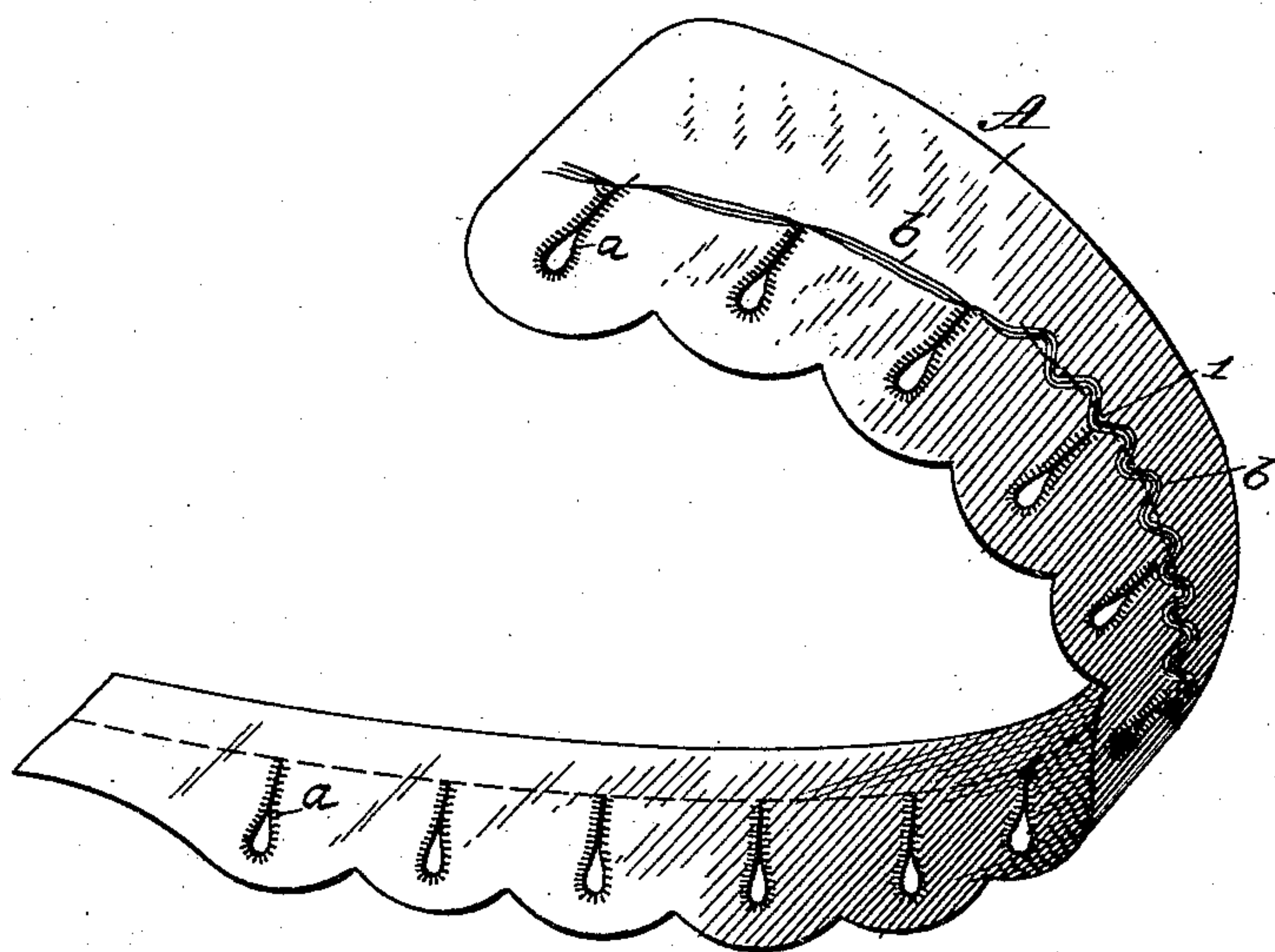


(No Model.)

R. W. THOMSON & E. M. PHELPS.  
BUTTON HOLE PIECE FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

No. 375,581.

Patented Dec. 27, 1887.



Attest:  
*Walter Donaldson*  
J. L. Middleton

Inventor  
Robert W. Thomson  
Eugene M. Phelps  
by *Wm. Spear*  
Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT W. THOMSON AND EUGENE M. PHELPS, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS,  
ASSIGNORS TO THE CONSOLIDATED BUTTON HOLE FINISHING MACHINE  
COMPANY, OF NASHUA, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

## BUTTON-HOLE PIECE FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 375,581, dated December 27, 1887.

Application filed April 26, 1887. Serial No. 236,217. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, ROBERT W. THOMSON and EUGENE M. PHELPS, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Button-Hole Pieces for Boots or Shoes, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification.

Our invention is an improved button-hole piece, the invention consisting in the arrangement of the thrum ends and piping-cord of the button-hole, and in the line of stitching by which they are held. It is shown in the accompanying drawing in perspective.

In the drawing, A represents the piece of ordinary construction, and *a* the button-holes. The thrum ends and piping-cord left after the holes are finished are indicated at *b*. These are extended in line between the button-holes from the inner end of one to the inner end of another, and so on throughout the piece, being gathered as closely as practicable; but they are not extended in a straight line, being in a wavy or zigzag line, as shown in the drawing. They are held by a line of stitching which extends in a straight line, crossing each lateral or diagonal part of the sinuous or zigzag line of the thrum ends. Each stitch passes through the leather or fabric at the point *1* in each bend of the line of thrum ends and crosses the thrum ends at each diagonal part. This leaves a straight line of stitching on both sides, and the stitching may be done either by hand or by a

sewing-machine, the thrum ends being bent laterally as the stitching progresses. One end of the figure shows the under side and the other the outside of this stitching. Heretofore these thrum ends have been held by a double line of stitching engaging with a third thread. By the arrangement above described we have sought to avoid cutting the material of the upper with numerous holes and to reduce the amount of stitching thereon without impairing the security of the thrum ends.

We do not here claim, broadly, the inclosing of the thrum ends, nor even holding them by a single line of stitching.

We claim—

A button-hole piece having the thrum ends gathered and laid in a wavy or zigzag line from the inner end of one button-hole to the inner end of another, and combined with a straight line of stitching in which the stitches pass through the leather or fabric at each bend and cross the diagonal lines of the thrum ends, the line of stitching being straight from the inner end of one button-hole to the inner end of another, substantially as described.

Witness our hands this 9th day of April, 1887, in presence of two witnesses.

R. W. THOMSON.  
E. M. PHELPS.

Witnesses:

C. B. TUTTLE,  
S. W. WINSLOW.