

R. AMES.

INSTEP-SUPPORTERS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

No. 180,819.

Patented Aug. 8, 1876.

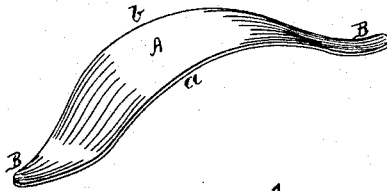


Fig 1

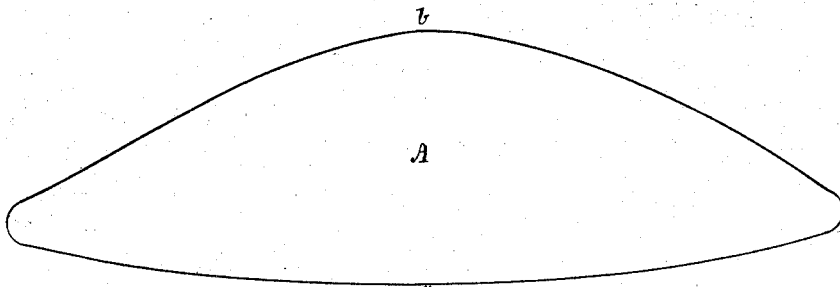


Fig 2

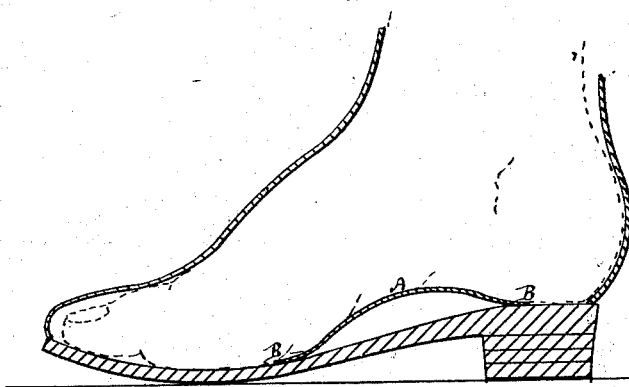


Fig 3

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

REGINALD AMES, OF LONDON, GREAT BRITAIN.

## IMPROVEMENT IN INSTEP-SUPPORTERS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 150,819, dated August 8, 1876; application filed January 29, 1876.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, REGINALD AMES, of London, in the county of Middlesex, in the Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, have invented a new and useful device designed for the support of the hollow of the foot, or that portion under the instep, and which device I term an Instep-Supporter, the same being fully set forth in the following specification:

The object of my invention is to provide a device for preventing strains upon the instep, and at the same time to afford a firm and elastic bearing for the hollow of the foot; and the invention consists of a piece of sheet metal or other elastic material bent into a shape to conform with the hollow of the foot and placed in the boot or shoe, but having no rigid connection with the same, and so shaped as to be readily adapted to the right or left foot by simply turning it end for end.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my device. Fig. 2 represents, in full size, the shape in which the sheet metal is cut before bending. Fig. 3 represents in section my device in its application to the foot.

In carrying out my invention I first cut from sheet metal or other elastic material a piece in the shape shown in Fig. 2 of any desired size. The piece is then placed in a mold or former,

and pressed into the shape shown in Fig. 1, so as to fit as nearly as possible the hollow of the foot, as shown in Fig. 3. The ends B B are slightly curved in a reverse direction from the main portion A, so as to readily adapt it to the inner sole as a bearing. The inner edge *a* of the device conforms nearly its whole length to a plane, the outer edge *b* forming considerable of a curve.

When in use the device is simply placed on the inner sole, inside the boot or shoe. When the foot is inserted the device readily adapts itself to the hollow of the foot. The device is arranged with its straighter edge *a* toward the inner side of the foot, and the same device may be used for either the right or the left foot by changing it end for end.

The device may be covered with leather or other suitable substance, if desired.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

As a new article of manufacture, a reversible instep-supporter of metal or other suitable elastic material, constructed as described, and adapted to be applied in a boot or shoe beneath the arch of the foot, substantially as specified.

REGINALD AMES.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH F. TORREY,  
BENJ. DEAN.