N. R. PACKARD.

Blanks for Box-Toes for Boots and Shoes.

No. 166,804. Patented Aug. 17, 1875.

Fig. 1.

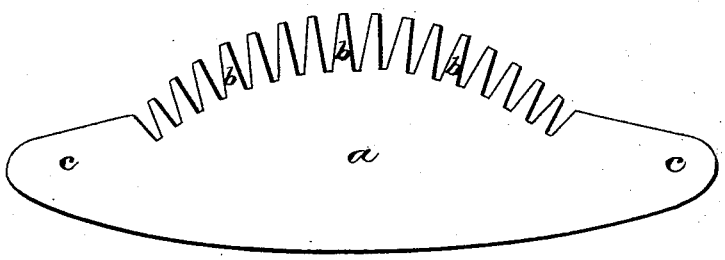


Fig. 2

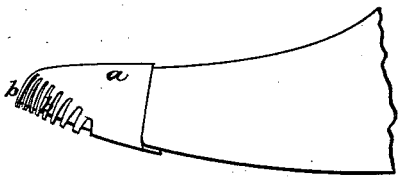
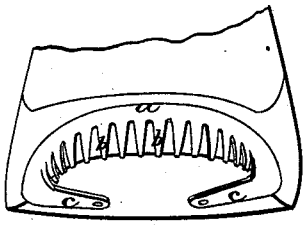


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
Saml. M. Barton.
A. E. Denison

Inventor
N. R. Packard.
by his Attys.
C. D. Wright & Brown

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHANIEL R. PACKARD, OF BROCKTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN BLANKS FOR BOX-TOES OF BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **166,804**, dated August 17, 1875; application filed May 7, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL R. PACKARD, of Brockton, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Blanks for Box-Toes of Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawings forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view of the blank as cut out, and Figs. 2 and 3 are views showing the blank applied to a last.

This invention has for its object to provide a blank from which box-toes of any desired size may be formed by bending the blank into the desired shape without subjecting it to the usual molding process. To this end it consists in a blank of suitable form, having its front edge serrated in such manner as to enable the serrations to be bent downward and form the front wall of the box-toe, and having its ends prolonged in such manner as when bent downward to form ears for the attachment of the box-toe to the sole, as I will now proceed to describe.

In the drawings, *a* represents a blank, cut by any suitable means from a sheet of leather-board, leather, or other material of any desired thickness. I prefer to give the blank the general outline shown in Fig. 1, although its shape may be obviously varied according to the style of the box-toe to be produced. The front edge of the blank *a* is provided with serrations *b b*, &c. These serrations are preferably tapered from their inner to their outer ends, while their length may, if desired, decrease from the center toward the ends. In the present instance I have made the serrated edge convex, and have given the serrations a radial arrangement. The length of the serrations is such as to approximate the desired width of the front wall of the completed box-toe.

The blank *a* is taken by the shoemaker, placed on the last, and bent into the desired shape, the serrations *b* being bent downwardly on the toe of the last, and forming the front wall of the box-toe, while the prolongations *c c* are bent downwardly and under the body of the last, forming ears by means of which the box-toe may be secured to the sole of a boot or shoe. The box-toe is thus formed by bending into the desired shape, no molding or pressing process being required.

A single size of the blank is adapted to be bent into box-toes of various sizes, and it will not be necessary to manufacture more than two sizes of blanks for all sizes of boots and shoes.

It will be seen that the blanks can be cut with great rapidity, packed closely for transportation, and sold at a very low rate to manufacturers, the process of forming or bending the box-toe from the blank being entirely a part of the manufacture of a boot or shoe.

By dispensing with the molding process I avoid compressing the material and making it brittle, consequently the box-toe formed from my blank is more durable than one that is molded.

I claim as my invention—

As a new article of manufacture, the blank *a*, having the serrations *b*, and ears or prolongations *c*, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

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

NATHNL. R. PACKARD.

Witnesses:
A. E. DENISON,
C. F. BROWN.