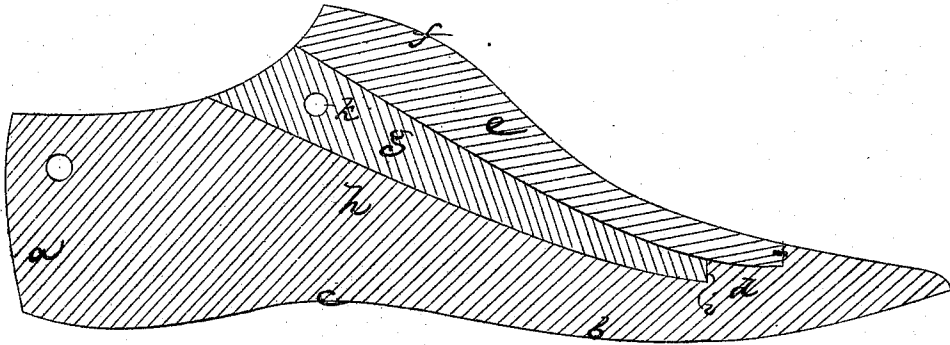


G. B. WHITNEY.

Lasts.

No. 128,688.

Patented July 2, 1872.



Witnesses.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE B. WHITNEY, OF NATICK, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN LASTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 128,688, dated July 2, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE B. WHITNEY, of Natick, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Lasts; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawing which accompanies and forms part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

In the manufacture of boots and shoes with high insteps it is very difficult to withdraw the last-blocks without injuring the uppers, for which reason the boots cannot be practically made with as high insteps as are often called for.

The object of my invention is to remedy this difficulty by making the last with special provision for withdrawing the block without strain upon the upper, or for dropping the block previous to its withdrawal. For this purpose I make the last with an auxiliary block or a slide-block placed between the top block and the body of the last, which slide-block is withdrawn when the shoe is ready for removal of the last, which withdrawal permits the main block to fall, thus relieving the instep from pressure of the upper block, after which the last and upper block can readily be withdrawn without strain upon or injury to the high-

crimped instep of the upper. It is in this construction of a last that my invention consists.

The drawing represents in sectional elevation a last embodying the invention.

*a* denotes the heel; *b*, the sole; *c*, the shank or hollow; and *d*, the fore-part or top of the last-body. *e* denotes the top block, having the instep-swell *f* and *g*, the auxiliary slide-block placed between the block *e* and the body *h*, and having a square inner end resting against a shoulder, *i*. At the upper end the auxiliary block has an eye, *k*, for connection of the hook by which it is withdrawn.

The boot being ready for withdrawal of the last, the block *g* is first pulled out, letting the block *e* fall down to the body, so that, no matter how prominent may be the instep, the last can be easily slipped from the boot.

It will be obvious that by this invention boots and shoes may be made with higher insteps than can possibly be made with common lasts.

I claim—

A last having, in combination with the top block *e*, the slide-block *g*, substantially as shown and described.

G. B. WHITNEY.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS GOULD,  
M. W. FROTHINGHAM.