

W. Smith,

Shoe Sole.

No. 20,366.

Patented July 28, 1868.

Fig. 1

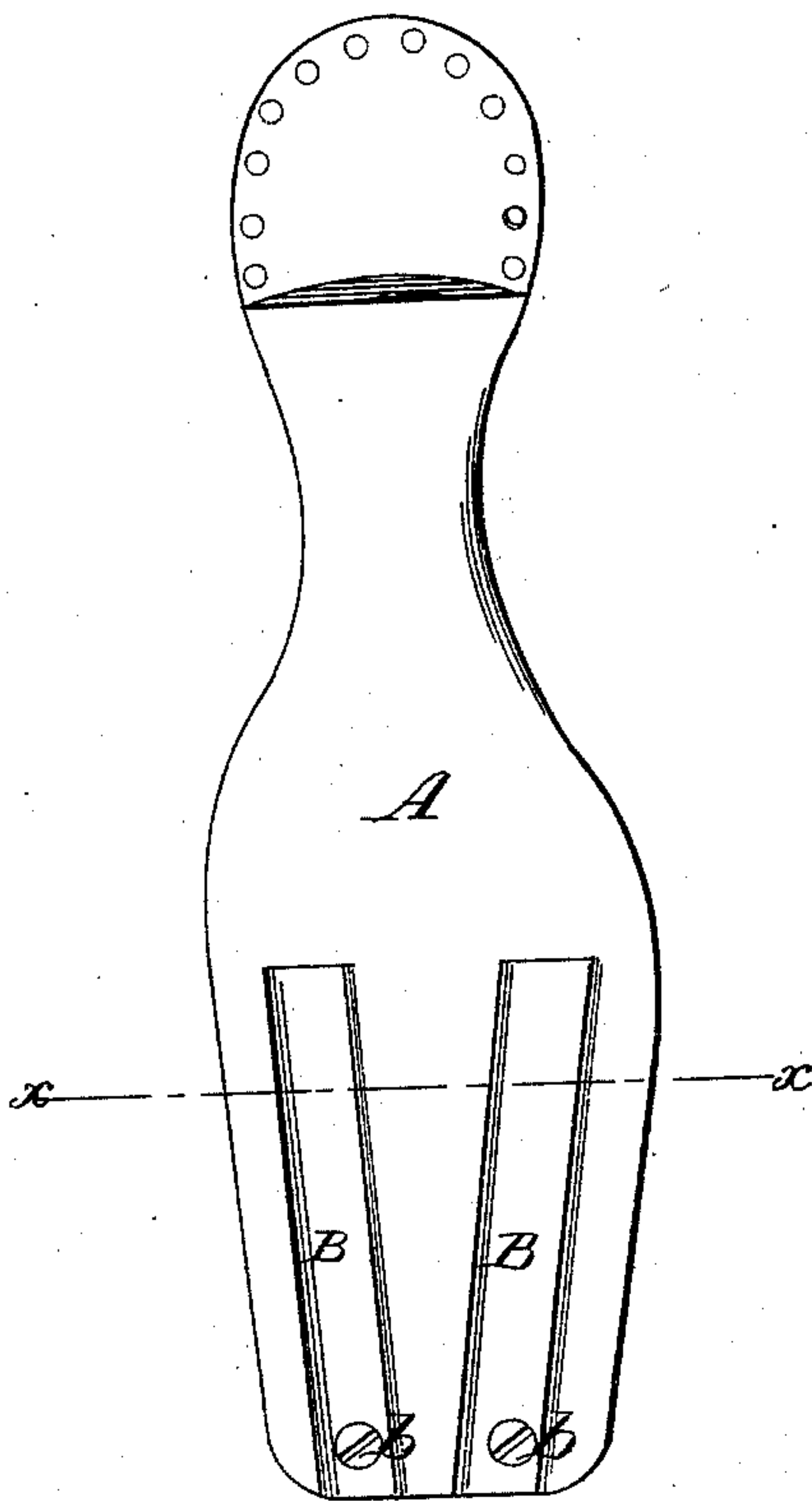


Fig. 3

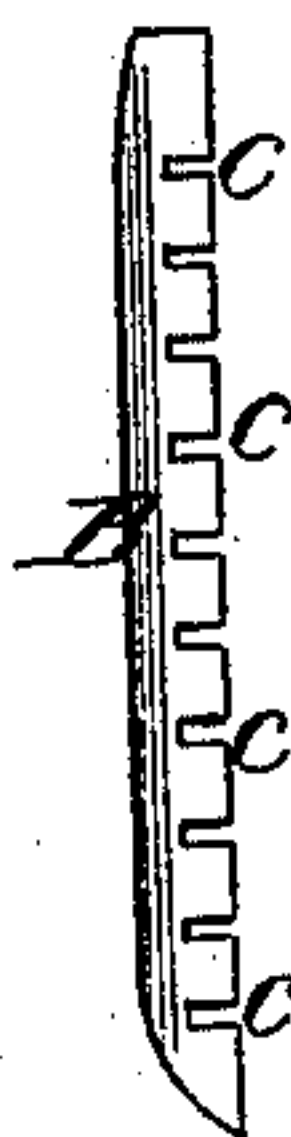


Fig. 2



Witnesses:

W. C. Ashkett

J. A. Service

Inventor:

W. Smith

per Murray & Co.
attorneys

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM SMITH, OF WHITEHALL, BRIDESBURG, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 80,366, dated July 28, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SMITH, of Whitehall, Bridesburg, in the county of Philadelphia, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention consists in inserting in the sole of a boot or shoe strips of wood, metal, or other suitable material, in such a manner as to preserve the sole from wear, and to admit of said material being readily withdrawn or detached from the sole, when, from wear or other causes, it becomes necessary to have new ones attached.

The object of the invention is to protect the sole of the boot or shoe from wear, by a means which will not disfigure the same, or be at all conspicuous, even when applied to light or "dress" boots and shoes.

In the accompanying sheet of drawings—

Figure 1 is a bottom or face view of the sole of a boot or shoe having my invention applied to it.

Figure 2, a transverse section of the same, taken in the line *x x*, fig. 1.

Figure 3, a detached view of one of the plates or strips which are applied to the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents the sole of a boot or shoe, which is grooved longitudinally from its toe or front end backward any suitable or required distance, said grooves, of which there may be two or more, having dove-tail sides and rear ends, as shown in fig. 2, at *a*.

These grooves extend out to the extreme end of the toe of the sole, to admit of strips, B, of wood or metal, being shoved therein, the sides and rear ends of the strips being bevelled off, so that they will conform to the dove-tail sides and rear ends of the grooves *a*, and cause said strips to be firmly secured in the grooves, the casual movement of the former in the latter, in a longitudinal direction, being prevented by screws *b*.

The inner surfaces of the strip B are cut transversely at certain distances, as shown at *c*, fig. 3, said cuts being of any suitable depth.

These cuts admit of the strips being flexible, so that they will give or bend under the motion of the foot in walking, and not serve to inconvenience the wearer by rendering the sole rigid or inflexible.

The strips B are sufficiently thick to extend down from the sole, and protect the latter from wear, as will be understood by referring to fig. 2.

This simple invention will greatly protect the soles of boots and shoes from wear, and when said strips become worn so as not to serve as a protection for the sole, they may be detached, and new ones applied, without any difficulty whatever.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The application to the soles of boots and shoes of strips B of wood, metal, or other suitable material, having bevelled sides, and fitted in grooves in the sole, the grooves having dove-tail sides, to correspond to the sides of the strips.

2. Cutting transversely the inner surfaces of said strips B, in order to render them yielding or flexible, substantially as shown and described.

WILLIAM SMITH.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM JOYCE,
JEREMIAH MEAGHER.