

W. H. WILLIAMS.
HEEL-STIFFENER.

No. 185,996.

Patented Jan. 2, 1877.

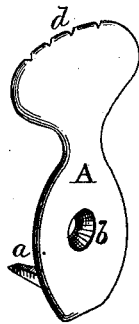
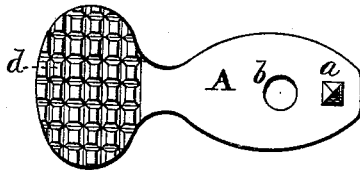


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS, OF BRANDON, VERMONT.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEEL-STIFFENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,996**, dated January 2, 1877; application filed November 9, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. WILLIAMS, of Brandon, in the county of Rutland, and in the State of Vermont, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Heel-Stiffeners; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

My invention relates to metallic heel-stiffeners; and it consists in a metal plate, provided near its lower end with a projecting spur, its upper portion roughened on its inner surface, and the plate fastened by a single screw to the heel, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe with my stiffener attached thereto. Fig. 2 shows the construction of the heel-stiffener.

My improved heel-stiffener is composed of a metal plate, A, of suitable form, provided near its lower end with a projecting spur, *a*, to enter the heel of the boot or shoe. Above this spur is a hole, *b*, through the plate, for the

passage of a screw into the heel, for fastening the stiffener in its place.

The upper portion of the plate A has its inner surface toothed, corrugated, or otherwise made rough, as shown at *d*. This roughened surface bears against and takes hold of the leather on the counter, and prevents the same from slipping down or getting out of position, which is often the case when the inner surface of the stiffener is smooth.

I do not broadly claim a metallic counter-support for boots and shoes, consisting of a metallic plate made in angular form, for entering the heel of the boot or shoe, as I am aware that such is not new.

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

A heel-stiffener consisting of the metallic plate A, having roughened interior surface *d*, spur *a*, and screw-hole *b*, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of October, 1876.

W. H. WILLIAMS.

Witnesses:

J. Q. HAWKINS,
W. D. BUTTON.