

(No Model.)

A. SEAVER.
TOE CAP FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

No. 559,311.

Patented Apr. 28, 1896.

FIG. 1.

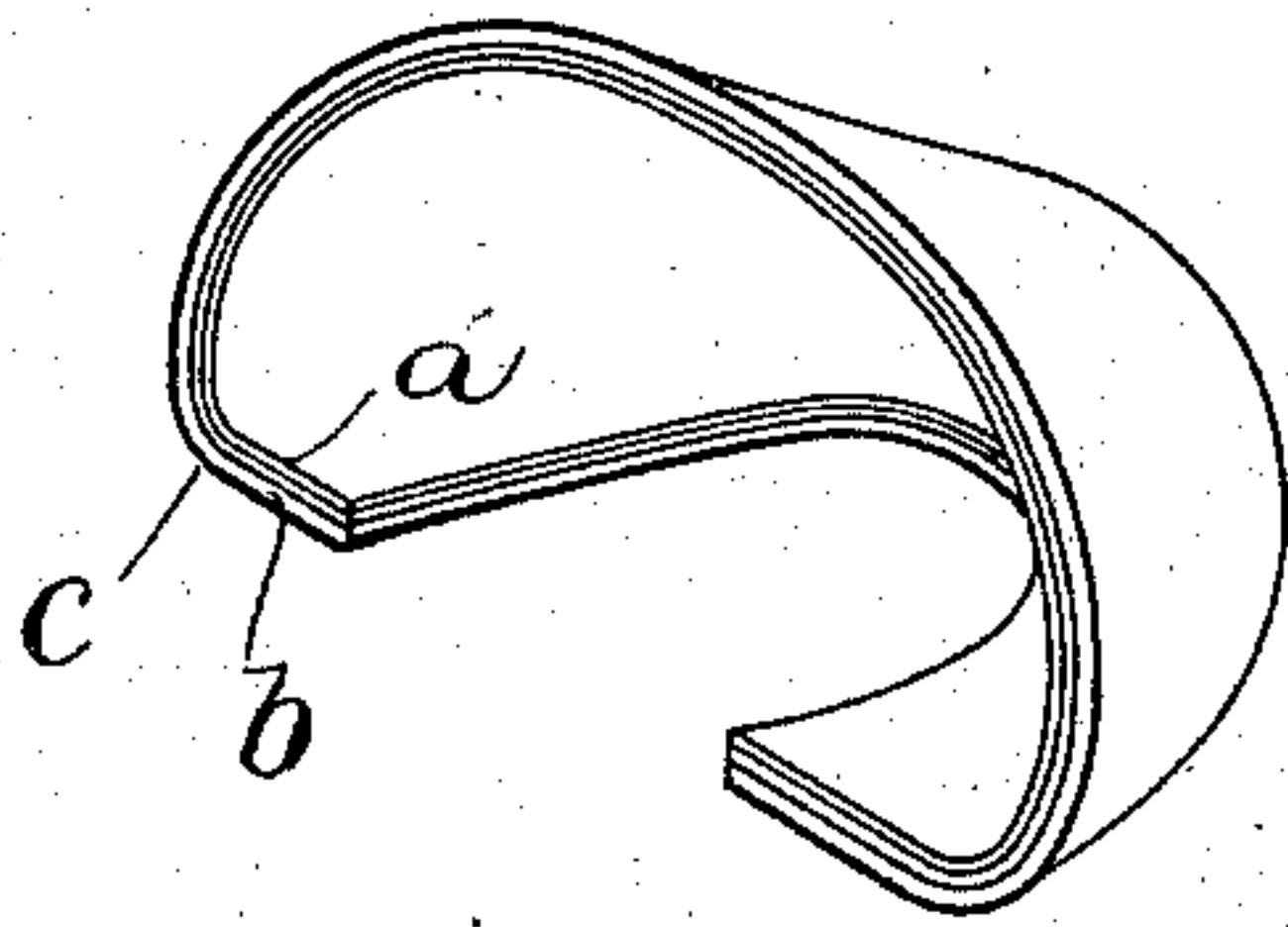
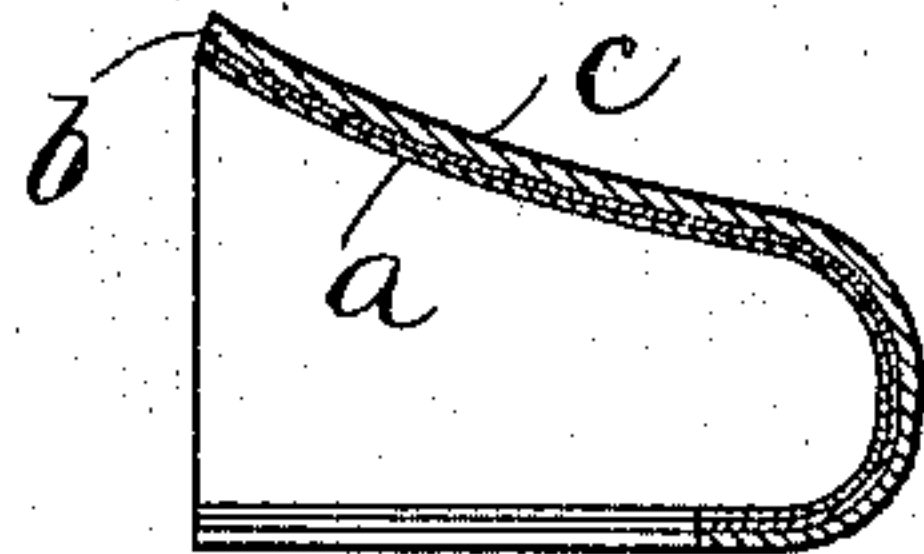


FIG. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUSTUS SEAVER, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

TOE-CAP FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 559,311, dated April 28, 1896.

Application filed September 14, 1895. Serial No. 562,540. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, AUGUSTUS SEAVER, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and
5 useful Improvements in Toe-Caps for Boots or Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to boot and shoe toe-caps having permanently glossy facings, such
10 as are produced by the application of japan or enamel to the leather body of the toe-cap. Heretofore such facings have always been applied to the leather body while the latter is flat and afterward shaped by the operation
15 of lasting or incorporating the leather body into the boot or shoe. The nature of said facing is such, however, that the tension to which it is subjected by the operation of bending and stretching the leather body is liable
20 to crack the facing and thus greatly injure its appearance. The cracks are not always formed when the leather body is first shaped or lasted, but often appear subsequently. They are especially liable to appear on an
25 abruptly-curved portion of the facing, such as that formed by applying the leather body to a last having a pointed toe. This liability of the glossy facing to crack is a source of great difficulty, annoyance, and expense, often
30 resulting in the return of the goods to the manufacturer and requiring much expenditure of time and labor in repairing or renewing the facing.

My invention has for its object to overcome
35 this difficulty and to provide for the use of shoe manufacturers a toe-cap ready for incorporation into a boot or shoe and having a glossy toe-facing, which, while possessing the usual characteristics of an ordinary patent-
40 leather facing as to permanent gloss and resistance to water, is free from tensile or cracking strain, and can be relied upon to stand in a boot or shoe without cracking, even at the abrupt curves of pointed toes, a desideratum
45 which has never before been attained.

The invention consists in a toe-cap comprising a lasted body having a flange for attachment to a boot or shoe and a toe-facing of japan or enamel deposited or modeled in
50 toe-cap shape while in a plastic condition and

subsequently hardened to make said shape permanent, said facing being waterproof and characterized by freedom from cracking strain.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a
55 part of this specification, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a toe-facing embodying my invention, and Fig. 2 represents a sectional view of the same.

In carrying out my invention I take a
60 leather body *b* that has been previously lasted or shaped to conform to the shape of the toe portion of a last, so that it requires no further stretching or fitting in incorporating it into a boot or shoe, and deposit or model thereon
65 a permanently glossy waterproof facing *c*, composed of japan or any other suitable preparation or composition, said facing being applied in a liquid or plastic state to the body
70 *b* and then completed or hardened by the application of heat. The characteristics of the facing as to permanent gloss and resistance to water are the same as those of the coating or facing of ordinary patent-leather; but, unlike the ordinary patent-leather toe-facing
75 found in a boot or shoe, it is further characterized by an entire freedom from cracking strain when incorporated into the boot or shoe. It will be seen that the facing formed or modeled while in a soft or plastic condition and
80 subsequently set or hardened is not only free from cracking strain, but is firmly set or fixed in the desired form. The toe-cap may, therefore, be kept in stock by the manufacturer ready for application to a boot or shoe, and
85 when applied the facing may be relied upon to retain both its predetermined form and its continuity without liability of cracking and losing its waterproof character. The leather body *b* is provided with a flange or lip extending
90 along its lower edge below the exposed portion of the facing for attachment to a boot or shoe. The said body is here shown as internally reinforced by a layer *a* of buckram or other stiffening material.

I claim—

As an article of manufacture a toe-cap comprising a lasted body having a flange for attachment to a boot or shoe, and a modeled facing composed of a material or composition
100

formed on said body while in a plastic condition and subsequently hardened, said facing being characterized by a permanently glossy waterproof surface, free from cracking strain.

5 In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of

two subscribing witnesses, this 7th day of September, A. D. 1895.

AUGUSTUS SEAVER.

Witnesses:

A. D. HARRISON,
W. P. ABELL.