P. McGUIGAN.

BOOT-LEG SUPPORTERS.

No. 194,361. Patented Aug. 21, 1877.

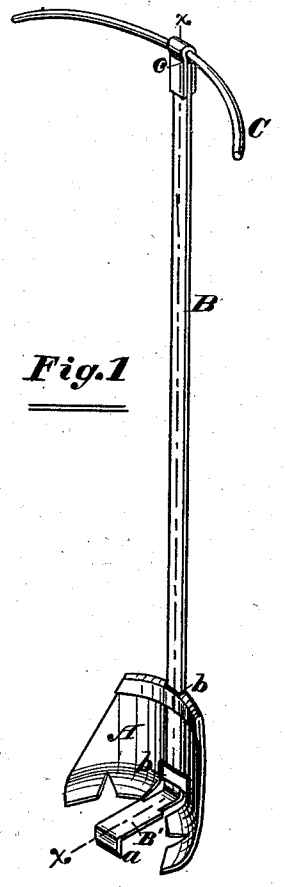

Fig.1

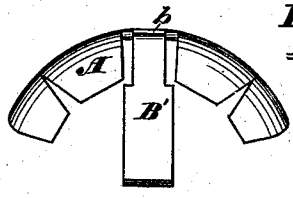

Fig.3

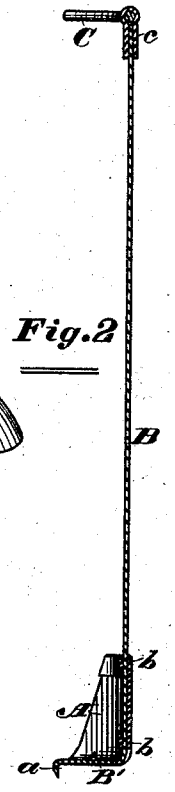

Fig.2

Attest

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER McGUIGAN, OF MANNVILLE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO MICHEAL McGUIGAN, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOT-LEG SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **194,361**, dated August 21, 1877; application filed January 5, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER McGUIGAN, of Mannville, in the county of Marathon and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot-Leg Supporters; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a device for stiffening the counters and supporting the legs of boots, to prevent the same from running over or wrinkling down.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my device. Fig. 2 is a section on line *x x* in Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a bottom view.

A is a boot-counter stiffener, made of any suitable sheet metal, preferably copper, being bent in the shape of the counter, and turned in at the bottom, in order to project between the inner and outer soles of the heel. B is a piece of very thin steel, about one-fourth of an inch wide, and of any desired length to conform to the length of the boot-leg to which it is to be attached. At its lower end it is bent at right angles, as indicated at B′, to extend a distance of about one (1) inch between the inner and outer soles of the boot-heel. At the extreme end, marked *a*, it is again bent at right angles to the extent of about one-eighth ($\frac{1}{8}$) of an inch. The projection *a* thus formed is driven into the outer sole of the heel, to keep the supporter firmly in place. The counter-stiffener A is bent down at the top and a slot punched therein, a similar slot being made in the bottom of the stiffener where it is bent up to correspond with the top. Through these slots *b b* the steel supporter B is passed, being held in place thereby, and any lateral movement prevented. C is a piece of ordinary wire, bent to conform to the shape of the boot top, and intended to extend half-way around the leg. A piece of steel of the same width and thickness as the supporter B is bent around the wire, forming a socket, *c*, into which the top of the supporter enters. This arrangement serves to prevent the supporter from protruding through the top of the boot, and also to preserve the proper shape of the top.

To apply my device I split the stiffening of the counter sufficiently to admit of the metal counter A passing the projection B′ between the two soles of the heel. The steel supporter B is then passed through a sheath in the back of the leg formed by two rows of stitches, and attached to the wire C, as described, said wire then being hemmed in by the top binding.

It will also be evident that my invention serves to prevent the wearing out of the boot-leg by chafing, as is the case when the same becomes wrinkled, as it invariably does without the support.

It also facilitates the drawing on of the boot.

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

The combination of the counter-stiffener A, spring-supporter B, and wire C, in the manner described, for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto affixed my signature this 1st day of December, 1876, in presence of two witnesses.

PETER McGUIGAN.

Witnesses:

MICHEL WATTES,

THOS. S. NORTON.