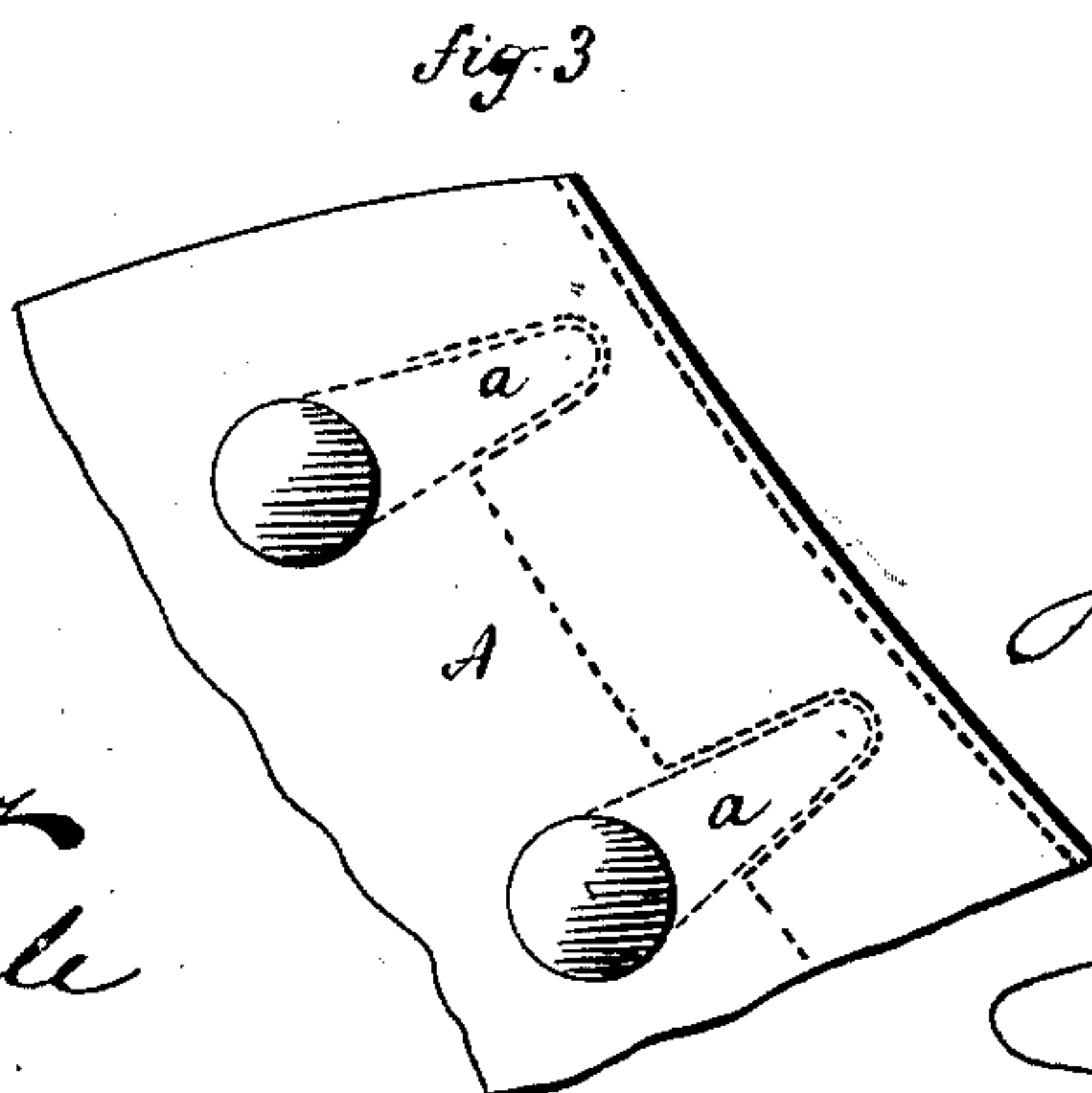
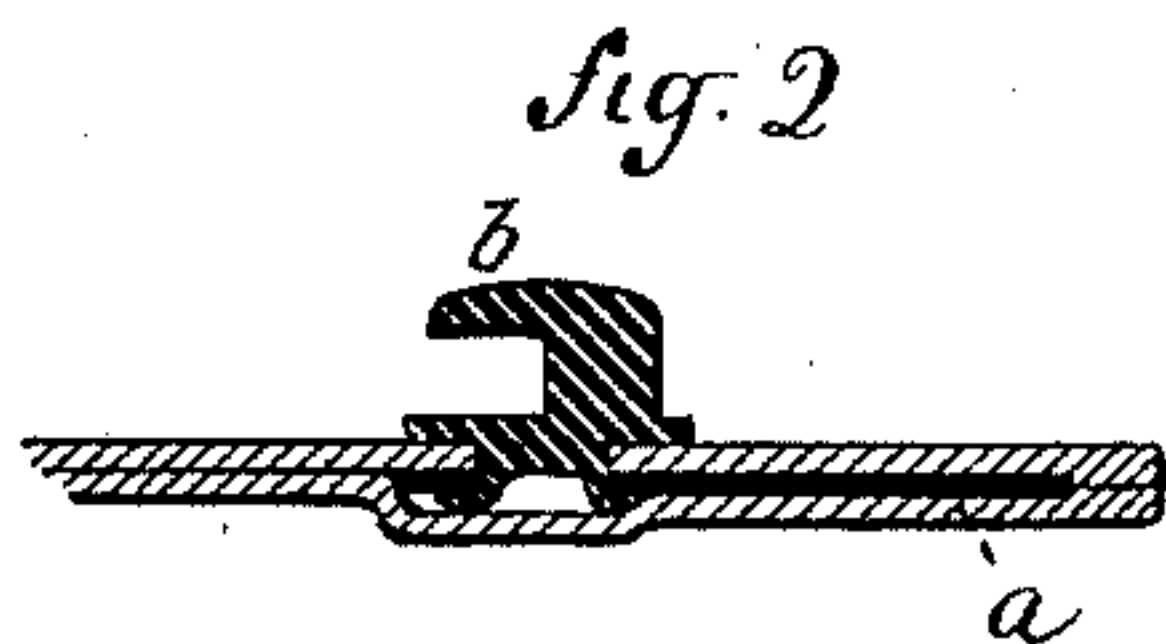
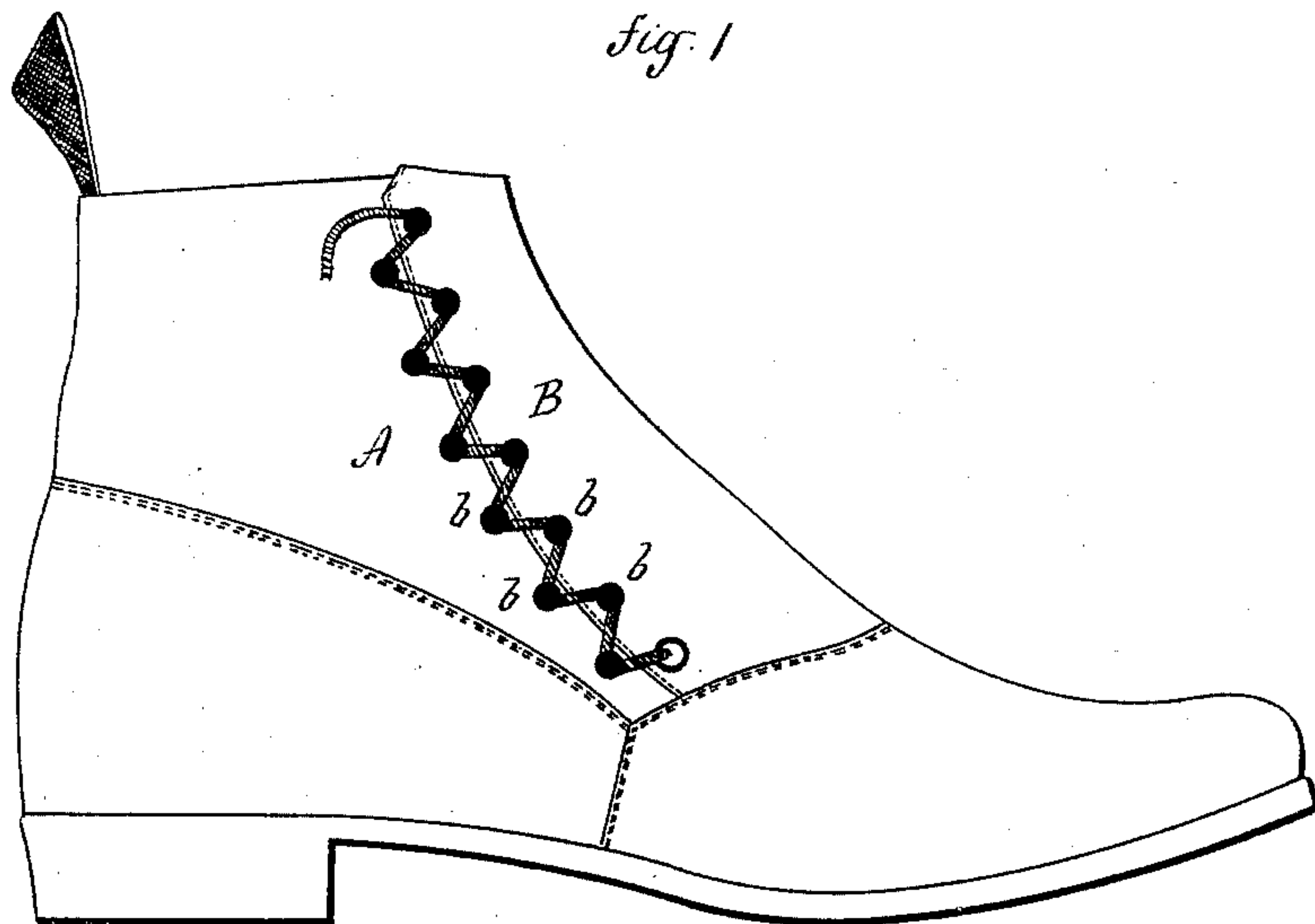


J. L. JOYCE.
Boot and Shoe.

No. 223,143.

Patented Dec. 30, 1879.



Witnesses.

J. H. Murray
Jos. C. Earle

Jos L Joyce
Inventor
By atty:

Jos C Earle

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH L. JOYCE, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **223,143**, dated December 30, 1879; application filed November 7, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH L. JOYCE, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, side view; Fig. 2, transverse section of the inside edge through one of the hooks enlarged; Fig. 3, plan of the inside edge, showing the hooks and stays.

This invention relates to an improvement in that class of boots and shoes which are laced or buttoned.

In the usual construction, in some cases a tongue is introduced to underlie the overlapping or meeting parts. In some cases a gore-shaped piece is introduced, stitched to each side, or to one side only, in place of the tongue; in others, and perhaps the more general, the inside portion is extended so that the outer portion overlaps it sufficiently to cover or protect the joint. In either case this inside part unavoidably wrinkles, to the great discomfort of the wearer—a very serious objection to this otherwise desirable class of shoes.

The object of this invention is to overcome this difficulty and insure the underlying part to retain its place smoothly upon the foot; and it consists in the introduction of a stay running from each button or hook toward the edge, as more fully hereinafter described.

In the drawings, the shoe shown is one that is laced by means of hooks attached alternately to opposite edges. On that side, A, which extends beneath the overlapping side

B, a stay, *a*, of metal or other suitable material, is introduced between the upper and lining at the button or hook, and extending forward toward the edge, as seen in Figs. 2 and 3. This is best secured in place by making a perforation at the end when the hook or button is applied, and extending the shank of the hook or button through the perforation in the stay, as seen in Fig. 2, and so that when the shank is struck down upon the stay it will securely hold it in place. This stay prevents the extended portion of the side A from wrinkling, and permits it readily to assume the shape of the foot without any inconvenience to the wearer.

In the case of lacing, the hooks *b* are arranged in the usual relative position, and so that the lacing may be drawn alternately through the hooks of one side and the other, and the lacing then secured at the top.

It will be understood, in the case of button-shoes, the buttons are to be applied in the usual manner, and the stays correspondingly arranged so as to prevent any longitudinal wrinkling of the material.

The stays may be secured independent of the hooks or buttons; but I have found the best practical way of securing them to be by means of the button or hook.

I claim—

The herein-described improvement in boots and shoes, consisting of the stays *a*, arranged transversely between the hooks or buttons and the edge of the underlying part, substantially as described.

JOS. L. JOYCE.

Witnesses:

JOHN E. EARLE,
JOS. C. EARLE.