2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

D. J. ROGERS.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

No. 180,276. Patented July 25, 1876.

Fig. 1.

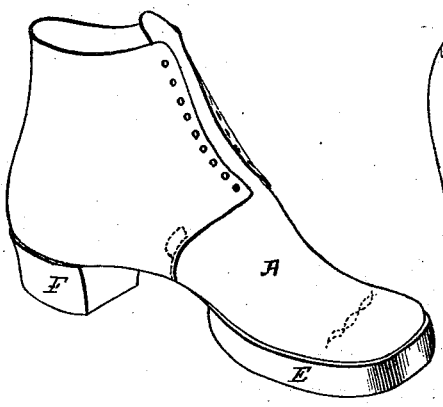


Fig. 2.

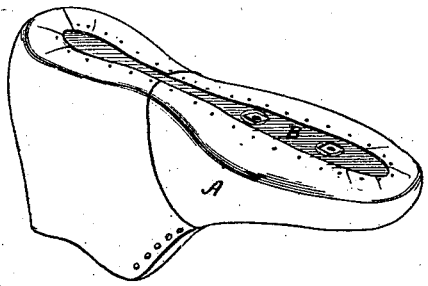


Fig. 3.

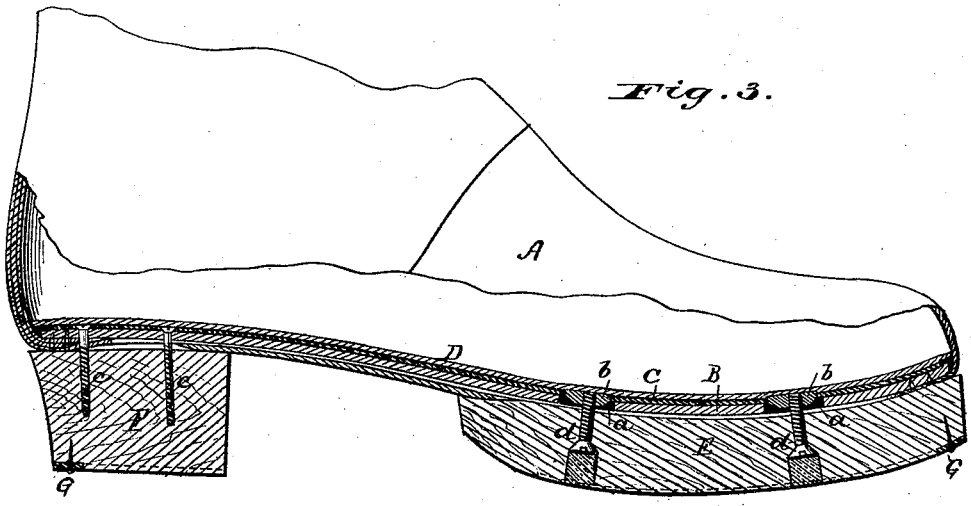
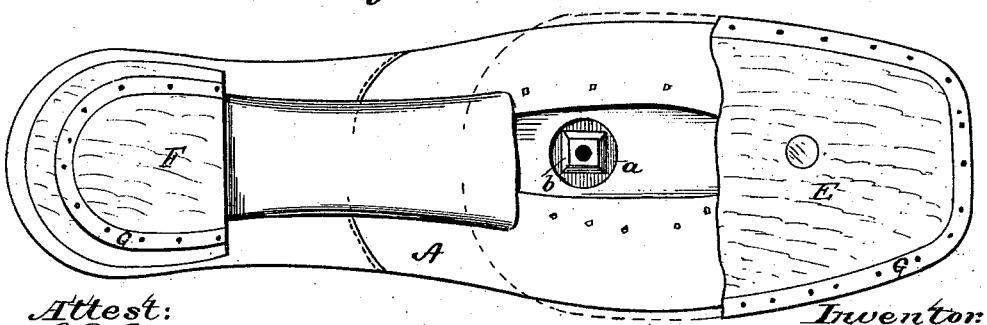


Fig. 4.



Attest:
H. L. Perrine
Frank A. Finckel.

Inventor:
David J. Rogers.
by Wm. H. Finckel
Associate Atty.

2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

D. J. ROGERS.

BOOTS AND SHOES.

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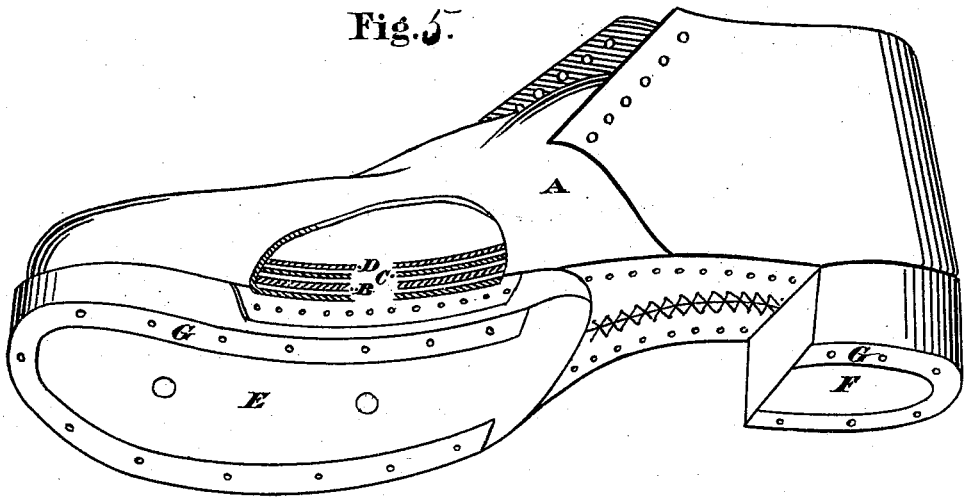
Fig. 5.



WITNESSES.

Frank Pardon.

R. S. Turner

INVENTOR.

David J. Rogers

by J. S. Heisitt

Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID J. ROGERS, OF BARDSTOWN, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **180,276**, dated July 25, 1876; application filed January 31, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID J. ROGERS, of Bardstown, in the county of Nelson, in the State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Manufacture of Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a completed shoe; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the shoe, looking at the sole, showing said shoe as it comes from the last, and before the sole and heel are affixed. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal section of the shoe; Fig. 4, a bottom view with part of the sole broken away, and Fig. 5 a perspective view of the shoe with part of the upper broken away to show the arrangement of the insole and metal middle sole.

This invention relates to improvements in the construction of wood sole and heel boots and shoes; and the invention consists in forming the uppers over a last, and securing them to the insole in the ordinary or any other manner, then removing the last, inserting over the insole a metal plate having nuts, and securing a wooden sole and heel to said uppers by means of screws passed through them into the metal plate, so that further fastening by sewing, pegging, or otherwise, is unnecessary, the shank of such boots and shoes being finished independently of the sole and heel, and in such manner that the sole and heel may be removed without affecting the said shank.

In carrying out my invention, the uppers A of the boot or shoe are formed over a last, and secured by tacks, or otherwise, to the insole B, in the manner indicated in Fig. 2.

The insole is formed with two openings, *a a*, centrally of its width, and, thus constructed, the shoe is removed from the last, and there is placed inside and on the insole a sole, C, of sheet metal, preferably spring-steel. This sole C is provided with nuts *b*, which fit in the holes *a a* in the insole, and over it is placed the ordinary lining D. F is a wooden heel, which may or may not have a rim, G, of metal tacked to it. This heel is secured tightly to the uppers by screws *c c*, passed through the sole C into it. E is a wood sole, with or without a metal edge, G, and secured to the uppers by two screws, *d d*, countersunk into the sole, and engaging with the nuts *b b* in the metal sole C. The countersunk screw-holes may be filled up with putty, &c., so as to give a finished appearance to the sole. The uppers, it will be understood, are confined between the wood sole and the insole and metal sole C by the pressure exerted by tightening the screws, and without the aid of other screws, nails, pegs, welts, or equivalent fastenings or sewing.

The shank of the shoe or boot is finished in such manner as to be entirely separated or disconnected from the sole and heel, so that either sole or heel may be removed and replaced without in the least affecting the shank.

By using the metal plate C, as a middle sole, to which the wood sole is attached, I am enabled to attach said wood sole by fewer screws than if a wood or less rigid insole were employed. In fact, two screws are abundantly sufficient, when applied centrally of the sole, not only to attach the sole, but to firmly and securely hold the upper in place. The rigidity of the metal plate serves to keep the upper tightly down onto the sole, so as to prevent parting of sole and upper, and said metal middle sole, being impervious to water, keeps the feet dry.

It will not swell or shrink as will a wood insole; cannot crack or split as will a wood insole when the screws are driven home, and having nuts to receive the screws, the screws may be tightened and removed, and replaced without danger of tearing out the threads, for it will be perceived that the screws would, under even ordinary strain, soon tear out of a wood insole, and the greater the number of screws, the greater this evil.

Shoes so constructed will be found to be dry, very durable, elastic, and cheap. The soles and heels can be renewed at a cost of about one-fifth of a leather sole and heel, and this renewal is effected by simply removing the screws, and taking off the old soles and heels, and replacing them with new ones, all of which can be done in a few minutes.

It will be observed that all of the parts of the shoe are readily accessible for repairs, or inspection.

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

The combination of the wood sole E, the leather insole B, to which the upper is attached on the last, the metal middle sole B, nuts *b*, and two central screws, *d d*, all constructed and arranged substantially as shown and described.

DAVID J. ROGERS.

Witnesses:
FRANK PARDON,
W. W. DAWSON.