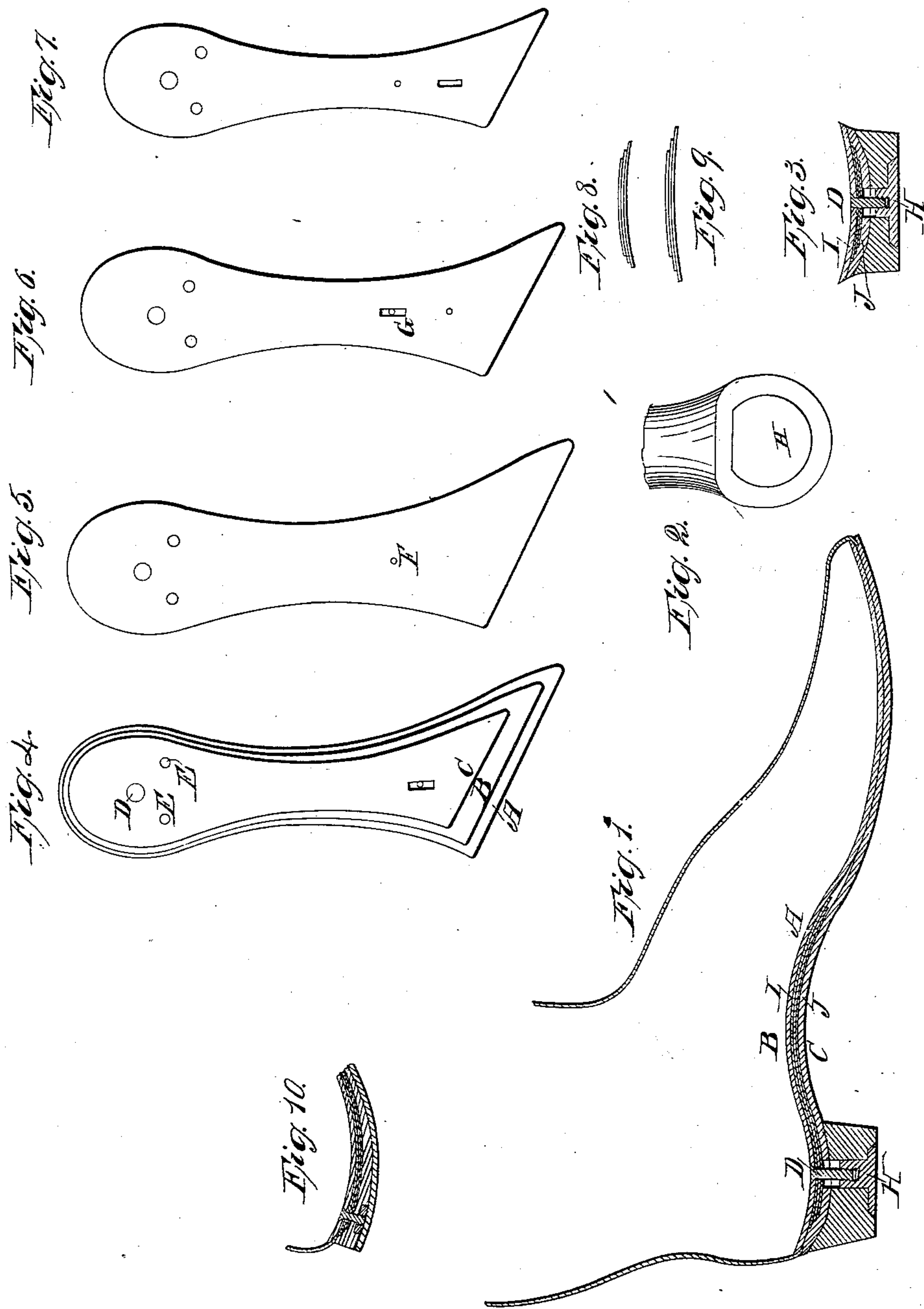


J. S. BOWLER.  
SHANK FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

No. 2,859.

Patented Nov. 21, 1842.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSHUA S. BOWLER, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## BOOT AND SHOE.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 2,859, dated November 21, 1842.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSHUA S. BOWLER, of Lynn, Essex county, State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in making Boots and Shoes with Metallic or Steel Plates Inserted Between the Soles of the Shank for Sustaining the Shank and Rendering it More Elastic, which is described as follows, reference being had to the annexed drawings of the same, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a vertical section through the center of the boot showing the position of the steel plates and the screws and rivets by which they are fastened to the boot and to the metal heel piece. Fig. 2 is a view of the heel turned bottom up. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section of the heel. Fig. 4 is a view of the steel plates combined and secured together. Figs. 5, 6, 7 the steel plates detached. Figs. 8, 9 transverse section of the plates. Fig. 10 section of a spring heel shoe.

This invention and improvement consists in combining and arranging three steel plates or springs A, B, C between the soles of the shank of the boot or shoe being of the same curvature of the soles but of less size, each one being smaller than the next above, the plate next the inner sole I being the largest and the plate next the outer sole J being the smallest, and the middle plate B being of an intermediate size and all of them being fastened together at the heel by a screw D and rivets E and separated at the ends next the ball of the boot or shoe where all the ends have a longitudinal play or movement between the sole, the side or lateral movement being prevented by forming a projection or stud F in each plate by punching or otherwise and making corresponding mortises G in the plates into which the studs enter and work freely as the ends of the plates move longitudinally over and against each other in the manner of a three leafed carriage spring. The ends connected

are fastened to the heel of the boot by the screw D passed through the inner sole heel and said plates from the inside of the boot passing through the plates and into a metallic heel plate H having a female screw therein and a large, flat head countersunk in the heel which serves the double purpose of assisting to hold the parts of the boot, at the heel firmly together and also as a metallic heel plate to prevent wearing and which is superior to the common plating, as it is not exposed in a manner to cause noise in walking and to the disagreeable effect produced in the use of the ordinary plate while the countersunk plate or nut is surrounded by soft pliable leather of which the heel is composed. It also holds the parts of the heel firmly together and at the same time braces the combined elastic shank producing a very desirable elastic support at the shank of the foot of the wearer much superior to the single braces heretofore used and very useful to persons whose feet have been sprained, and rendering the boot, shoe, or pump or whatever article the combined shank is applied susceptible of being finished in the neatest manner.

The elastic substance used for forming the combined shank may be of any suitable kind and of course must be adapted in its outline to correspond with the form of the soles between which it is applied.

In making a spring heel pump shoe the nut will be covered by the outer sole entirely—the screw extending only to the inside of the outer sole, as seen in Fig. 10.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

The combination of the countersunk screw heel plate with the combined spring shank constructed and arranged as herein described.

JOSHUA S. BOWLER.

Witnesses:

WM. P. ELLIOT,  
E. MAHER.