

A. A. CUMING.  
Boots.

No. 168,882.

Patented Oct. 19, 1875.

Fig. 1.

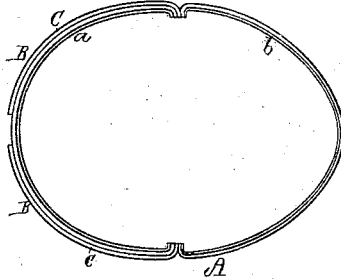


Fig. 2.

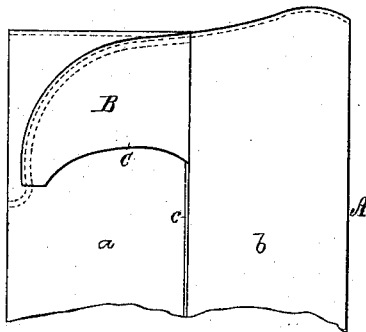
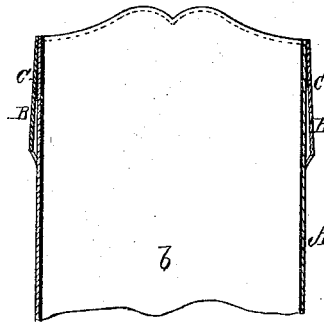


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.  
S. W. Piper.  
L. N. Höller.

Alfred A. Cuming.  
by his attorney.  
R. H. Eddy.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

ALFRED A. CUMING, OF SOUTH HINGHAM, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 168,882, dated October 19, 1875; application filed May 11, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALFRED A. CUMING, of South Hingham, of the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view, Fig. 2 a side view, and Fig. 3 a vertical section, of the upper portion of a boot-leg having my invention, which consists in a boot-leg provided with pulling-pockets applied to it; also, in the pocket-piece inserted into the side seam, so as to there take the place of a welt, such pocket-piece being also sewed or connected along its upper edge to the boot-leg; also, in the pocket-piece inserted at one end in the side seam, in combination with the welt, terminating at or near the lower edge of the pocket-piece, all being essentially as hereinafter explained.

Heretofore boot-legs have been provided, on their outer or inner surfaces, with pulling straps or loops, each capable of receiving the third finger of a person's hand, thus bringing upon the third fingers of the two hands all the strain required to pull the boot upon the foot of the wearer: The liability of such straps or loops to soon break or become more or less detached from the boot is well known. The strain induced by them on the fingers in the act of pulling on a boot is attended with such injurious or unpleasant effects as often to render the employment of boot-hooks necessary. My invention enables a person to use all the fingers, except the thumb of each hand, in pulling the boot upon his foot, thus dividing the strain among them.

In carrying out said invention I provide the boot-leg A with pulling-pockets B B, arranged on its flanks and near its mouth or upper end, such pockets opening downward, so that the four main fingers of a person's hand may be introduced endwise up within either of said pockets. Each of such pockets I usually make by means of a piece, C, of leather, formed as

shown, laid flatwise in the outer surface of the boot-leg, and sewed thereto along the edges of the pocket-piece, except the lower one. Such pocket-piece, in order to strengthen its attachment to the leg, and to save in the welting of the side seam, I extend into said side seam, and I sew the part within such seam to the leg portions *a b*, as the welt is usually fastened to such. The said welt, which is represented at *c*, I usually terminate against the lower edge of the pocket-piece. Thus I save thereby length of welt, and thereby secure the pocket-piece to the boot-leg, where, while the boot is being pulled on, the strain on such pocket-piece is liable to be the greatest.

I would remark that the welt may be continued up to the top of the boot-leg, and alongside of the portion of the pocket-piece that may be within the side seam, the whole being connected by the stitching of the seam. Such arrangement would be advantageous so far as the securing of the pocket-piece to the boot-leg is concerned, although the terminating the welt at, or substantially at, the lower edge of the pocket-piece will make a better finish, and save in the length of welting required for the seam.

I claim—

1. As an improved manufacture, a boot-leg provided with pulling-pockets B B, substantially as described.

2. The pocket-piece C, inserted at one end within the side seam, and connected therewith, as set forth.

3. The pocket-piece C, inserted at one end within the side seam, in combination with the welt *c*, terminating at its upper end at the lower edge of the pocket-piece, all being as represented and described, whereby the part of the pocket-piece within the seam becomes a welt thereto, as well as a connection of the pocket-piece with the boot-leg.

ALFRED A. CUMING.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,  
J. R. SNOW.