S. T. Fowler,

Shoe Sole,

No. 56,921, Patented Aug. 7, 1866.

Fig: 1

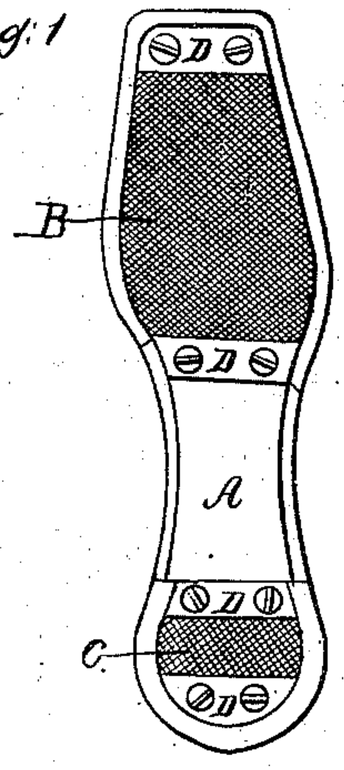


Fig: 2

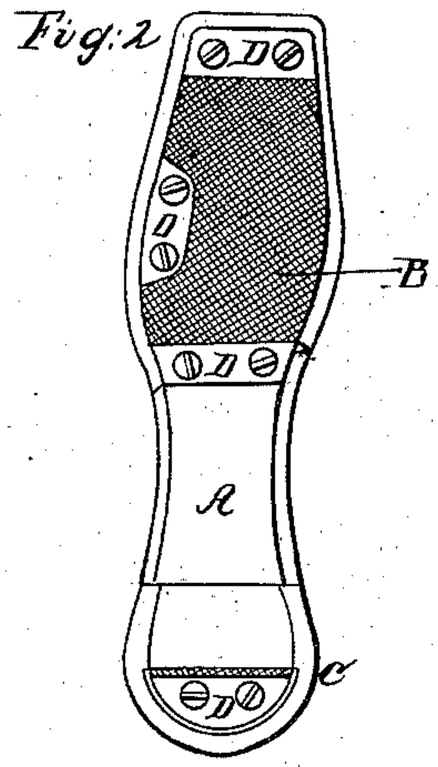


Fig: 3.

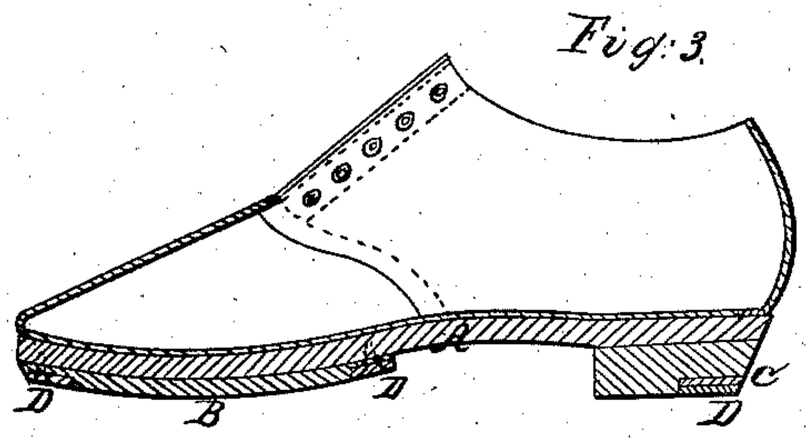
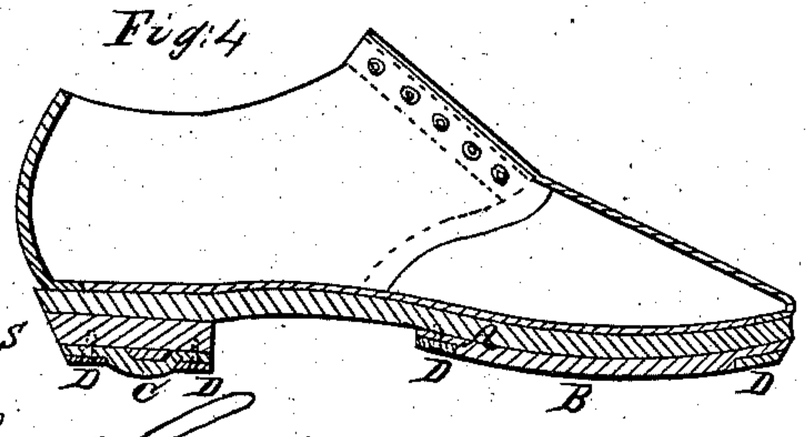


Fig: 4



Witnesses

Chas. Edw. Moore

James T. Graham.

Inventor

Samuel T. Fowler

By Thos. P. Howe

Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL T. FOWLER, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **56,921**, dated August 7, 1866; antedated July 27, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL T. FOWLER, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to supply a more simple, cheap, and efficient means of securing india-rubber or other similar facings to the soles of boots and shoes, which object I propose to accomplish by the use of screws and extended washers, applied as hereinafter described, and as shown in the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is designed to illustrate one mode of attaching metal plates and gum-elastic beds to the soles of boots and shoes. Fig. 2 is designed to illustrate another mode of accomplishing the same thing. Fig. 3 is a vertical longitudinal section of Fig. 2. Fig. 4 is a vertical longitudinal section of Fig. 1.

A is the sole of the shoe. B is the rubber or gum-elastic bed, which is attached to the sole A of the shoe with india-rubber cement in the usual manner. C is the rubber or gum-elastic bed, which is attached to the heel of the boot or shoe in the manner before described.

In Fig. 2 the rubber or gum-elastic bed C is represented as covering only a part of the surface of the heel, or, rather, as replacing a portion of the last ply or plate of leather forming the heel.

In Fig. 1 the rubber or gum-elastic bed C is represented as covering the whole surface of the heel, the middle part being raised up by passing over a narrow strip of leather extending across the heel from side to side.

D are the metal plates, secured to the gum-elastic bed and to the sole of the shoe by screws passing through said plates, through the gum-elastic bed, and into the sole of the boot or shoe.

Figs. 1 and 2 represent different ways in which the metal plates D may be applied to the shoe. In Fig. 1 one plate is attached near the toe of the shoe and another near the middle, just behind the ball of the foot. Two plates are also attached to the heel, one on each side of the raised middle part of the heel, before described. In Fig. 2 one plate is near the toe of the shoe, a second near the outer edge of the sole, as represented, where the greatest wear usually occurs in walking, and a third near the middle of the sole, just behind the ball of the foot, as in Fig. 1. In said Fig. 2 there is one plate attached to the back part of the heel, as represented in the figure, the portion of the sole in front of said plate and gum-elastic bed being occupied with leather, the number and position of the plates being immaterial so long as they are metal plates on gum-elastic beds secured to the sole of the boot or shoe.

By this arrangement the parts of the sole most quickly worn down are protected, and the elasticity of the beds, to which the metal plates are applied, prevents any unpleasant noise in walking, and at the same time the impervious gum-elastic beds guard the feet from becoming damp from the water finding its way through the soles of the shoes, and the portions of said gum-elastic beds not covered by the metal plates prevent slipping when the wearer has occasion to walk on slippery or icy places.

Many attempts have been made to attach soles of rubber and gutta-percha to boots and shoes, and also to apply metallic guards to certain parts of the soles; but my invention accomplishes more than either of these purposes. It will be perceived that by it I effect both the objects named in an exceedingly simple and economical manner.

I therefore claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

Securing to the soles of boots and shoes india-rubber soles by means of screws, the washers upon said screws being expanded into guards, as shown in the drawings, and as described herein.

SAMUEL T. FOWLER.

Witnesses:

THOS. P. HOW,

JAMES T. GRAHAM.