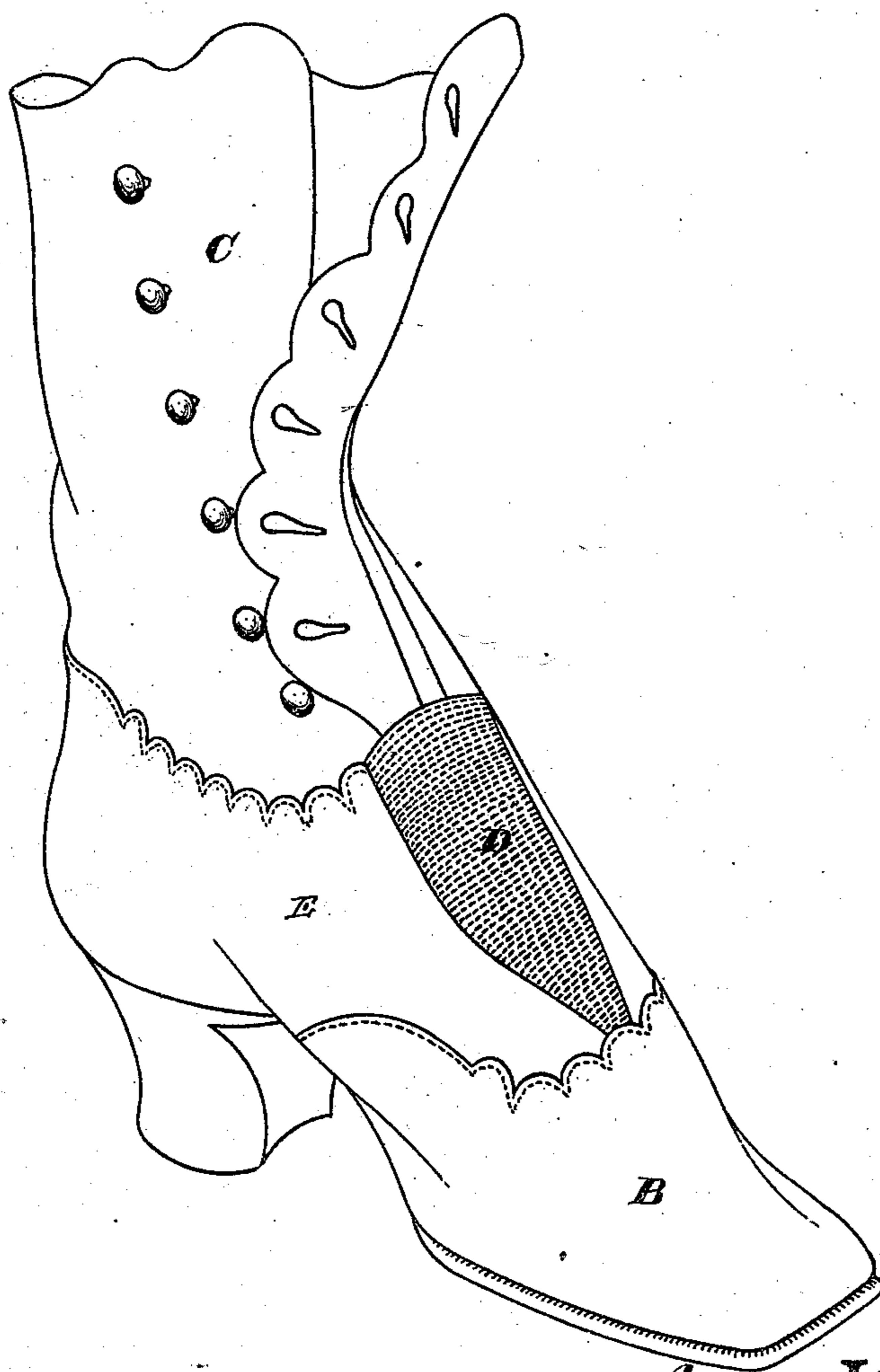


H. VAN HAVERBEKE.  
SHOES.

No. 174,170.

Patented Feb. 29, 1876.

*Fig. 1.*



Witnesses  
Geo. H. Strong.  
Jno. L. Borne

Inventor  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HIPPOLITE VAN HAVERBEKE, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,170**, dated February 29, 1876; application filed November 27, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HIPPOLITE VAN HAVERBEKE, of San Francisco city and county, State of California, have invented an Improvement in Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawings are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvement, without further invention or experiment.

My invention relates to an improvement in the construction of gaiter-shoes; and it consists in the combination, with such a shoe, of an elastic piece, which is fitted across the instep in a manner more fully described by reference to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my shoe.

A is the sole. B is the upper, and C is the top, or portion which surrounds the ankle, and is provided with buttons, as shown. In this class of shoes it is almost always necessary to alter the buttons where the shoe crosses the instep, in order to fit them to different forms of feet, and even when fitted new shoes are apt to make the feet sore. In my im-

proved shoe I fit a piece of elastic webbing, D, into the upper of the shoe just at the point where the part which surrounds the ankle meets the upper of the shoe in front, and this web extends a short distance up from the lowest point of union of the two, so as to cover the overlapping lower ends of the part C. The buttons are set on above this webbing in the usual manner.

By this construction the shoe is easily fitted to any foot, whether the instep be high or low, and will always be easy to wear. A considerable saving is also effected in cutting the uppers by leaving off the points which would be necessary if the webbing were not used.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The vamp B, quarter E, and foxing C of a shoe, combined with the elastic portion D extending above and overlapping the lowest ends of the foxing, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

HIPPOLITE VAN HAVERBEKE.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. STRONG,  
JNO. L. BOONE.