

E. F. BICKFORD.

Boots.

No. 196,778.

Patented Nov. 6, 1877.

Fig. 1.

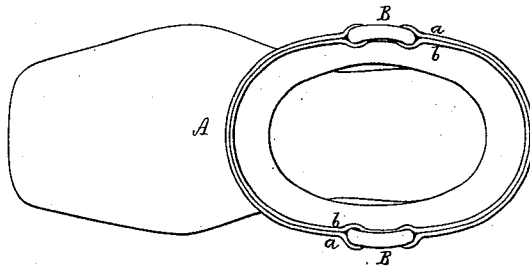


Fig. 2.

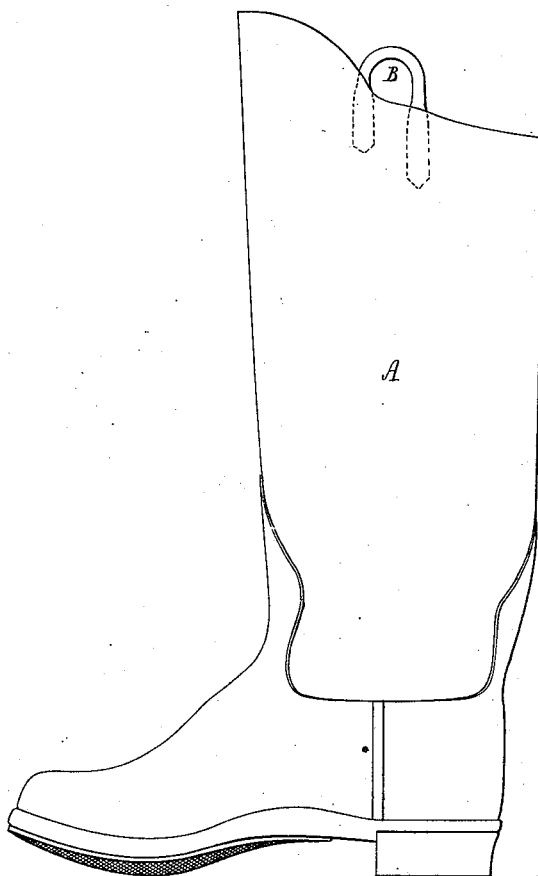
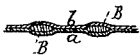


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

*S. C. Ripen*  
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Inventor  
*Erskine F. Bickford*

by his attorney

*R. H. May*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ERSKINE F. BICKFORD, OF MALDEN, ASSIGNOR TO BOSTON RUBBER SHOE COMPANY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **196,778**, dated November 6, 1877; application filed August 21, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ERSKINE F. BICKFORD, of Malden, of the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots; and do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a top view, and Fig. 2 a side view, of a boot with my improvement. Fig. 3 is a transverse section of one of the pulling-loops and the part of the boot-leg to which it is fixed.

This invention consists of a rubber boot provided with a rounded standing loop, in form like that of a common staple, and having the ends thereof made flat or wedge-shaped, said ends extending downward between the inner and outer layers of the boot, and each independently secured therein by cement or other suitable means, said loop being constructed as shown, and substantially of the same material as that of the boot.

In the drawings, A denotes the boot, and B B the two pulling-loops, *a* being the outer part, and *b* the lining, of the leg portion.

Each of the pulling-loops projects in part above and in part below the upper edge of the

boot-leg, all that portion to be seized by the hand being above the leg, and arched and otherwise arranged therewith, as represented. The end parts of each loop do not lap on each other as those of boot-loops usually do, but they are extended apart, and each is secured in place independently of the other, the loop-opening ranging transversely of the leg.

The aforesaid new arrangement of the loops, and making each so that it shall be stiff enough to stand erect and maintain its upright position while in use, enables the boot to be seized and drawn on the leg with great facility.

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, a rubber boot provided with a rounded standing loop, of substantially the same material as the boot, said loop being made in the shape of a staple, and having its ends flattened and cemented, or otherwise suitably secured, between the inner and outer layers of said boot, substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

ERSKINE F. BICKFORD.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,  
JOHN R. SNOW.