

W. W. WHITCOMB.
Improvement in Boots.

No. 131,041.

Patented Sep. 3, 1872.

Fig. 1.

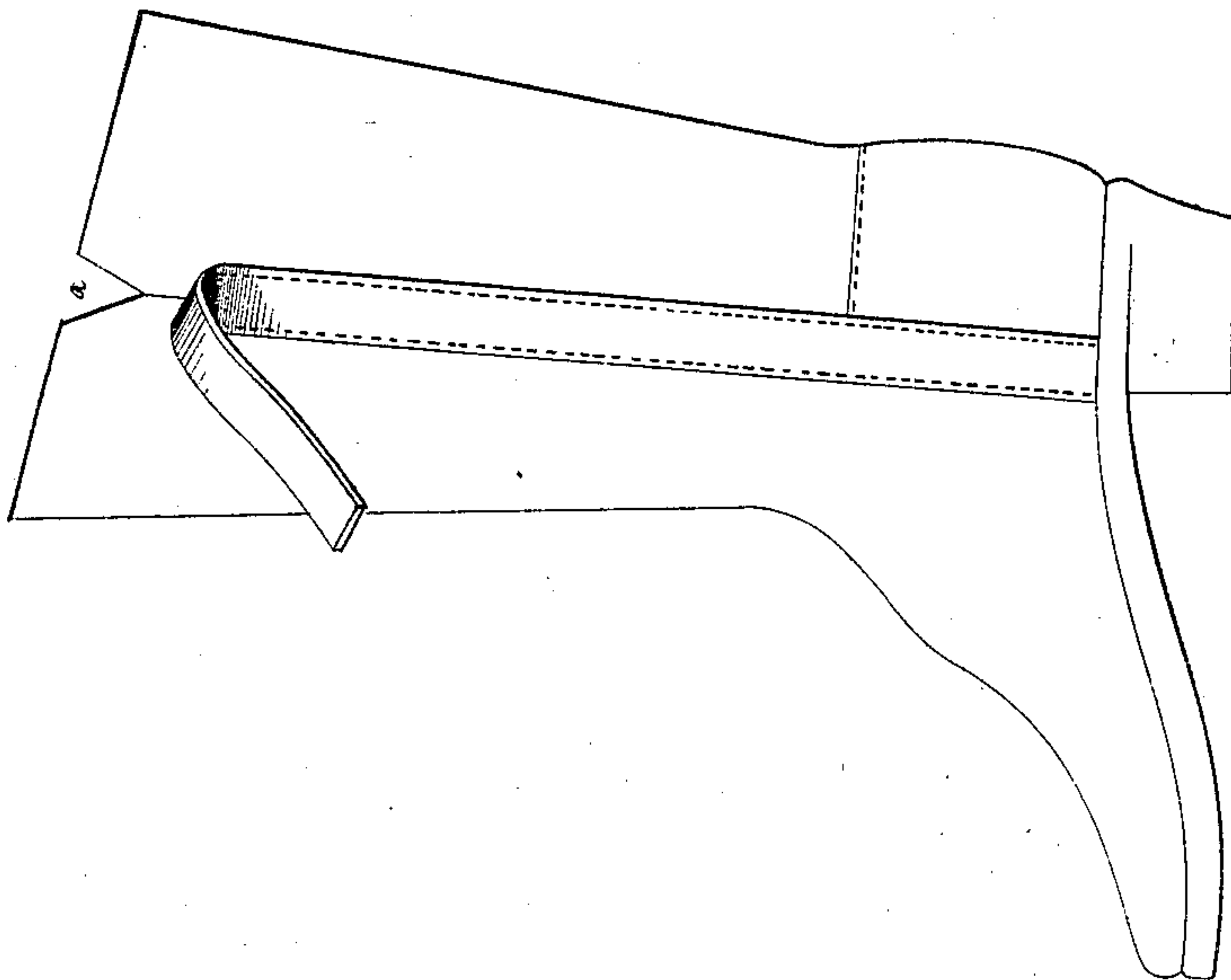


Fig. 2.

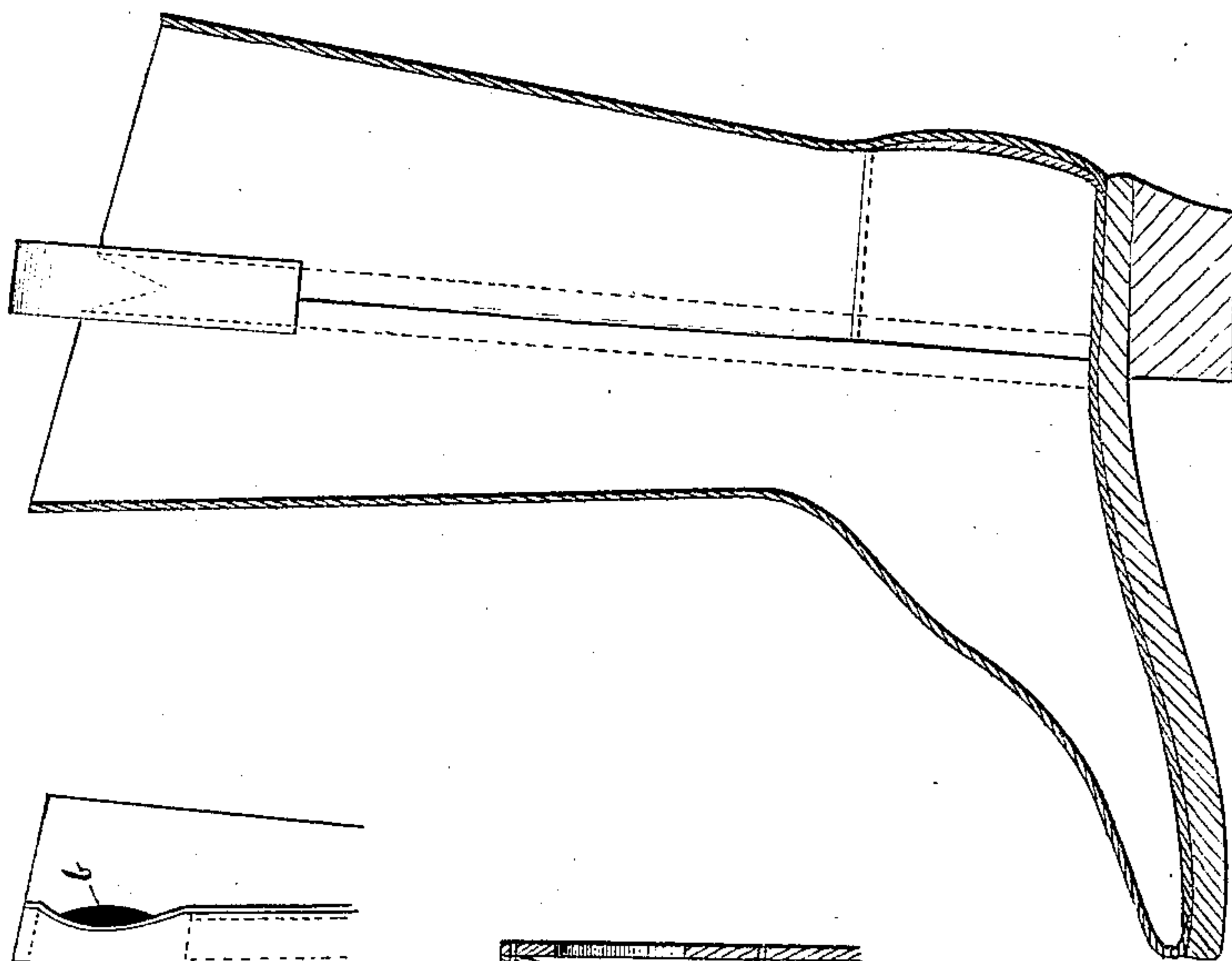
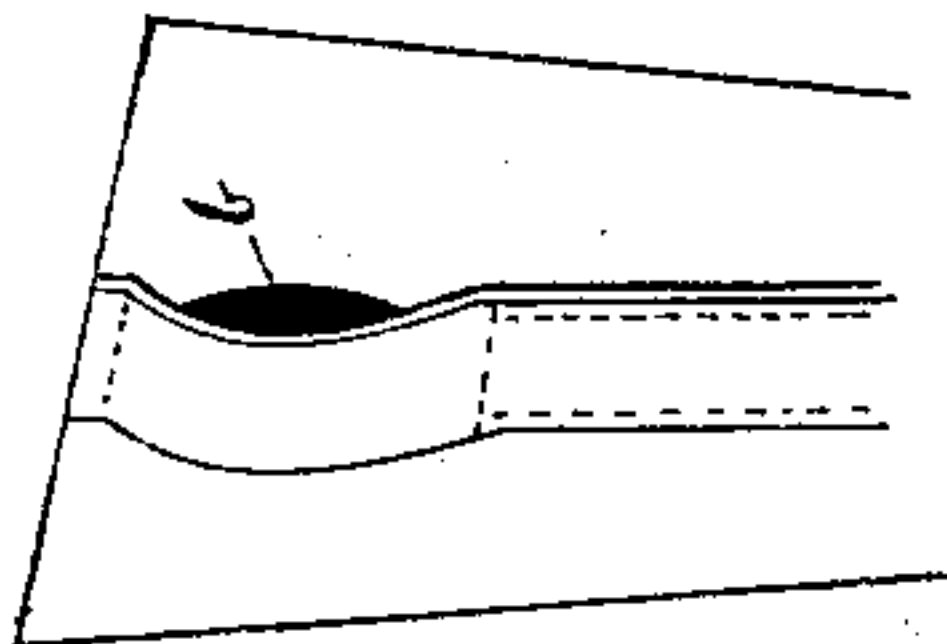


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
Wm. Aspinwall,
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. WHITCOMB, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 131,041, dated September 3, 1872.

I, WILLIAM W. WHITCOMB, of Boston, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in the Manufacture of Boots, of which the following is a specification:

Nature and Objects of the Invention.

My invention relates to and is an improvement upon the invention of Presbury West, for which Letters Patent were granted him dated 30th January, 1872, and numbered 123,316, being for a high-legged boot having the side seams of the leg closed on the outside and covered by outside strips or braces throughout their entire length. My invention consists in extending the upper end of said outside or covering strip or brace and forming therefrom the drawing strap or loop.

Description of the Accompanying Drawing.

Figure 1 shows the outside of the boot-leg with the brace extended sufficiently to form the strap, and also shows the notch *a* first described. Fig. 2 shows the inside of the boot-leg with the end of the extended brace turned over and stitched through, forming a "straddle-strap." Fig. 3 shows another form of the strap, and the notch or opening *b*, second described.

My purpose is to employ this covering-brace as a drawing strap or loop, and I can either use it as above described, or, by intermitting the stitching, form a loop between it and the boot-leg. In this case I have a space of two or three inches near the top of the leg unstitched, and then above that stitch firmly. I thus dispense with the use of extra straps or loops, and avoid the expense attending their use and repairs. A preferable way to convert the extended brace described into a drawing-strap is to stitch the brace up to a point about one and a half inch below the top of the boot-leg, and then turn it over into the boot-leg so that it shall straddle its side, and stitch it fast on the inside at about the point where the stitching of the brace terminates on the outside, thus forming what is known as a "straddle-strap." I then cut away the leather of the boot-leg at the top within the

loop of the strap, forming a triangular notch therein, as shown in Fig. 1, letter *a* of the drawing, to give more room for and to get rid of the seam that might otherwise interfere with the fingers in pulling on the boot. This device also makes the boot-leg more expansible at the top, enables the manufacturer, oftentimes, to cut a boot-leg from a piece of leather defective at the point where I make the notch, and but for which the defect would necessitate piecing, and the notch, being concealed by the strap, is no deformity to the boot. When the strap is made by stitching the brace up to a point two or three inches below the top of the boot-leg, and then intermitting the stitching and leaving the brace a little slack for about that space, again stitching firmly, or otherwise securely fastening it, at or near the top, the notch is made as in Fig. 3, letter *b*—that is to say, by cutting out a circular or otherwise shaped opening in the side of the boot-leg within the loop, and below the top, stitching or fastening. With either form of strap many of the advantages of the notch or opening described can be obtained by simply leaving the boot-leg unstitched within the loop, cutting away so much of the edges of the leather as would be taken up by the stitching. It is not essential that the extended brace should be cut in one continuous strip, or made exclusively of one material. For economy it may be cut in two or more parts, so juxtaposed as to form one extended strip on the boot.

Claims.

I claim as my invention—

1. The strap of a boot formed from an extension of the covering strip or brace on the side of the boot-leg, substantially as described.
2. In combination with the strap of a boot the notch or opening made in the boot-leg within the loop of the strap, substantially as and for the purposes hereinbefore set forth.

WILLIAM W. WHITCOMB.

Witnesses:

WM. ASPINWALL,
WILLIAM STANDISH.