G. W. DAY.

HEEL-STIFFENERS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

No. 174,494. Patented March 7, 1876.

Fig. 1.

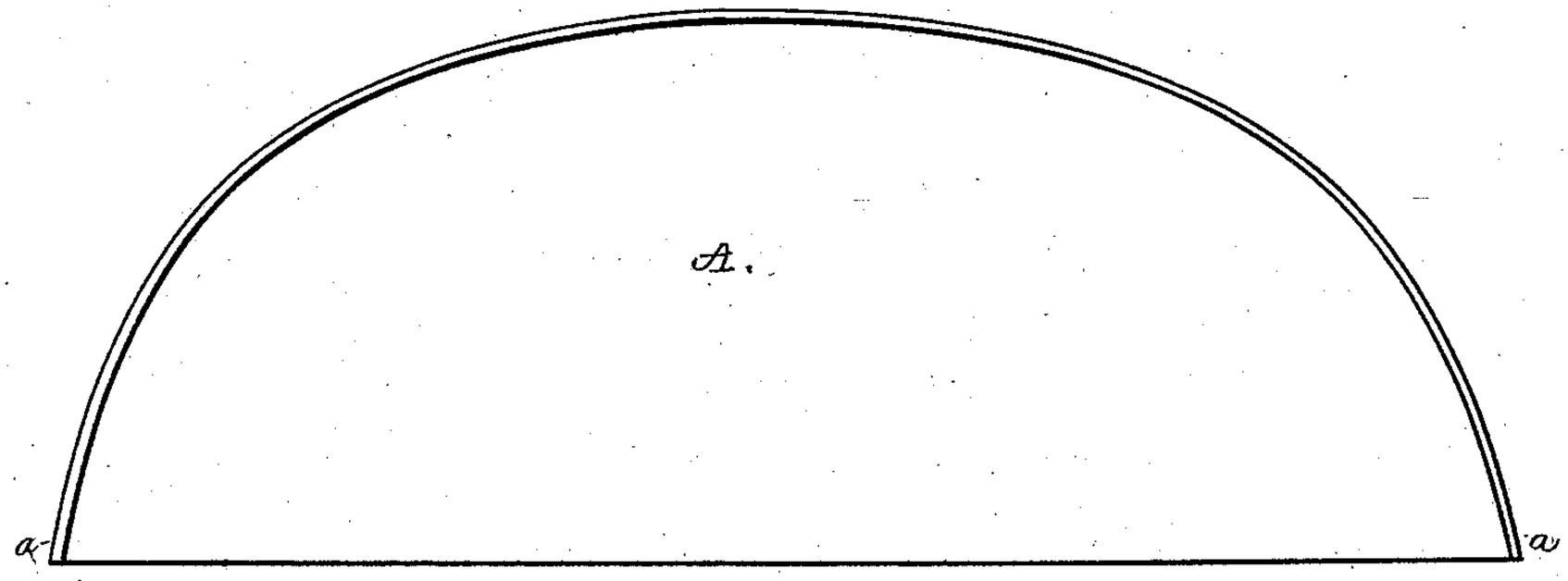


Fig. 3.

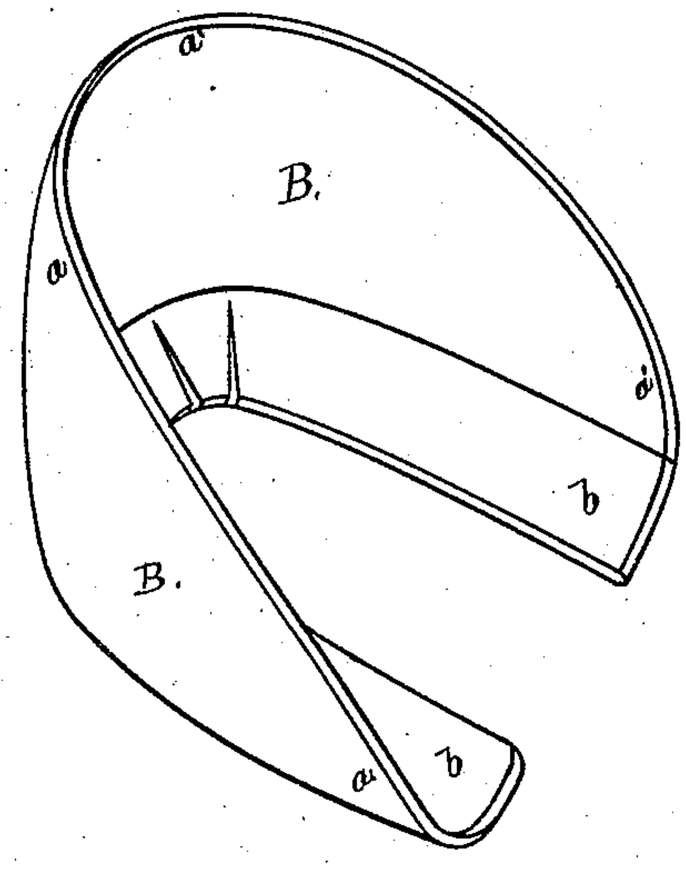
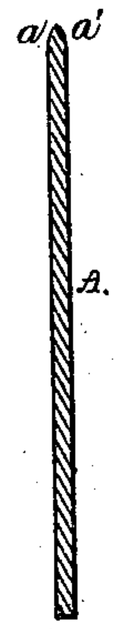


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

Geo. Gray

F. G. Hale.

George W. Day.

by his attorney.

A. P. Hale

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. DAY, OF HAVERHILL, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND NATHAN D. NOYES, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEEL-STIFFENERS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,494**, dated March 7, 1876; application filed February 11, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. DAY, of Haverhill, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Heel Counters or Stiffeners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

In the said drawing, Figure 1 denotes a side view of a counter or heel-stiffener blank as it appears after being cut or "died out" from a sheet of leather-board, and having its curved edge reduced in accordance with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a transverse section of the same, showing both of the lateral scarfs. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of counter or stiffener as molded and ready for the market.

My invention has reference to an improvement in the manufacture of counters or heel-stiffeners for boots and shoes, its object being to overcome an objection incident to them as ordinarily constructed.

Heel-stiffeners, as now commonly employed, are made of what is termed "leather-board," they being cut out in blanks of the required size and form, and afterward pressed or molded into the requisite shape. Heretofore, in preparing the upper portion or boundary of the stiffener, such part was scarfed off or beveled on one of its sides only, so that a sharp edge was produced on its top either on the plane of the outer or the inner face of the counter. This is objectionable, especially for the finer and thin class of work, as when inserted in the shoe this sharp edge being brought into direct contact with either the lining or the "upper," soon cut through the lining or the material composing the "upper" or outer portion of the shoe. My invention completely obviates this evil, and consists in scarfing off or reducing the top boundary of the counter-blank on both of its lateral surfaces, so as to bring its edge in the central plane of the counter.

In carrying out my invention, I "die out" the blank A in the usual form from a sheet of leather-board, as shown in Fig. 1. This having been effected, I bevel off the upper boundary on each of its opposite surfaces, one of such bevels *a* being shown in Fig. 1 and both bevels *a a'* in Fig. 2. This beveling may be effected by means of a knife, or by running the part to be reduced through a V or suitable shaped recess formed in the perimeter of an emery or abrading wheel. This reduction having been effected, the blank is next manipulated and transferred to the molding apparatus and pressed into the requisite form in the usual manner, the counter, when molded, having the form as shown in Fig. 3, in which B denotes the body of the counter, *b b* its lower or flanged part, and *a a'* the bevels on its upper boundary.

I do not claim a counter having its upper edge formed with but a single scarf, as I am aware that such is not new.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

An improved article of manufacture—a counter or heel-stiffener for boots and shoes, made of leather-board, and having its top boundary beveled or reduced on both of its opposite surfaces, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEO. W. DAY.

Witnesses:

F. P. HALE,

F. C. HALE.