No. 881,643. PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

W. WIGGINS.

LAST.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 31, 1907.

Fig. 1.

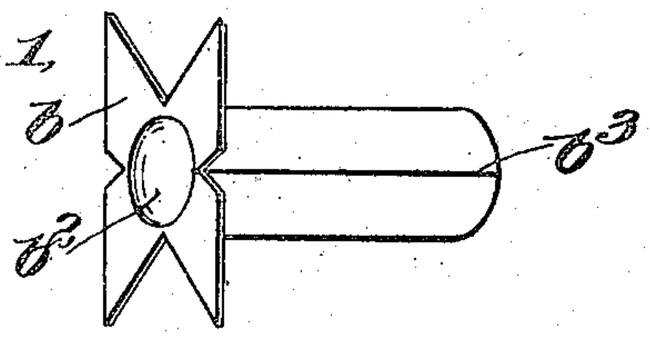


Fig. 2.

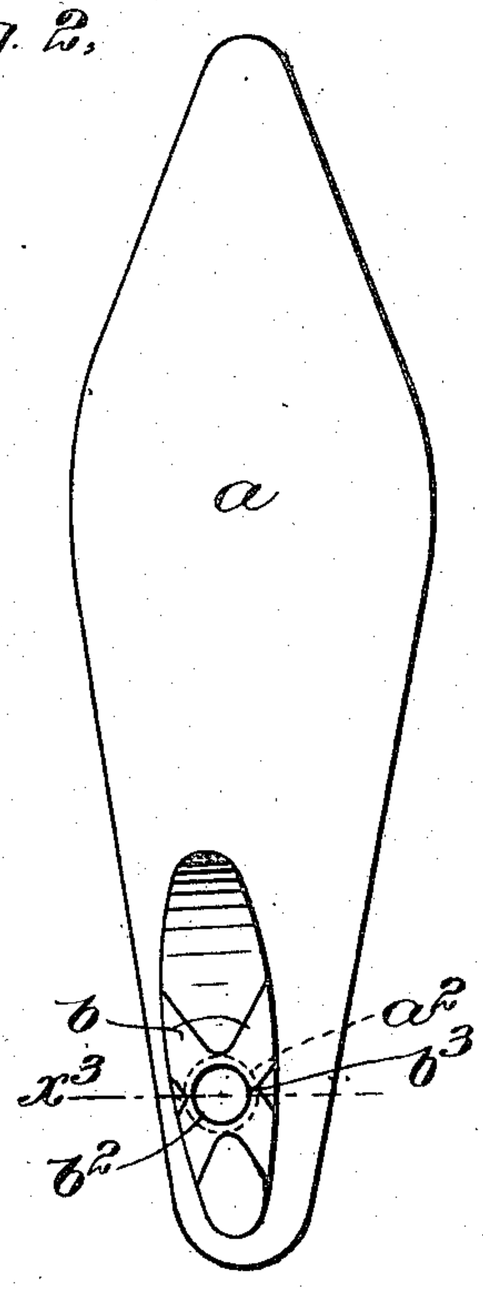
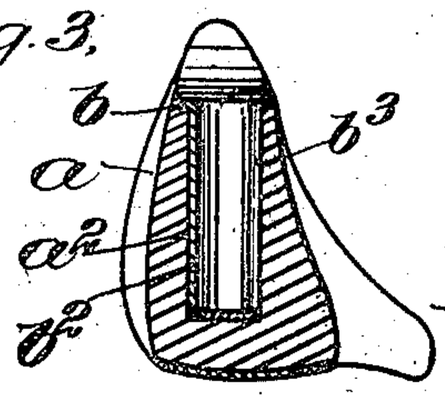


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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LAST.

No. 881,643. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed January 31, 1907. Serial No. 354,975.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM WIGGINS, a citizen of the United States, residing in Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Lasts, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

The present invention relates to a reinforcing plate for a last socket, and is embodied in a plate so constructed as to prevent the wooden body of the last from splitting longitudinally under the strains of use.

A further feature of the invention is embodied in means for protecting the last socket itself by means of a thimble or bushing, and to construct the thimble or bushing in such a manner as to overcome the tendency thereof to wear loose and drop out of the socket.

In accordance with the invention, that portion of the last where the socket is formed is provided with a reinforcing plate set into the surface of the last, the said plate having bifurcated wings or extensions which project in a general, longitudinal direction at both sides of the socket, so as to afford an external support for the wood, tending to prevent any lateral spread thereof, and consequent splitting of the material. The socket is also provided with a bushing which is firmly held in position by the reinforcing plate, it being practicable to form the said bushing integral with said plate, although such construction is not essential to the invention.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a reinforcing plate having a bushing formed integral therewith; Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the last with the reinforcing plate applied thereto; and Fig. 3 is a section on line x^3 of Fig. 2.

Referring to Fig. 2, the last a is provided with a socket a^2 to receive the jack pin when the last is jacked up; the said socket being in line with an opening formed in a reinforcing plate b which is set into the surface of the last, as best shown in Fig. 3. The reinforcing plate b is formed with bifurcated projecting portions or wings extending forward and back from the socket a^2 and projecting outward towards the sides of the upper surface of the last. In the construction shown, these wings project wholly to the sides of the last, since, by this construction, the cutting of the last to be fitted by the reinforcing plate is simplified, while the surface of the last is flat and unbroken.

As best shown in Fig. 2, the lateral strain of the jack pin which tends to split the last, and which comes, as indicated, where the material is thinnest and least capable of resisting such strain, is taken up by the inner edges of the bifurcating projecting portions of the reinforcing plate, thereby greatly strengthening the structure. The socket a^2 is provided with a wear-resisting bushing, and, in the construction shown in Fig. 1, the said bushing b^2 is made a part of the reinforcing plate b, it being practicable to stamp the entire piece from sheet metal, and afterwards turn it up to the shape indicated, ready for insertion in the socket formed in the wooden part of the last.

In making up the reinforcing plate and socket in this way, the adjoining edges of the blank, indicated by the reference letter b^3, are located at one side of the socket, so that any tendency of the bushing to spread apart will not be communicated laterally to the body of the last where the splitting strain is to be avoided. Such tendency to spread, moreover, while it in no way weakens the structure, causes the bushing to bind more firmly in the hole.

Claims.

1. A last having a reinforcing plate for the last socket adapted to be set into the surface of the wooden body of the last around said socket and provided with longitudinally projecting bifurcated wings.

2. A last having a bushing for the last socket and a reinforcing plate set into the surface of the last around said socket and provided with bifurcated wings projecting forward and back to afford an external, lateral support for the material forming the body of the last.

3. A last having a combined reinforcing plate and thimble for the last socket formed in a single piece, a portion of which is bent around to form a tubular thimble the meeting edges of which are at one side, the remainder being bent at an angle to the tubular bushing, and bifurcated and extended forward and backward of the socket and adapted to be set into the surface of the last.

4. The combination with a last, having a thimble hole, of a thimble in said hole provided with a pair of longitudinally extended, diverging projections embedded in the last,

said projections adapted to prevent splitting of the last.

5. The combination with a last, having a thimble hole, of a thimble therein provided with oppositely projecting, longitudinally directed, bifurcated wings, said wings being embedded in the last and adapted to prevent splitting thereof.

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

WILLIAM WIGGINS.

Witnesses:
M. E. COVENEY,
G. H. WILLIAMS.