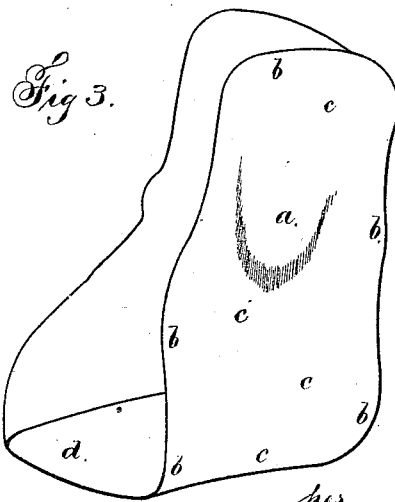
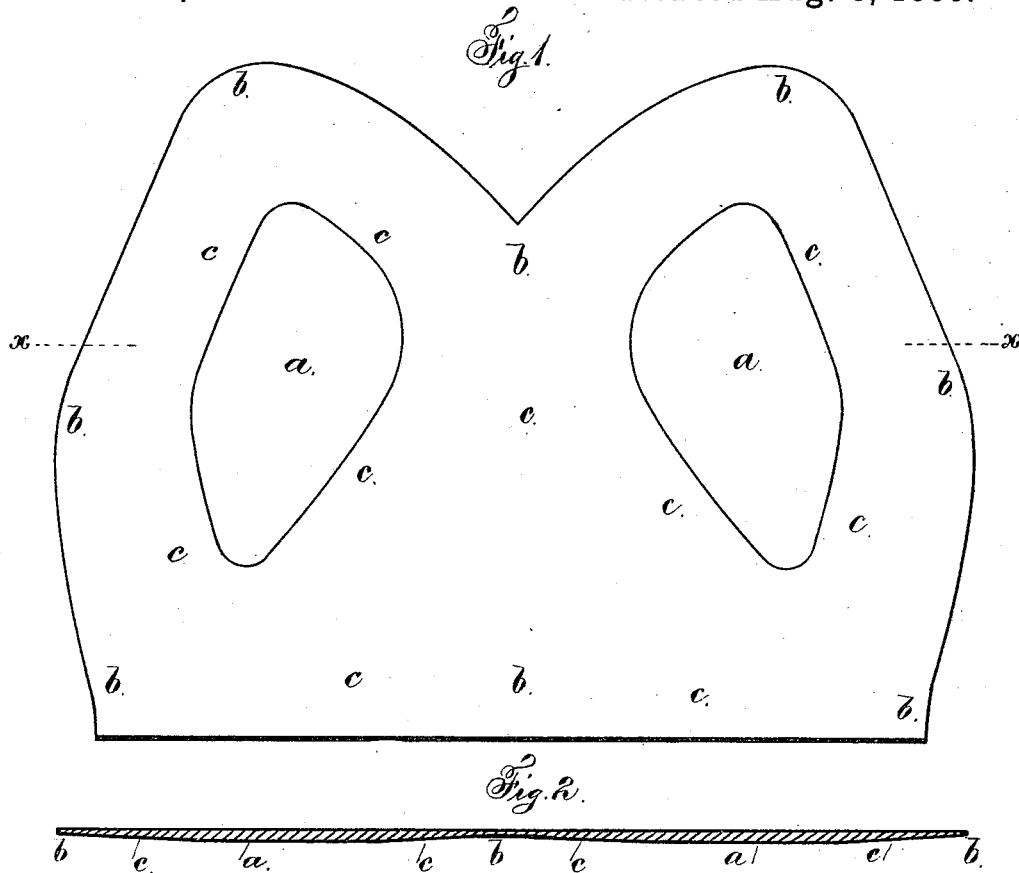


(No Model.)

J. G. PUGSLEY.
ANKLE SUPPORTER.

No. 346,606.

Patented Aug. 3, 1886.



Witnesses
Harold Terrell
Chas. H. Smith

Inventor
John G. Pugsley
Lemuel W. Terrell
att.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN G. PUGSLEY, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

ANKLE-SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,606, dated August 3, 1886.

Application filed April 17, 1886. Serial No. 199,179. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN G. PUGSLEY, of Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Ankle-Supporters; and the following is declared to be a description of the same.

In Letters Patent No. 212,261 and No. 216,106, granted to me, an ankle-supporter is shown and described in which the stiff material—such as leather or felt—comes up at each side of the ankle, the back portion being open at the upper part, and the heel portion closed by the lining that is placed within the leather case. Heretofore it has been difficult to construct these ankle-supporters with the leather of varying thicknesses, so that the proper bearing will be taken against the sides of the ankle and foot to give support in the places where needed, the leather in other places being flexible enough not to hurt the foot.

My present invention relates to an ankle-supporter, the outside leather of which is in one piece, without any opening at the heel, the said leather being cut to shape, and the inner surface skived off in such a manner that the thickest portions are left at the sides of the ankles, and the remaining portions beveled off sufficiently thin to be flexible and not to hurt the foot or ankle.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of the form or blank of leather. Fig. 2 is a section at *xx* of Fig. 1, showing the same beveled and reduced in thickness at the proper places; and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the ankle-supporter.

The supporter is preferably made of leather; but felt, cloth, or other suitable material may be employed, and the material, after being cut out and skived down, as hereinafter explained, is molded upon a form and shaped according to well-known sizes, and the material is stiffened with glue, varnish, or equivalent material. The leather is cut to the proper shape, as shown in Fig. 1, and the portions *a* are preferably left of the full thickness of the leather used, and the other portions are skived down. The edges and other portions marked *b* are the thinnest, and the portions marked *c* are of an intermediate thickness. The thick portions *a* come at each side next the ankles.

The portions *c* below them, and the portion *c* between the portions *a*, give sufficient stiffness and support to the portions *a*, while the central portions *b* and outside edges *b* give flexibility where it is necessary, simply to cover and bear lightly upon the foot. I prefer to skive this leather at one operation by passing the leather and a pattern that is placed against the face side of the leather between a pair of rollers, and against a cutting-knife, the said knife removing from the inner side of the leather a piece corresponding with the pattern, so that the leather is reduced in thickness at the proper places. This manner of skiving the form is much preferable to hand-work.

I prefer to line the supporter with kid, flannel, or similar material, and this lining, together with a portion of the lower edge of the skiver, which is turned under in the molding operation, constitutes the base *d* of the supporter, and it is not necessary in this supporter to either cut away the heel portion or to employ so many pieces of material as in my former supporters.

This ankle-supporter, as in my former patent, is adapted to be worn in the ordinary shoe of the person using the same.

I claim as my invention—

1. An ankle-supporter of rigid material having the portions *a* of full thickness next the ankles, the portions *c* beveled to an intermediate thickness, and the portions *b* thinner and more flexible, the same being formed of a single piece of leather, molded to shape, stiffened, and having a lining, substantially as set forth.

2. An ankle-supporter of rigid material having the portions *a* of full thickness next the ankles, the portions *c* beveled to an intermediate thickness, and portions *b* thinner and more flexible, the same being formed of a single piece of leather, and molded to shape, substantially as set forth.

Signed by me this 14th day of April, A. D. 1886.

JOHN G. PUGSLEY.

Witnesses:

GEO. T. PINCKNEY,
HAROLD SERRELL.