(No Model.)

B. F. WHITNEY.

BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 377,416. Patented Feb. 7, 1888.

FIG. 1.

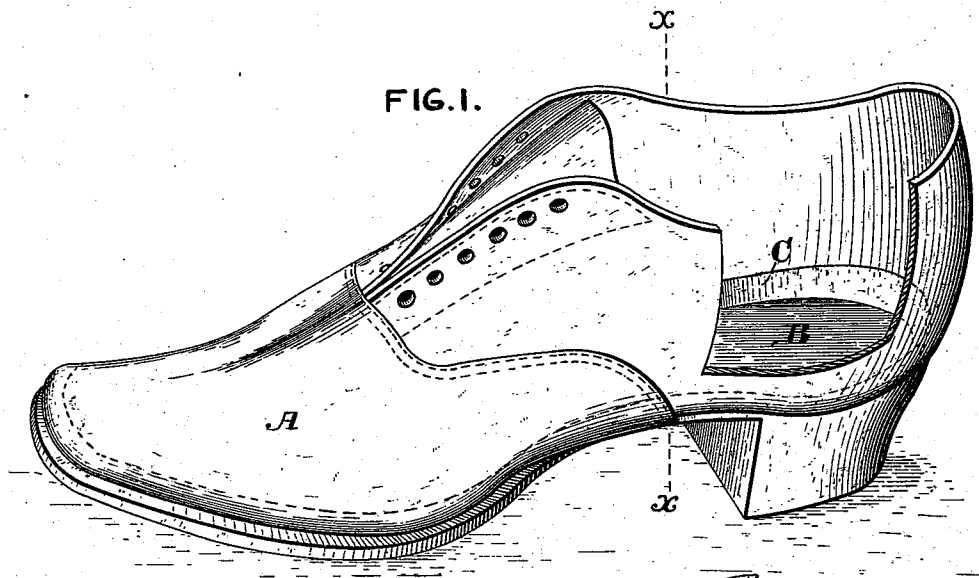


FIG. 3.

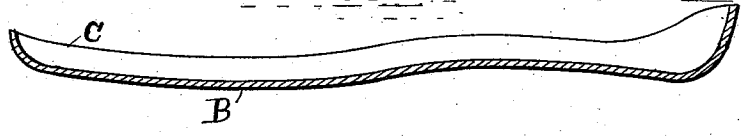


FIG. 4.



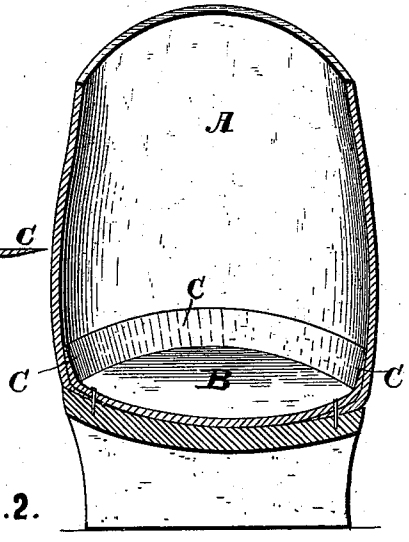


FIG. 2.

ATTEST

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. WHITNEY, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 377,416, dated February 7, 1888.

Application filed February 26, 1887. Serial No. 228,981. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. WHITNEY, of Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boots; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, that will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a boot or shoe with a portion of one side or shank broken away to show the present invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the boot or shoe; Fig. 3, a longitudinal central sectional view of the inner sole; Fig. 4, a cross-section of the same.

In shoes or boots as heretofore made the usual inner sole fails to keep the foot in proper position all round, because the sole does not conform to the shape of the foot about its edges. The result is that the foot crowds the upper out of shape, because the foot is not well supported all round.

To remedy these defects is the object of the present invention; and the improvement consists in providing a shoe of otherwise usual and ordinary construction with an inner sole turned up all around its edges, so as to come between the edge of the foot of the wearer and the inside of the upper all round, and support the upper and permit the usual heel-stiffening to be dispensed with.

In the accompanying drawings, A denotes a shoe; but while one of the low-cut type is now shown, this is only intended to indicate any kind of boot or shoe, as my invention is applicable for use in all kinds of shoes and boots. The insole B has an upturned edge, C, all around it, which, if desired, may be a little higher at the heel than in any other part. The general shape of this insole inside of the shoe is indicated in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and in perspective in Fig. 3. The edge of the insole is bent up, so as to conform precisely to the shape of the foot of the wearer, and thus fit snugly to the toes, side of the foot, insole, and heel. Especially at the instep is this structure of advantage, as it tends to support the foot at this point.

In constructing a shoe according to my invention the edge of the inner sole is upturned and occupies the space between the sharp edge of the last and the upper, and this prevents any abrading of the upper opposite the edge of the last, while in the completed shoe the inner sole is made so as nearly as possible to conform to the precise shape of the bottom, instep, and sides of the foot. When the shoe is worn, this structure tends to keep the foot in position and to sustain the shank of the foot, and to prevent it pushing the upper down upon and outside of the outer sole, and also to prevent water or moisture from easily entering the shoe in the space, more or less large, between the upper and the edge of the insole. Moreover, the inner sole, being turned up to lie beside the upper, no longer presents a sharp edge against and at right angles to the upper, so as to render it liable to be cut and abraided, as in the boot or shoe constructed in the old method.

As the beveled upturned edge of the inner sole extends around the whole boot or shoe, it prevents the same from breaking down in the shank or at the heel, which causes the upper to wrinkle, become unshapely, and to prematurely get out of shape; also, by means of such an insole the foot of the wearer is kept warm and dry. The necessity for a counter at the heel or a box at toe is also avoided, the inner sole supplying their places. It may also be stated that with the construction herein shown and described the outer sole can be sewed or nailed close to the edge of the last without damage of running off the inner sole, thus insuring the latter from curling up and giving a much firmer edge to the inner sole. It is desirable that the upturned part should not be sewed to the upper.

What I claim is—

The shoe having the usual heel and outer sole, vamp and quarter, and the inner sole, B, turned up all round its edges and supporting the upper, thus dispensing with the usual heel-stiffening.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 22d day of February, 1887.

BENJAMIN F. WHITNEY.

Witnesses.

GEORGE E. BIRD,

BENJ. F. ANDREWS.