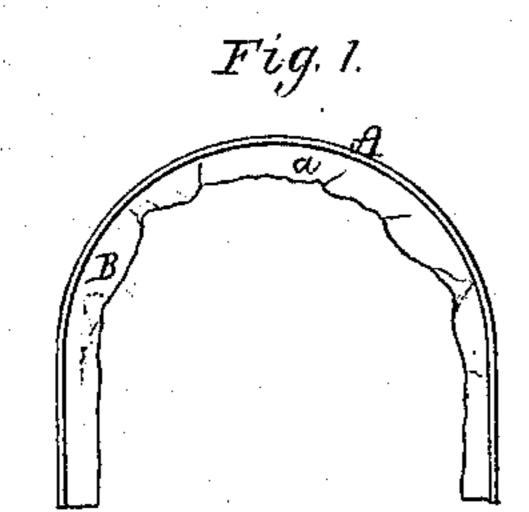
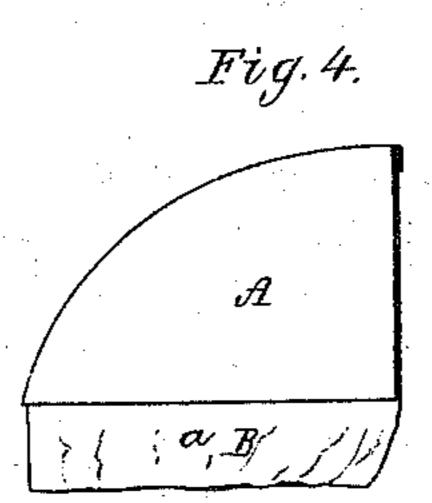
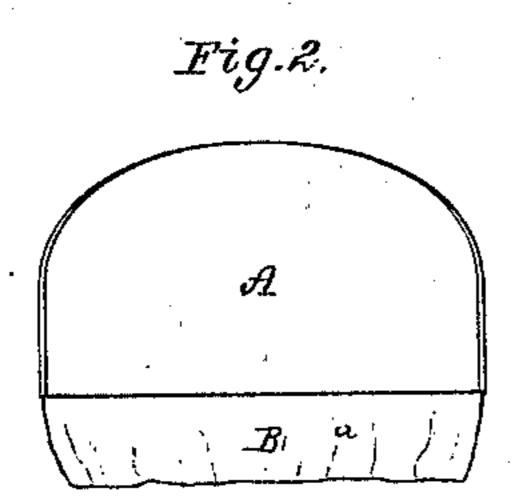
## JOSEPH BRACKETT.

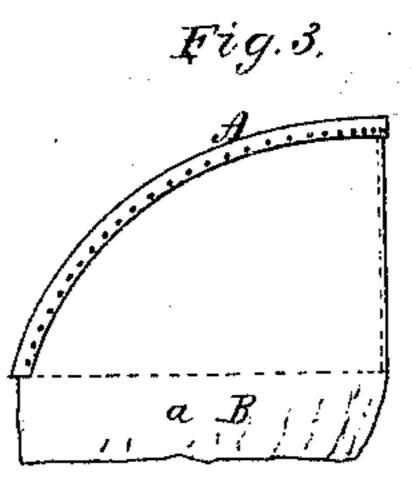
Improvement in Counters for Boots and Shoes.

No. 126,778. Patented May 14, 1872.









Witnesses.

Joseph: Brackett. by his attorney.

## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH BRACKETT, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN COUNTERS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 126,778, dated May 14, 1872; antedated April 30, 1872.

To all persons to whom these presents may come:
Be it known that I, Joseph Brackett, of
Lynn, of the county of Essex and State of
Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Stiffener or Counter for Boots or Shoes;
and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and rep-

resented in the accompanying drawing, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view; Fig. 2, a front ele-

vation; Fig. 3, a side elevation; and Fig. 4, a vertical section of it.

It is composed of a very thin sheet of metal and a piece or layer of cloth, such as canvas, for instance, the two being formed as shown in the drawing, of which A denotes the metallic plate, and B the piece of cloth. In order to secure the two together, the metallic plate at its upper edge is bent down upon the cloth, and is punched or indented so as to cause the cloth to adhere to it. The layer of cloth extends below the chord or base of the plate, as shown at a, the same being in order to enable the cloth to be bent or turned down upon the insole and be fixed thereto during the process

of lasting the shoe or boot. Instead of cloth, any other suitable flexile material, such as leather, for instance, may be used. The metallic plate, before bent around, has the form of a segment of a circle. After the cloth may have been fixed to it, the two are to be bent in the form as shown in Fig. 1.

The advantages of my counter over one made as usual—viz., of sole-leather—is that it is more easily lasted, and the cloth, besides enabling it to be sewed easier, renders it stronger. Furthermore, it is not liable to break down while in use, and it admits of a better finish to the boot or shoe.

I claim, as a new or improved manufacture

and my invention—

The counter or heel-stiffener, as composed of the metallic plate and the layer of cloth, arranged and connected or fastened together as explained.

JOSEPH BRACKETT.

Witnesses:

R. H. Eddy,

S. N. PIPER.