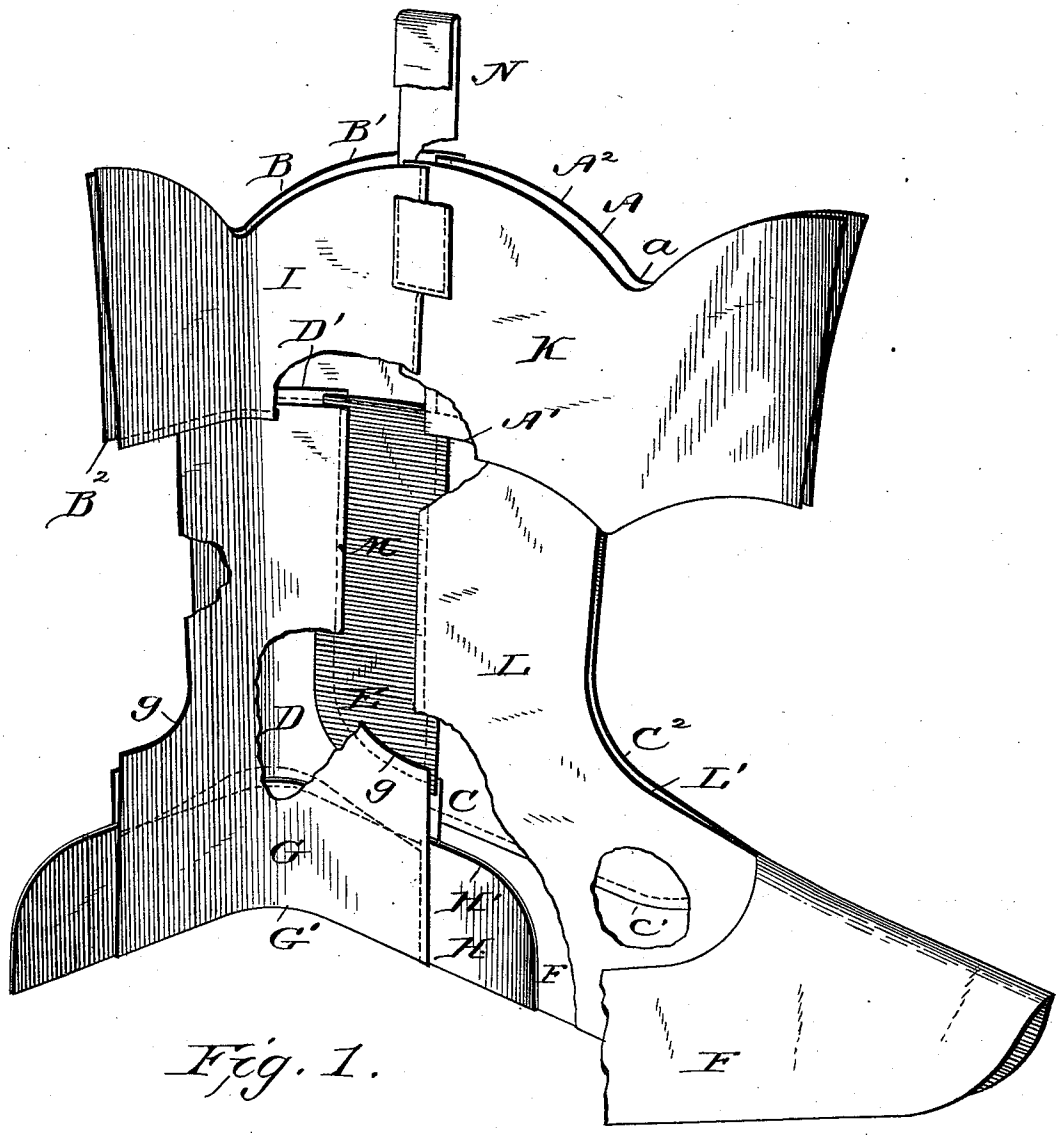

Fig. 1.

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Fig. 2.

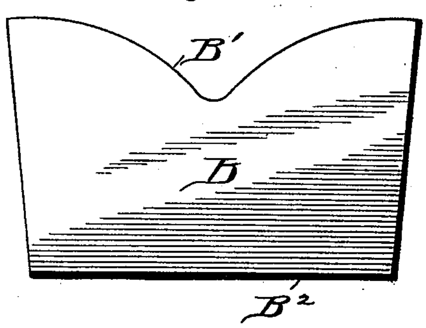


Fig. 3.

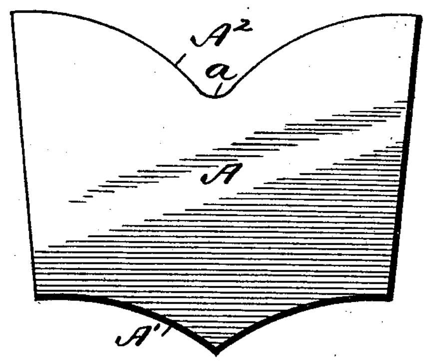


Fig. 4.

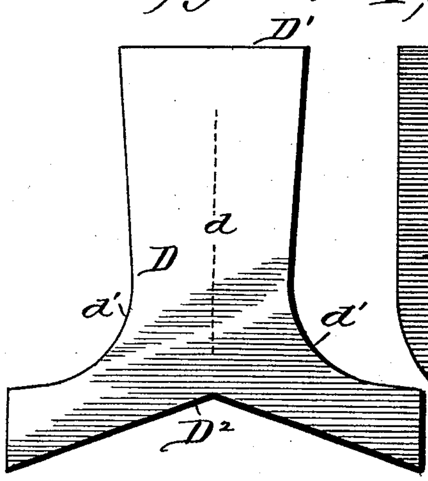


Fig. 5.

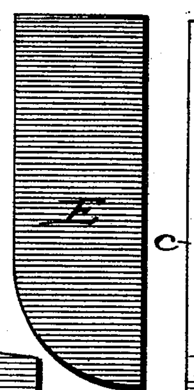
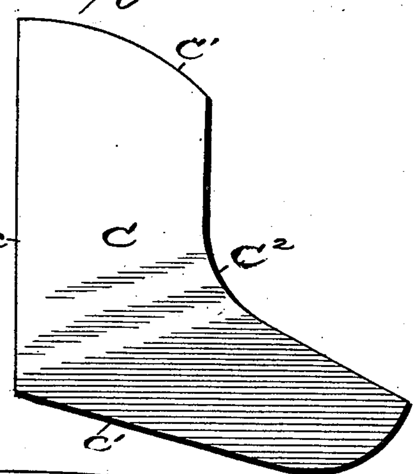


Fig. 6



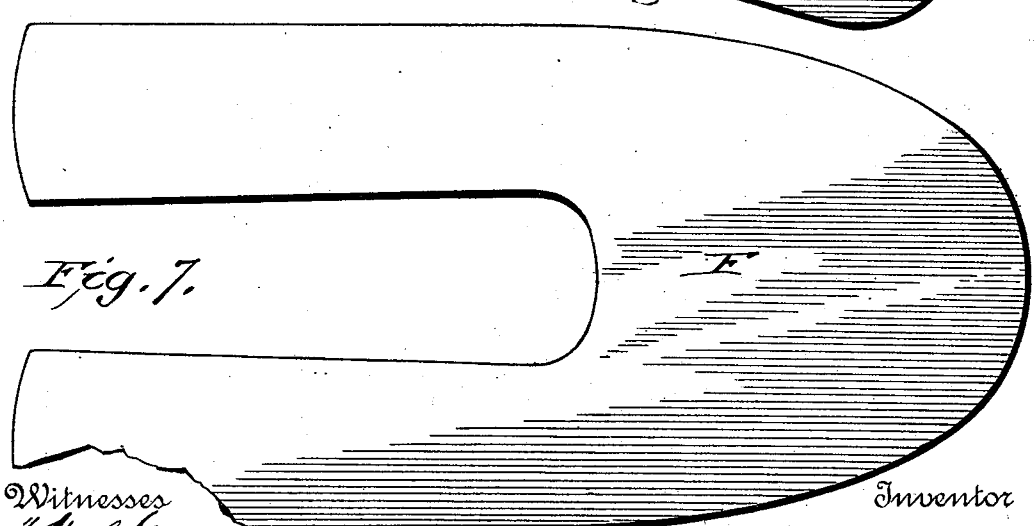


Fig. 7.

Witnesses

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O. P. HURD.

BOOT OR SHOE.

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Fig. 8

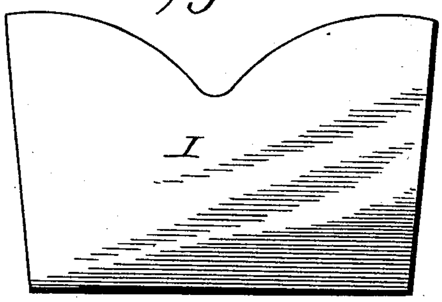


Fig. 9.

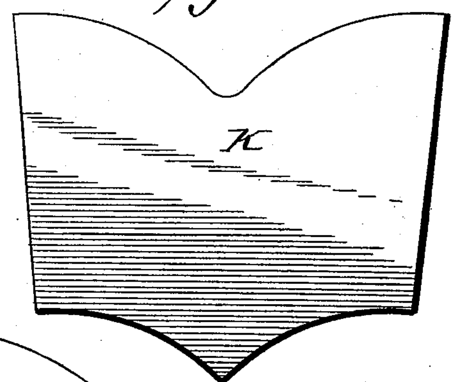


Fig. 10.

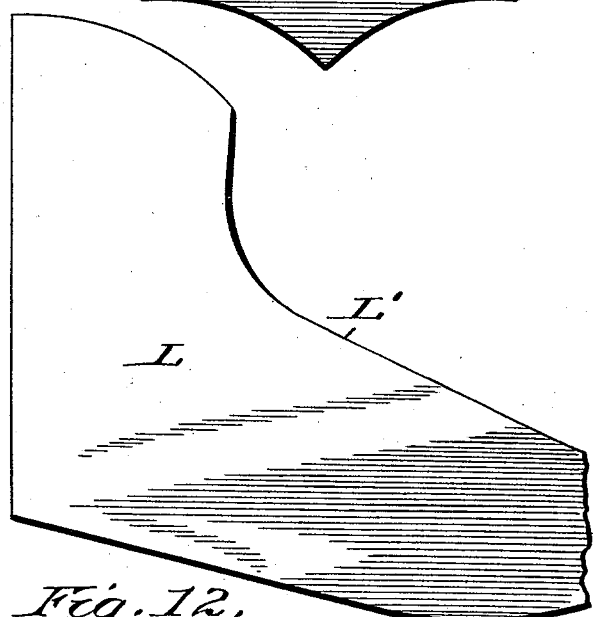
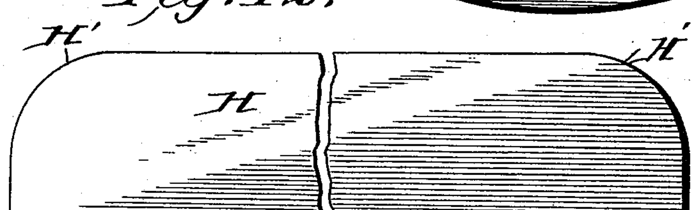


Fig. 12.



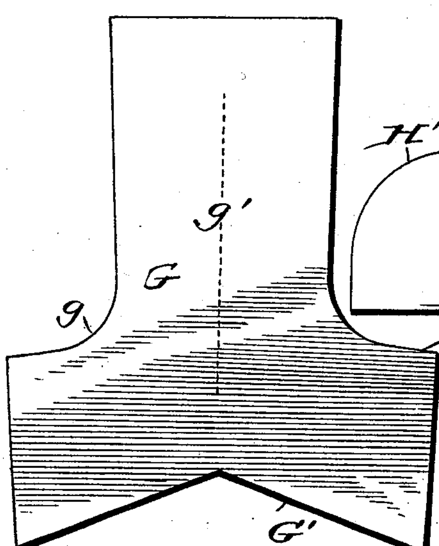


Fig. 11.

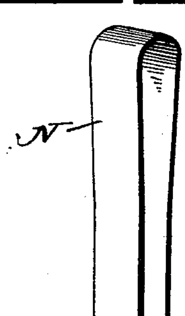


Fig. 13.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

OSCAR P. HURD, OF BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,724, dated November 6, 1894.

Application filed February 16, 1894. Serial No. 500,402. (No model.) Patented in Canada April 9, 1894, No. 45,752.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OSCAR P. HURD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Binghamton, in the county of Broome and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boots or Shoes, (for which Canadian Letters Patent No. 45,752, bearing date of April 9, 1894, have been granted me;) and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of boots or shoes which are provided with sections of elastic material arranged so as to draw the shoe tightly around the wearer's ankle; and my principal object is to adapt this principle to boots of the rougher class, and at the same time to construct the device so cheaply that its cost will not prevent its use by workingmen, although it is apparent that the device is applicable to all kinds of boots.

With this object in view the invention consists of certain improved features of construction and arrangement of parts that will now be fully described and finally embodied in the claims.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1, is a perspective view of the boot showing portions broken away, and Figs. 2 to 13 views of the various parts used in constructing the boot.

The boot comprises seven main parts, viz: the front top portion A, the back top portion B, the lower front portion C, the lower back portion D, the two sections of elastic goring E, and the vamp F. The front top portion A is shown in detail by Fig. 2, and is formed with its lower edge A′ curving downwardly from each side so as to form a point midway said edge, and with the upper edge A^2 curving downwardly from each side in conformity with the curve of the edge A′, so as to form the indentation *a* midway of the upper edge.

The section A extends from the middle of each side of the boot around the front portion thereof and is joined at its sides to the top back portion B. This portion, B, has its upper edge, B′, formed in a manner similar to the corresponding edge, A^2, of the section A, while its lower edge B^2 is formed straight.

The lower front section C is shown in outline by Fig. 6, and has its upper edge C′ formed with a curve conforming to the curve A′ of the section A, the said edges being adapted to be joined by stitching or otherwise, and the section C is crimped along the line C^2 so that it will conform to the shape of the instep. The rear sides *c* of the section C extend to the middle of each side of the boot and in vertical alignment with the sides of the sections A and B, while its lower edge *c*′ is secured to the corresponding portion of the vamp F.

The lower back section D is illustrated alone in Fig. 4, and this section is formed with a plane upper edge D′, while its lower edge D^2 is formed sloping upwardly from each side so as to form a triangular indentation in said edge. This section is also crimped, on the line *d*, so that it will conform to the ankle at this point.

The sides of the section D are each formed with an inwardly and upwardly extending curve *d*′, beginning at a short distance above the lower edge and ending at the upper edge. The purpose of this curved side is to form a recess within which the elastic goring E may be received. The sides of the section D, below the curve *d*′ are secured on each side of the boot, to the edge *c* of the section C, while the upper edge D′ of said section is secured to the lower side B^2 of the section B, and the triangular lower edge D^2 is in turn secured to the vamp F. By this arrangement two vertically elongated openings are left, one in each side of the boot, and it is in these openings that the sections of elastic goring E are arranged and secured at their edges to the corresponding edges of the adjacent boot sections as shown in Fig. 1. This goring operates, as in other boots and shoes of this class, to draw the sections C and D closely around the ankle of the wearer, making the boot fit neatly and holding it in place. It will be seen that by means of the peculiar construction here employed a boot is provided with this elastic feature, without making its con-

struction so expensive as to exclude its use by persons of moderate means, and the advantage of such a boot for all classes of wearers is manifest.

If so desired the sections B and D may be formed of an integral piece, but I prefer to form them as shown, since this is the cheaper mode.

Sometimes it may be found desirable to employ only one gore on only one side of the boot leg, but two are generally preferred.

By reference to Fig. 1 the internal construction of my boot may be seen, and in this figure I have illustrated a peculiar construction of heel stiffening and staying devices. This consists, of the section G, which is provided with a lower edge G′ slanting upwardly from each side so as to form a triangular recess as in the section D, and with the curved sides *g* beginning at points above the lower edge equal to about one-third the length of the section and extending to the upper edge thereof, the curves being made to conform to the curved edges *d′* of the section D.

Section G is firmly stitched to the lower edge of the section D, and it is crimped on the line *g′* so that it will conform to the shape of the boot. The section G is in effect a reproduction of the section D, the difference lying in the lower portion of the former section, as this portion extends below the section D, and down to the lower edge of the vamp F. It will be seen how this strengthening section, G, will greatly add to the efficiency of the boot, since it will brace the section D and prevent wrinkling.

If so desired the section G may be formed in two pieces and secured to each other on the line *g′*, but I regard the construction here shown as the best.

Operating in conjunction with the stay G is the counter-stiffener H, which is shown in detail by Fig. 13, and which consists of a narrow strip of stiff leather, extending along the inner side of the rear portion of the vamp F and beyond the stay G. The goring E is secured to the edges *d′* and *g* of the sections D and G respectively by stitching, and the rear lower edges of the goring are arranged between the two sections so that it will be firmly held in place and so that none of its edges will be left on the inside of the boot.

The boot may be lined with any suitable or preferred material, and Fig. 1 indicates the construction of this lining. It will be necessary to form the lining in various sections. Thus, the letter I indicates a section of the lining corresponding to the back top portion B of the boot, while K indicates a similar device corresponding to the front portion A. The edges of these sections are securely stitched to each other. The front portion of the vamp and of the section C is lined with two sections L, which are for each side of the boot and which extend from the lower edge of the section K downwardly to the sole and forward to the toe of the boot, each being securely stitched to the vamp F and section C′, and to each other, on the line L′.

Straps N may be provided and these are secured to the lining sections I and K as may be seen in Fig. 1.

It will be understood that the application of my construction is not confined to boots of the rougher class, but may be applied to any class of boot or shoe. It may also be adapted to ladies' riding boots and to felt boots for either sex, as felt can be crimped and shaped as well as leather.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. An upper for foot gear comprising a vamp, a front leg section secured to the vamp and having its sides extending to the middle of the device, a back leg section having lower forward extensions attached to the front leg section and secured to the vamp, an inner reinforcing and staying section for the back conforming to and corresponding in shape with the said back leg section and projecting beyond the lower edge thereof a distance corresponding to the width of the rear portion of the vamp to reach to the lower edge thereof, elastic gores secured in the spaces between the opposing edges of the front and the back sections, and a counter stiffener secured between the rear portion of the vamp and the lower portion of the said reinforcing section and having its end portions projecting beyond the edges of the reinforcing section and secured to the vamp, substantially as set forth.

2. An upper for foot gear comprising a vamp, a front leg section secured to the vamp and having its sides extending to the middle of the device, a back leg section having lower forward extensions attached to the front leg section and secured to the vamp, an inner reinforcing and staying section for the back conforming to and corresponding in shape with the said back leg section and projecting beyond the lower edge thereof a distance corresponding to the width of the rear portion of the vamp to reach to the lower edge thereof, elastic gores secured in the spaces between the opposing edges of the front and back sections, and a counter stiffener secured between the rear portion of the vamp and the lower portion of the said reinforcing section and having its end portions projecting beyond the edges of the reinforcing section and secured to the vamp, a top, front and back portion secured at the sides in line with the side seam, the lower edge of the back portion being straight, and of the front portion curved, and the top edges of the leg sections being of corresponding shape, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

OSCAR P. HURD.

Witnesses:
R. F. BIEBER,
J. N. PIERCY.