H. C. BABCOCK & L. M. MORRISON.

Metallic Counter-Supports for Boots and Shoes.

No. 163,349. Patented May 18, 1875.

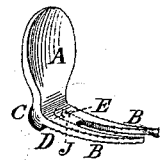

FIG. 3.

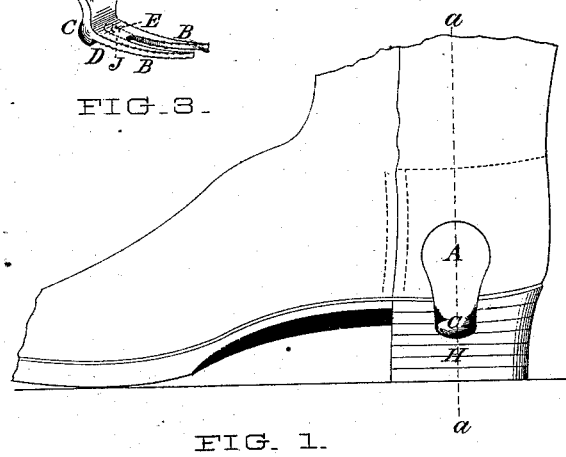

FIG. 1.

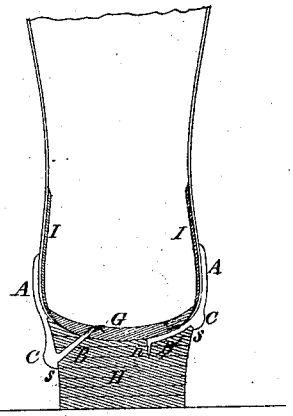

FIG. 2.

WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HENRY C. BABCOCK AND LOUIS M. MORRISON, OF BENNINGTON, VERMONT.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC COUNTER-SUPPORTS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **163,349**, dated May 18, 1875; application filed March 10, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY C. BABCOCK and LOUIS M. MORRISON, of Bennington, in the county of Bennington and State of Vermont, have invented an Improved Metallic Counter-Support for Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a specification:

The object of this invention is to provide an article which can easily be attached to the heel, or between the heel and the counter, of boots and shoes, and which will resist and counteract the tendency to "run over," which tendency may arise from improper construction of the boot or shoe, from using poor material in the counter or back, or both, or from a predilection in the wearer to crowd the counter to either side.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 shows the external appearance of our metallic counter-support as attached to a boot. Fig. 2 shows the mode of applying and fastening the counter-support to a boot, and the view is a vertical cross-section through a boot taken on the line *a a*, Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the support detached from the boot.

This device consists of a concave supporting-lip, A, having protruding from its lower end or angle an extension, D, terminating in two tangs, B B. The angle formed by the junction of the part D with the lip A is re-enforced by the enlargement C, which enlargement is made with a slightly downward-projecting ledge or shoulder, *s s*, the function of which is to increase the base-support, and to provide for covering any crack or opening which may be made by attaching the counter-support. The part D and tangs B B may or may not be made so as to be bent into either of the two shapes shown when applied as in Fig. 2; but we prefer to make them of material sufficiently yielding to permit of their being bent just inside of the angle, and also of having the extremities bent, as seen in Fig. 2, where the extremity of the tang is seen bent downward and penetrating the heel. When the counter-support is applied or attached after the boot is finished, we prefer to construct it with the slot or space between the two tangs, extending back, as shown by the dotted line J to the angle aforesaid. When the counter-support is introduced in the process of the manufacture of the boot or shoe it is done after the boot or shoe is lasted, and before the heel is built up; the supporter having the extremities of the two tangs B B first bent in the shape shown at *n*, Fig. 2, and the support itself being placed in its appropriate position with reference to the insole and counter. The heel, having previously been laid up, is then driven down and upon the points *n*, and then and there securely attached to the insole in the usual way. When the supporter, in the form shown in the left-hand side of Fig. 2, is attached, two holes are bored into the heel, in the line shown from S to G, into which the two tangs are entered. They are then driven home, and the points of the tangs B B are clinched in the manner shown by inserting an iron last in the boot or shoe when the tangs are driven in. The boss or projection C is to strengthen the angle, as aforesaid, as well as to form a head to facilitate the driving of the support to its seat and position.

We have shown the tangs barbed for the purpose of securing a firmer hold on the leather; but this may not be necessary. The construction of this counter-support admits of the head or lip A being introduced between the counter and the back of the boot during the process of manufacture, and when so applied only a trifling modification of its contour is necessary.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The described protector and metallic counter-support for boots and shoes, consisting of the flexible barbed tangs B B and a supporting-lip, A, adapted to be applied as shown.

In testimony whereof we have hereunto severally affixed our respective hands this 25th day of February, 1875.

HENRY C. BABCOCK.
LOUIS M. MORRISON.

Witnesses:
M. B. SCOTT,
M. A. FORD.