(No Model.)

E. C. WRIGHT.

SHOE LAST.

No. 262,266. Patented Aug. 8, 1882.

Fig. 1.

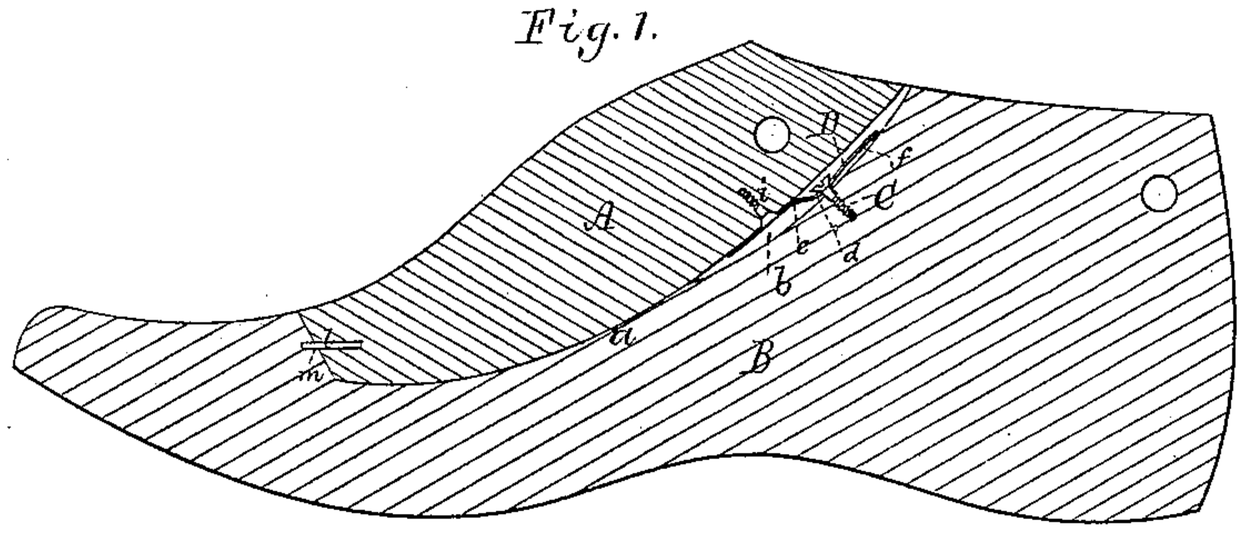


Fig. 2.

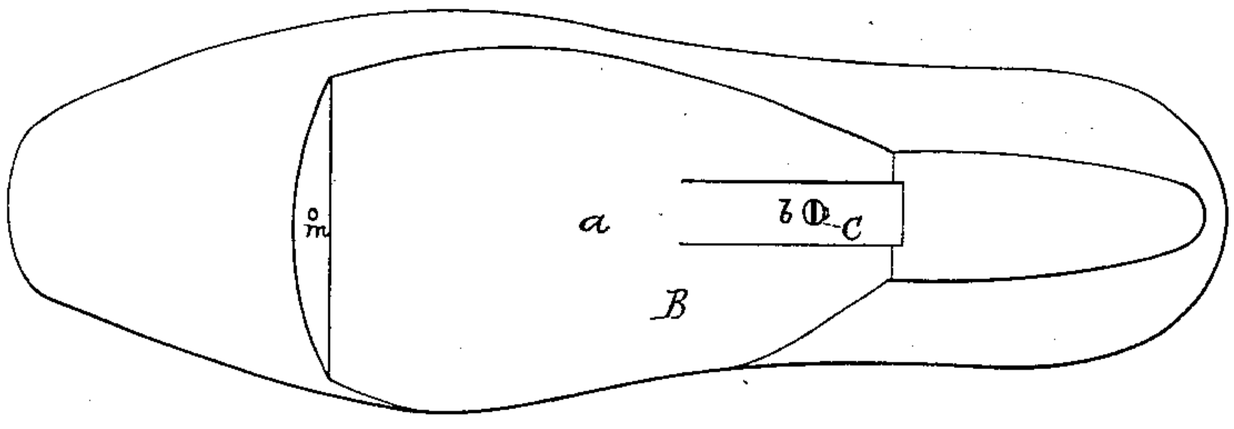


Fig. 3.

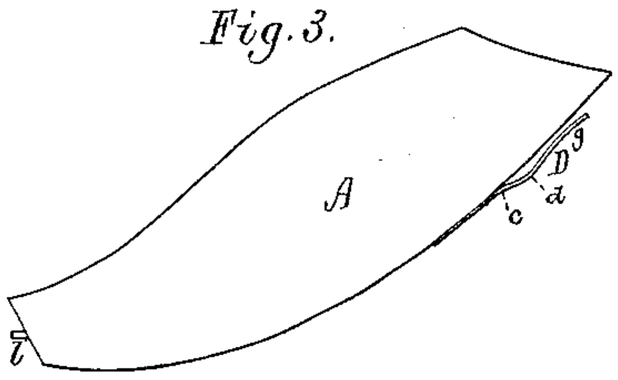


Fig. 5.

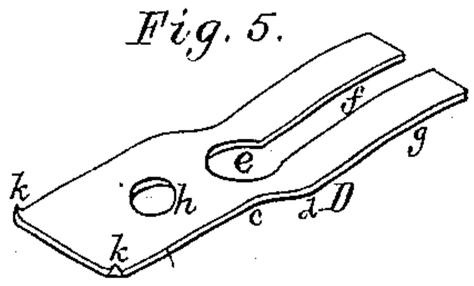


Fig. 4.

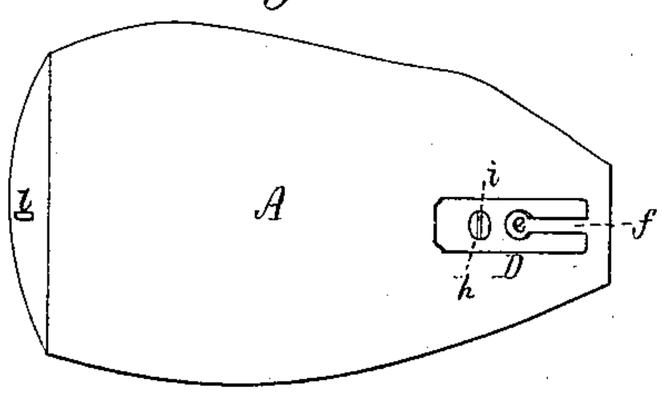
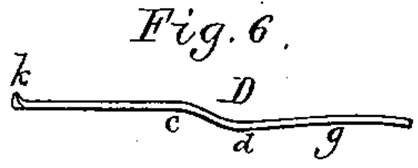


Fig. 6.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ELLERY C. WRIGHT, OF CAMPELLO, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE-LAST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 262,266, dated August 8, 1882.

Application filed May 23, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ELLERY C. WRIGHT, of Campello, in the county of Plymouth, of the State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Shoe-Lasts and in the Fastenings of their Removable Instep Portions; and I do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal section of a last provided with my invention. Fig. 2 is a top view of the body of the last without the removable instep portion. Fig. 3 is a side view, and Fig. 4 a bottom view, of said instep portion. Fig. 5 is a perspective view; and Fig. 6 an edge view of the elastic and slotted fastening, to be hereinafter described.

The invention is an improvement in the means of securing the removable instep portion to the body portion of a last, such improvement being defined in the claim hereinafter presented.

In the drawings, A denotes the removable instep portion, and B the body of the last. In the said body, at the upper part of its recess *a* for receiving the said portion A, is a groove, *b*, arranged as shown. Within such groove, and screwed down into the body, as represented, is a common screw, C, provided, as usual, with a nicked head. To operate with the said groove and screw, there is fastened to the removable instep portion A an elastic and slotted fastening, D, which is a rectangular plate of metal bent twice in its middle part, in manner as shown at *c* and *d*, and having made through it between the two bends a round hole, *e*, the said hole having a diameter a little greater than that of the head of the screw C. Besides this hole, there is a slot, *f*, extending from the hole rearward through or nearly through the rear half of the fastening, the slot having a width a little greater than the diameter of the shank of the screw C. The part in which the slot is made is also bent to the arc of a circle, or thereabout, as shown at *g*. Furthermore, there is in the front half of the fastening a hole, *h*, to receive a screw, *i*, for aiding in fixing the fastening to the bottom of the instep portion, A, and at two of its front corners the fastening is bent upward and provided with spears *k* to enter the part A, in order to prevent the fastening from turning on its screw *i*. When the fastening is fixed to the portion A the rear or elastic part of the fastening projects beyond the base of such portion in manner as shown in Fig. 3, the fastening having a width corresponding to that of the groove *b* for its reception. As usual, there projects from the toe of the instep portion a stud, *l*, to enter a corresponding recess, *m*, in the body of the last.

On applying the instep portion to its seat in the body of the last and pressing such instep portion forward, the fastening D thereof will enter the groove *b* and receive the head of the screw C by the hole or slit mouth *e*, and as the portion A may be crowded forward the head of the said screw will spring the free portion or portions of the fastening down to and against the bottom of the groove. From this it will be seen that I not only have for holding the instep portion from accidentally slipping backward the friction of the screw-head against the fastening, but that of the fastening against the bottom of the groove in the body of the last. In practice this has been found of very great advantage, the friction being increased as occasion may require by simply turning the screw C so as to raise or lower it in the last sufficiently.

I am aware that a screw and a slotted plate have been used for holding the instep portion to the body of the last, and therefore do not claim such, broadly; but in such case the plate could not by the screw be sprung down against the body, as it is in my improvement.

I am aware of Patents Nos. 8,370, 152,210, and 201,100. The first shows a recessed last having a loose spring, under which is located a strip attached to the instep portion. The second shows a simple notched plate secured to the last and engaging the head of a screw fastened to the instep portion. The last shows a last having a notch in which is placed a spring-plate held at both ends to resist upward pressure, and which engages flanges secured to the instep portions. I particularly disclaim any such devices, as my invention is quite different, being another construction and subserving a different and better result.

By the curves given to the fastening D, particularly the one *g*, as the instep portion A is put in place the head of the screw C rides up on this latter curve, thereby compressing the

fastening against the last, thus holding it in a condition of suspended elasticity, and hence causing a binding between such screw and the last, effectually preventing any accidental lengthwise movement of the instep portion. To release the instep portion it has to be moved until the head of the screw C comes to the hole *e*, when the instep portion is lifted up. Hence there are requisite two motions, one of which must be positive, needing interference, and could not possibly happen inadvertently, so that by no possibility can accidental displacement occur. At the same time the device is very simple, consisting of few parts, easily made, and eminently practical in accomplishing successfully the result desired.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

The last B, having the groove *b* and the screw C located therein, in combination with the instep portion A and the fastener D, secured to the latter, and having the curves *c d g*, slot *f*, and opening therein the hole *e*, the last being larger than the head of the screw C, whereby two movements are required to put the instep in place and remove it, and the fastener is held with suspended elasticity, as set forth.

ELLERY C. WRIGHT.

Witnesses:
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