

(No Model.)

A. J. WILBUR.
BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 310,159.

Patented Dec. 30, 1884.

Fig. 1

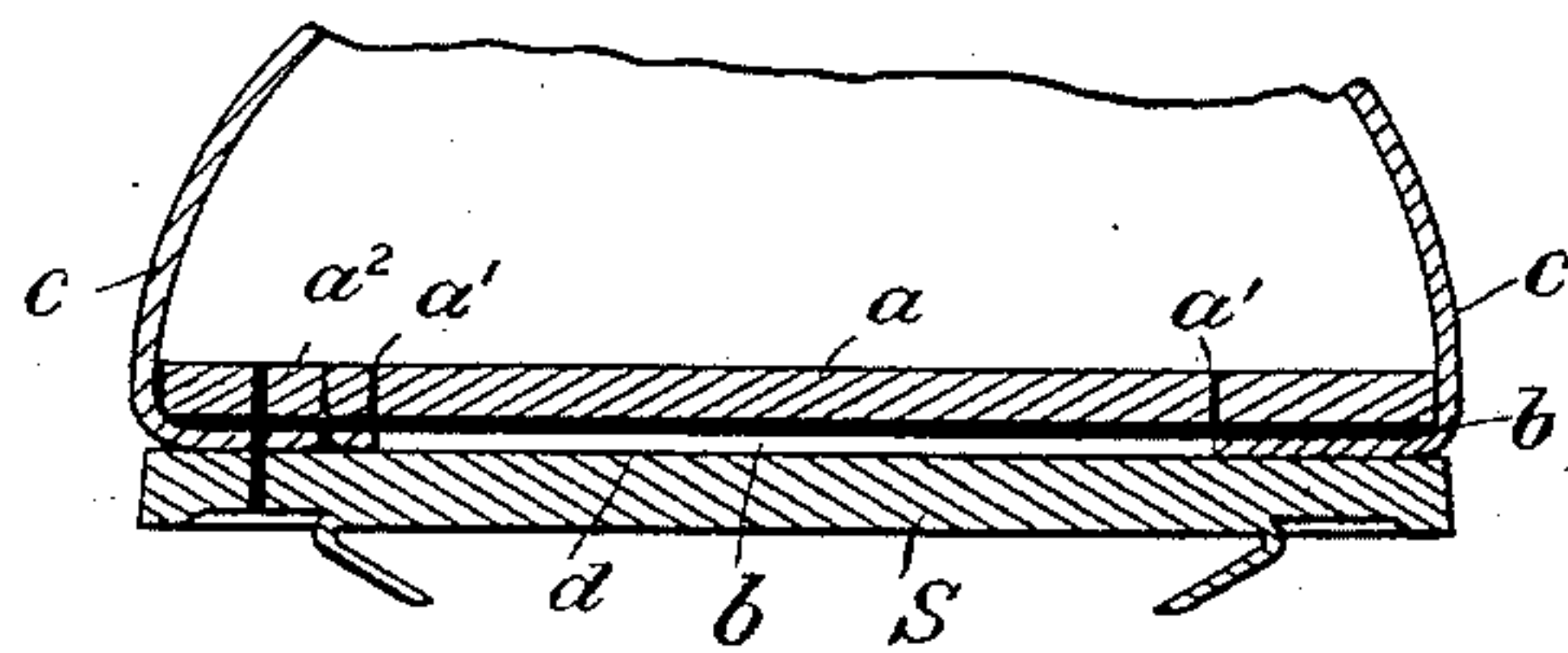


Fig. 2

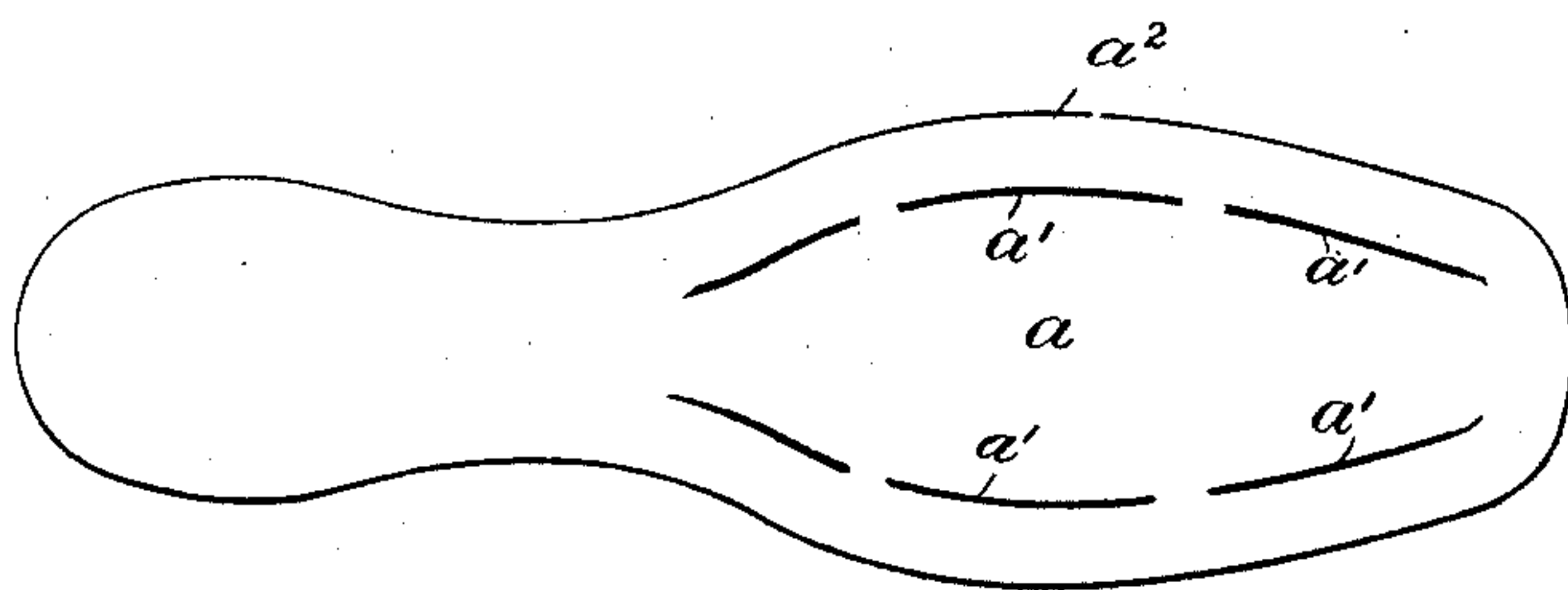
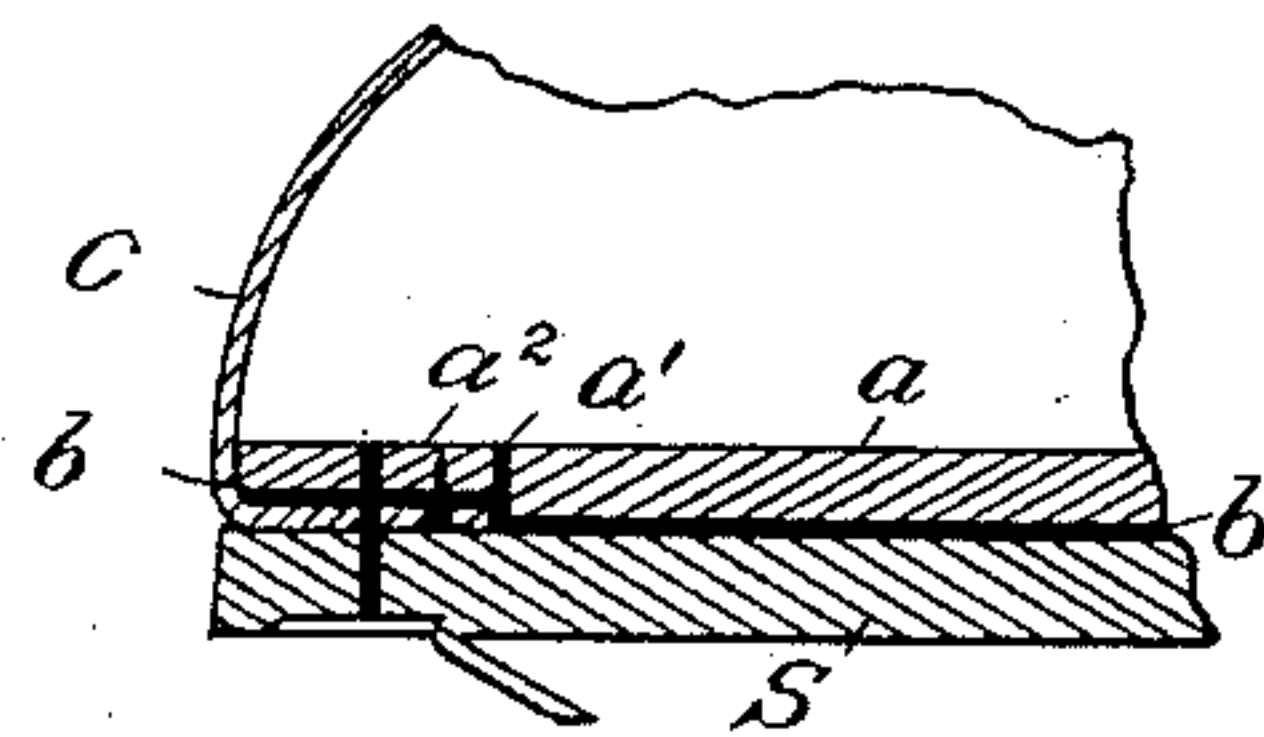


Fig. 3



Witnesses.
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ANDREW J. WILBUR, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO ALBERT
VAN WAGENEN, OF SAME PLACE.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 310,159, dated December 30, 1884.

Application filed November 3, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW J. WILBUR, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Boots or Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention, relating to boots and shoes, is intended as an improvement on Letters Patent No. 305,120, dated September 16, 1884, wherein an inner sole, slitted so as to leave a marginal welt or border to receive the stitches or fastenings, was employed to increase the flexibility of the boot or shoe. In the said patent, in order to prevent the marginal welt or border of the inner sole from being drawn away from the main body thereof, and thus prevent tight lasting, it was necessary to cut the upper of such size or fullness as to lap about the last and sufficiently beyond the marginal welt or border to enable the lasting-tacks to be driven into the upper and into the main body of the inner sole inside the welt or border, thus adding materially to the cost of the boot or shoe. To obviate the necessity of making the upper as full or wide as stated, and yet gain the advantage of flexibility due to the employment of a slitted inner sole, I attach to or provide the under side of the latter with a supplementary inner sole, which serves to re-enforce the slitted inner sole and enable the upper, as it is lasted, to be connected to the marginal welt or border of the inner sole; and it is in this particular feature that my invention essentially consists. The supplementary sole employed, made of non-elastic material, preferably textile fabric, is cut of such shape as to cover the slits in the inner sole at its under side.

Figure 1 shows a cross-section of a shoe made in accordance with this invention; Fig. 2, a bottom view of the inner sole; Fig. 3, a modification to be referred to.

The inner sole, *a*, cut to the proper shape, is slit at *a' a'* from at or near the toe part to the shank, or as far back as may be desired, thus forming a connected marginal welt or border, *a² a²*, which receives the stitches or fast-

enings to be employed. This inner sole, *a*, slit as described, has attached to its under side, by cement or otherwise, a supplementary sole, *b*, preferably made of textile material or inexpensive leather, and of the same size as the inner sole, *a*.

In the preparation of the shoe the inner sole, *a*, with the supplementary sole *b* attached thereto, is laid upon the last, the inner sole, *a*, resting against the bottom thereof. The upper *c*, of usual size and material, is then drawn over the last and secured by tacks or fastenings, which penetrate the upper and the supplementary sole and enter the marginal welt or border *a² a²*, the uncut supplementary sole being non-elastic to thus resist the strain of the upper and keep the marginal welt from being pulled away from the main portion of the inner sole. The outer sole, *S*, suitably channeled, is then applied by suitable lasting-tacks, and stitches or fastenings are then made to extend through the said outer sole, upper, supplementary sole, and the marginal welt or border of the inner sole, thus permanently uniting all the parts together.

A filling-sole may be interposed between the supplementary and outer sole, as at *d*; but, preferably, in the manufacture of fine quality shoes I reduce the thickness of the marginal welt, as shown in Fig. 3, leaving the main body sufficiently thick to fill this space, and in such shoes I preferably also employ a sock-sole.

It will be seen that the stitches or fastenings unite the upper to the slitted inner sole at its toe and heel portions direct, while between these two points it is united to the marginal welt or border, leaving the main body of the inner sole free to conform to the action of the foot of the wearer in walking, and the non-elastic supplementary sole being attached to the slitted inner sole firmly any strain of the upper on the marginal welt or border which tends to draw the same from the main body of the inner sole is resisted, whereas in the patent referred to, to avoid strain on the welt, it was necessary to secure the upper directly to the main body of the inner sole.

In Fig. 2 I have shown the marginal welt or border at each edge of the sole connected with

the main body of the inner sole at but two points; but the same may be connected at several points, or as shown in the patent referred to; or, if desired, the slits *a'*, instead of being made entirely through the inner sole, may be but partially cut through the said sole.

I claim—

In a boot or shoe, the combination, with an inner sole slitted or cut to form a connected marginal welt or border and a non-elastic supplementary sole attached thereto at its under side, of an upper drawn over and attached to the said supplementary sole and marginal welt

or border of the inner sole and an outer sole, all permanently united by stitches or fastenings extended through the outer sole, upper, supplementary sole, and marginal welt or border, all substantially as described. 15

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses. 20

ANDREW J. WILBUR.

Witnesses:

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