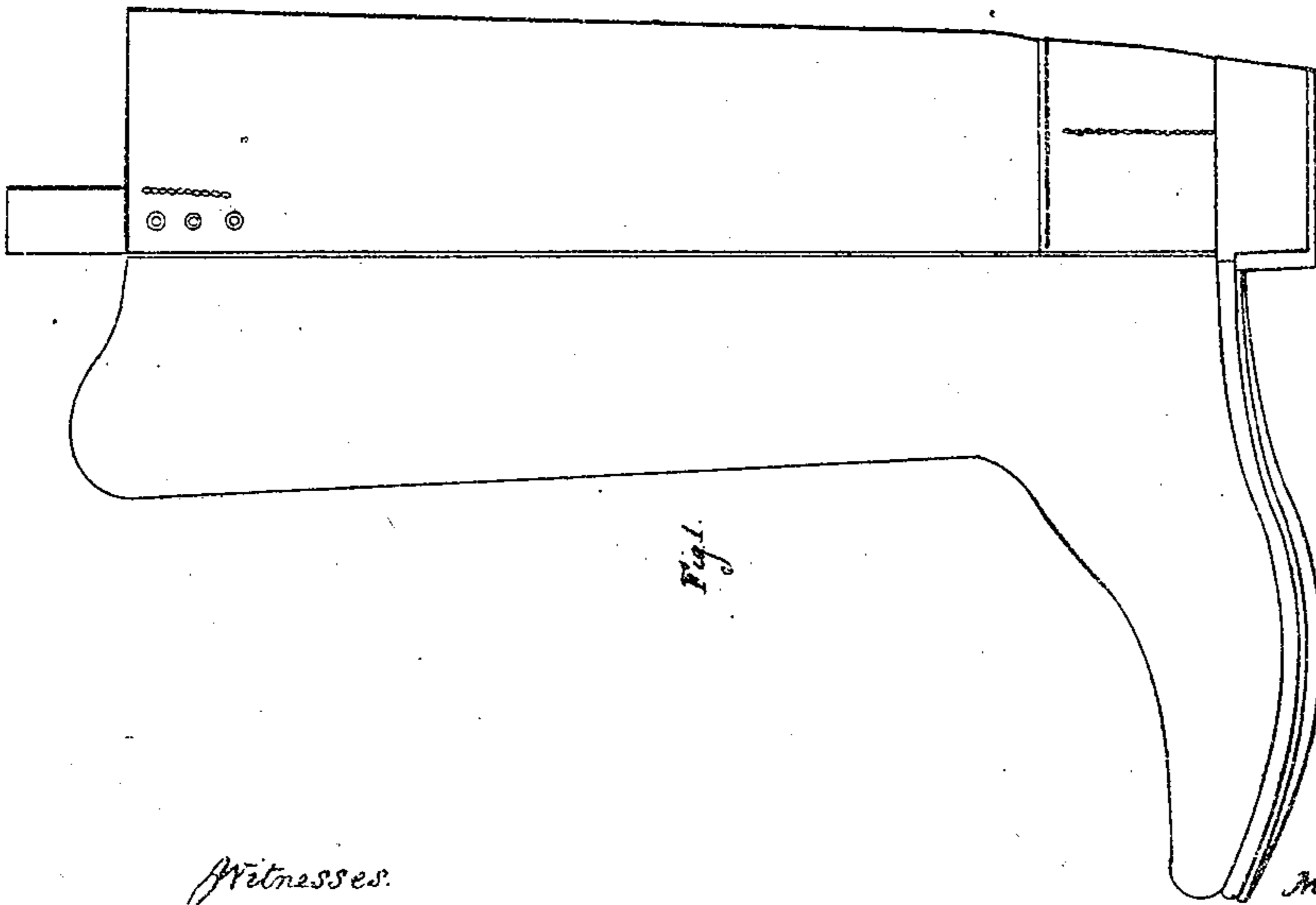
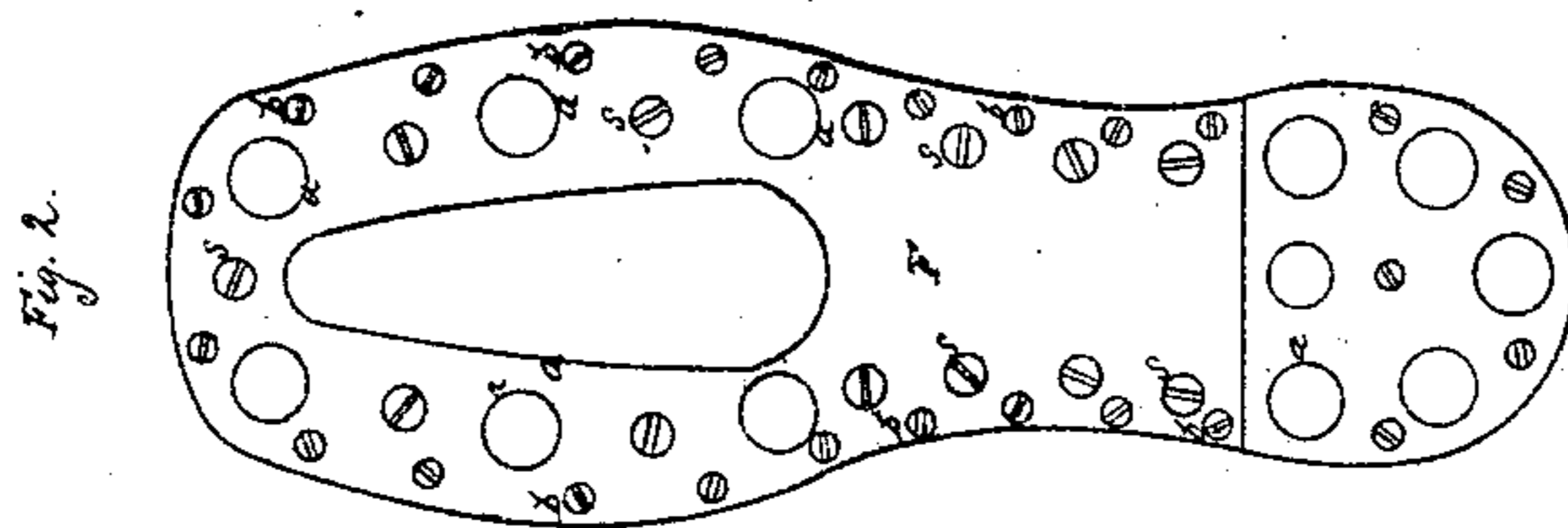
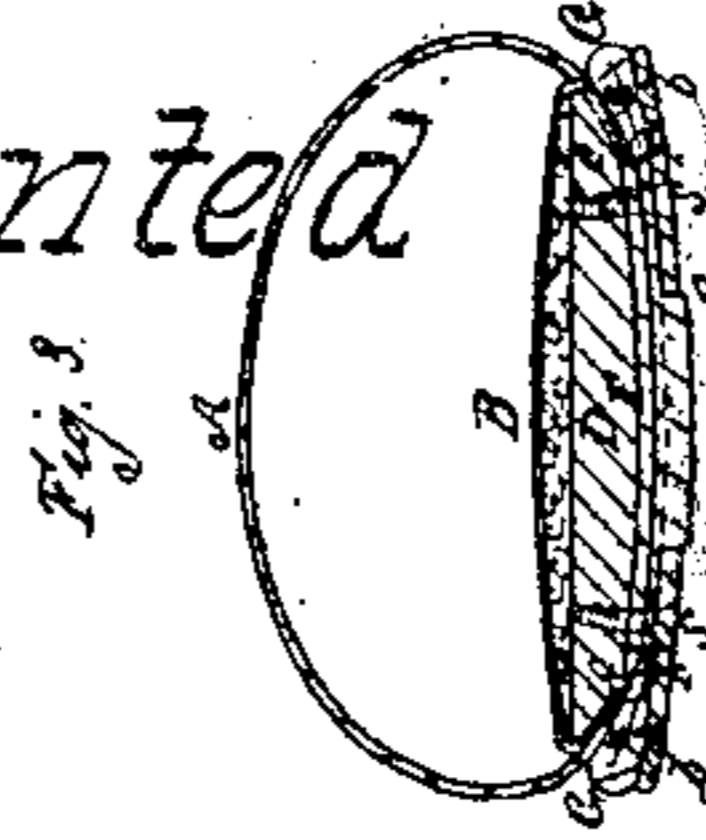


*M. R. Ethridge*

*Boots & Shoes.*

*N<sup>o</sup> 73589*

*Patented Jan. 21, 1868.*



*Witnesses.*  
*Samuel N. Piper*  
*J. H. Andrews.*

*M. R. Ethridge*  
*by his attorney*  
*R. W. Uddy*

# United States Patent Office.

MARTIN R. ETHRIDGE, OF LOCKE'S MILLS, MAINE.

*Letters Patent No. 73,589, dated January 21, 1868.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL PERSONS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME:

Be it known that I, MARTIN R. ETHRIDGE, of Locke's Mills, in the county of Oxford, and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots or Shoes; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification, and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation,

Figure 2 an under side view, and

Figure 3 a transverse section of a boot provided with my invention.

This boot has an inflexible or stiff sole, D, made of wood, and arranged directly upon and over the insole E. On the wooden sole D is a layer, C, of hair or other suitable elastic material. This mass of hair is kept in place by a covering, B, of leather, which is carried over it, and lapped around the edges, and carried down, underneath the sole D, to and against those of the insole E, and, with the upper, A, is sewed to such insole by sewing, as shown at *c c*.

Against the insole E, an outer sole, F, of sheet metal is placed, the outer surface of the said insole being first covered with a layer or cap of gutta percha, which may be extended through openings, *a a*, in the metallic sole, and fill such openings, in order to prevent the sole from slipping on ice or a smooth surface, when the boot or shoe may be in use. The layer of gutta percha also serves to protect the insole from water or moisture. The metallic-cap sole is to be fastened in place by screws, *s s s*, and serves to protect the sole F from wear, and to make a good finish to the boot or shoe.

Prior to the application of the metallic sole to the insole E, a last is to be applied to the shoe. A welt, G, made of leather or other suitable material, and triangular in section, is also to be applied to the shoe, and between the upper, A, and the metallic sole F, and to extend from the heel, on both sides of the shoe, to and around the toe, such welt or finishing-piece being held in place by screws, *b b*, going through the metallic sole, and being screwed into the welt or through it, and into the wooden sole D. This welt, G, gives to the sole of the boot the appearance which a cork-sole boot usually has, and is otherwise advantageous.

My improved boot or shoe, in some respects, is somewhat similar to that described in Letters Patent No. 56,391, granted to me, July 17, 1866. Like the shoe or boot represented in such Letters Patent, my present invention has a metallic outer sole, a hair cushion, and a wooden sole; but their arrangement with respect to the upper is quite different, for, in my present invention, the upper, A, as well as the covering B of the cushion or mass of hair C, is carried around the edges of the wooden sole, and, underneath such sole, to the leather insole E, and is sewed thereto, which is not the case in my shoe described in the said patent. Furthermore, I employ the finishing-welt G to go directly between the metallic sole and the leather upper, without being stitched to the latter, or to the same and the insole, as is the case with the two welts *a b*, represented in the drawings of the specification of such patent.

My finishing-welt, by being fastened in place by screws, as set forth, is easily renewable, and, when worn, can be separated from the shoe, and another put in its place, without destroying the connection of the upper and insole.

What I claim as my improvement, is—

1. The new arrangement of the upper, A, and the cushion-cover B with the wooden sole D, and the leather sole E placed underneath the said wooden sole, the upper, A, and the cover B, under such arrangement, being carried around the edges of the wooden sole, and being sewed to the sole E, as specified.

2. And, in combination with the wooden sole, cushion-cover, upper, and metallic sole, arranged as described, I claim the finishing-welt G, applied between the upper and the metallic sole, as set forth.

MARTIN R. ETHRIDGE,

Witnesses:

C. CROCKER,

K. J. COLE.