

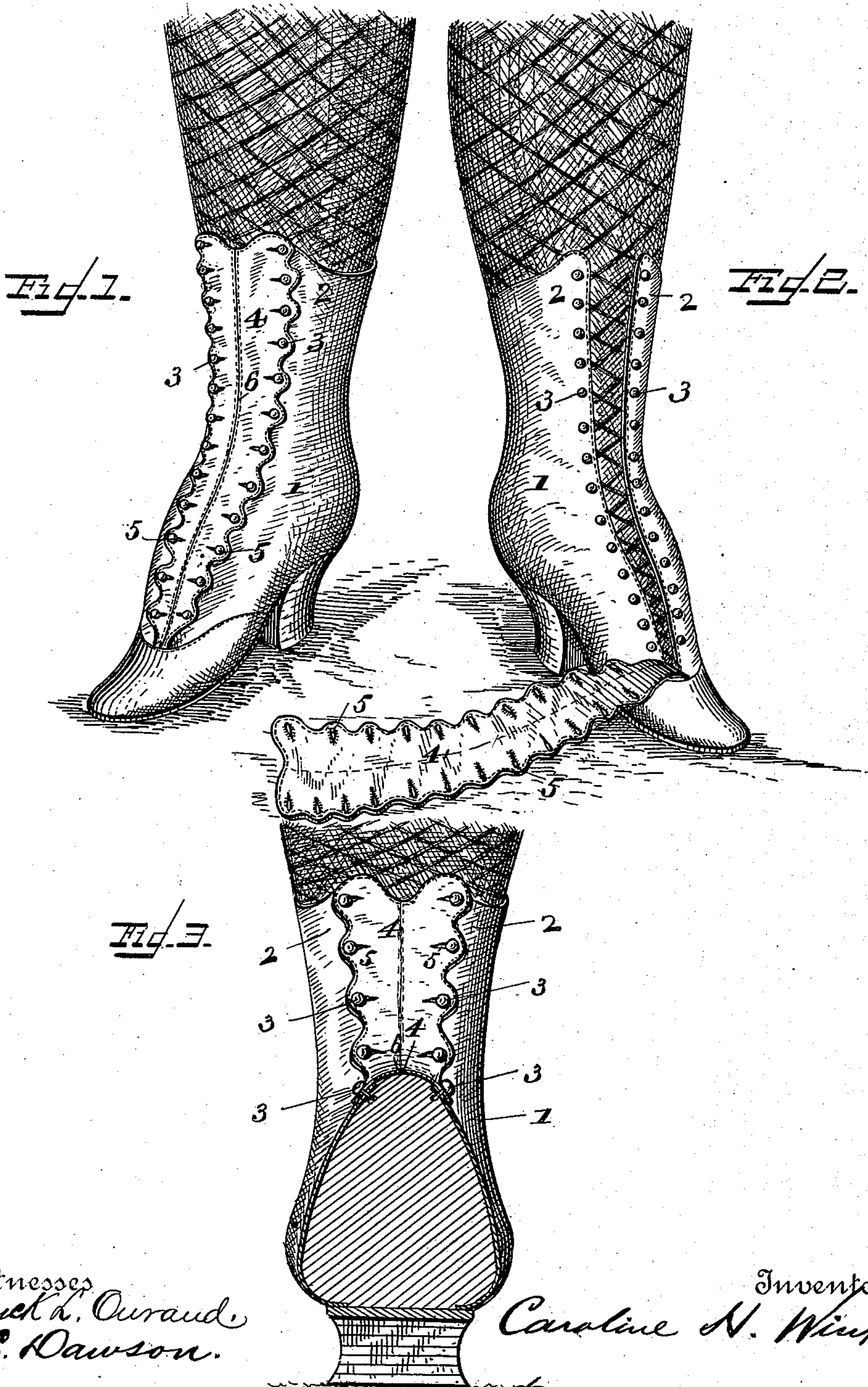
(No Model.)

C. H. WINTER.

BOOT OR SHOE.

No. 378,034.

Patented Feb. 14, 1888.



Witnesses
Frank A. Ouraud,
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Inventor
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By her Attorneys

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CAROLINE HARDING WINTER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, AS-
SIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO SARAH C. JOHNSON, OF SAME PLACE.

BOOT OR SHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 378,034, dated February 14, 1888.

Application filed July 30, 1887. Serial No. 245,703. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CAROLINE HARDING WINTER, a resident of Philadelphia, in the county of Philadelphia and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Button Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it ap-
10 pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my im-
15 proved shoe, showing it buttoned. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the shoe unbuttoned at both sides, and Fig. 3 is a sectional view taken across the instep of the buttoned shoe.

Similar numerals of reference indicate cor-
20 responding parts in all the figures.

My invention has relation to that class of shoes which are made upon a straight last to fit both feet equally well, and which are pro-
25 vided with two rows of buttons, one on each side, and with a flap having button-holes at both edges, adapted to be buttoned upon the two rows of buttons; and it consists in the im-
30 proved construction and combination of parts of such a shoe, as hereinafter more fully de-
scribed and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, the numeral 1 indicates the body of the shoe, and the numeral 2 indicates the free edges of the top, which edges meet along the middle line of the foot,
35 and are provided with two rows of buttons, 3, at equal distances from the edges.

The flap 4 is secured at its lower end to the upper edge of the forward portion of the upper, at the point at which the middle seam of
40 the shoe usually starts, and this flap is provided with two rows of button-holes, 5, registering with the buttons upon the top and buttoning over them, the said flap being constructed similar to two of the usual flaps used
45 in button shoes, the two halves of the flap having a uniting-seam, 6, passing up at the middle of it and in the same place as the usual middle seam of the top of the shoe. It will thus be seen that when the shoe is made upon a straight
50 last and provided with this double flap it may

be put upon either foot, and the flap may at all times be buttoned upon the outer side of the shoe, as the other row of buttons may be buttoned before the shoe is put on, and by hav-
55 ing the shoe fit either foot any uneven wear of the shoe is avoided, as it may be worn alternately upon the right or the left foot. This manner of interchanging the shoes by wearing them right and left alternately will prevent
60 children from getting in the habit of wearing the shoes unevenly upon one side more than upon the other, and the foot will not be tilted to one side or the other by the worn shoe, and for people having deformed feet or feet troubled
65 with projections of any description the shoe will not be pressed and molded to the deformity when it is changeable as when it is worn constantly on the same foot, so that the shoe
70 will not look so ill-shaped as if it were constantly worn on the same foot.

By having the flap buttoning at both sides a row of buttons will always show upon the outer side of the shoe, so that there will not be
75 any odd appearance of the shoe, and the most convenient side for buttoning or unbuttoning may always be used, as either side of the shoe may be buttoned or unbuttoned.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the flap can be made on shoes that are made over
80 right and left lasts, if desired, as well as on shoes that are made over straight lasts; the object of the straight last, when that is used, being more especially to do away with repairing, as when so made the shoe may be shifted
85 from one foot to the other, so as to compensate for wear.

I am aware that it is not new to make shoes over a straight last, so as to make them capable of being worn on either foot, and I am also aware that shoes have been made with a cen-
90 tral flap buttoning at both edges over a row of lacing; but I am not aware that a shoe fitting either foot and having a double central flap, which may be unbuttoned and buttoned to either side, has been made or patented, and I
95 therefore claim—

A straight shoe, or shoe made to fit either foot, having a row of buttons at the free edges of the central slit in the upper, and having the
100 said edges extending only partly upon the in-

step, and provided with a central double flap
formed like two of the usual flaps for button
shoes, united by a central seam and covering
the open space between the edges of the cen-
5 tral slit, and provided with a row of button-
holes at each edge, the buttoned shoe present-
ing a row of buttons upon its outer side when
worn on either foot, as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my
own I have hereunto affixed my signature in 10
presence of two witnesses.

CAROLINE HARDING WINTER.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH GREEN,
THEO H. McCALLA.