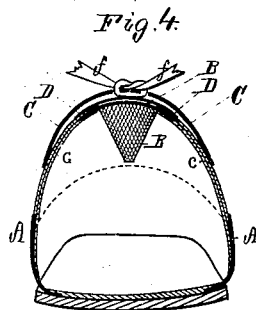
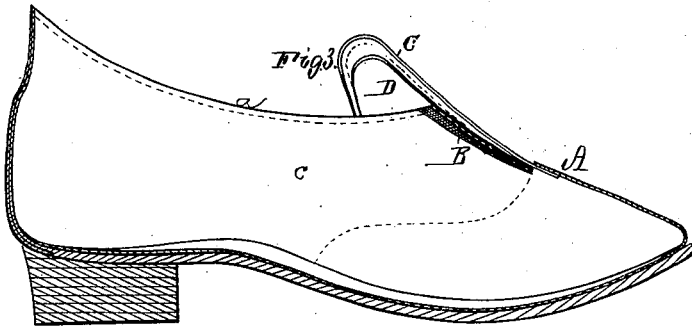
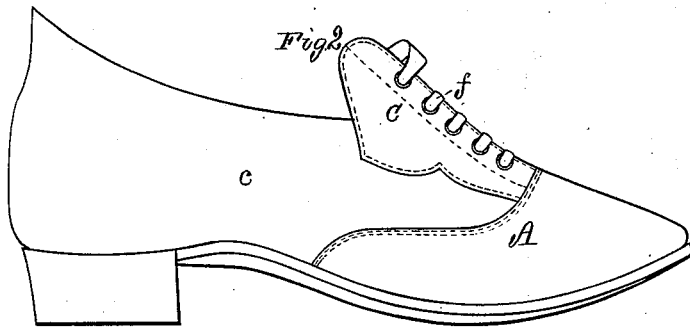
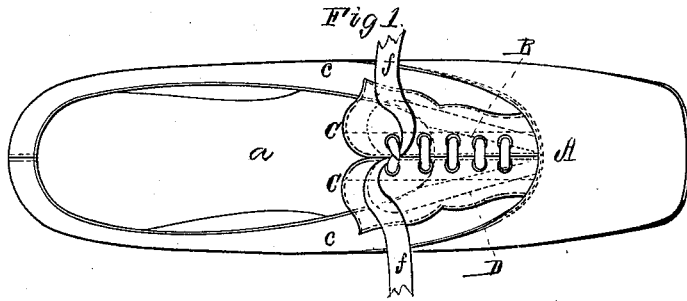


L. JOHNSON.
Shoes.

No. 197,517.

Patented Nov. 27, 1877.



Witnesses

S. N. Piper

L. W. Mott

Inventor
Laburton Johnson

by his attorney

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LABURTON JOHNSON, OF BRADFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **197,517**, dated November 27, 1877; application filed October 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LABURTON JOHNSON, of Bradford, of the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Shoes; 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, Fig. 2 a side elevation, Fig. 3 a longitudinal section, and Fig. 4 a transverse section, of a shoe containing my invention.

In this shoe there is, in the instep of the upper, an elastic gore, and over such gore there are, to the instep, lacing-flaps, to cover the gore. Furthermore, there is between the gore and the lacing-flaps a tongue, which extends over the gore and projects beyond it in a direction toward the heel. This tongue enables the mouth of the shoe to be extended low in the instep, and thus renders the shoe easy to be drawn on or off the foot of a person. Furthermore, the tongue protects the gore from being worn by the lacings. The lacing-flaps also extend back from the gore and tongue, and project over the mouth of the shoe, so as to completely cover the tongue when they are laced together.

In the drawings, A denotes the upper of the shoe, of which *a* is the mouth. B is the elastic gore at the front of the mouth and in the crown or upper part of the instep. C C are the lacing-flaps, and D is the tongue, over the gore and between it and the lacing-flaps. The gore, triangular or tapering in shape, extends from the top to, or nearly to, the bottom of the instep part of the upper of the shoe.

The tongue is to be fastened at its lower end

to the instep, and should project backward from the gore sufficiently to prevent the lacing *f* from coming into contact with the stocking when the shoe is on the foot of a person.

The lacing *f* and its flaps C C serve to cover the gore and prevent it from being over-stretched when the shoe is in wear. The shoe, as represented in the drawings, has its quarters *c c* extended forward, so as to form, with the elastic gore, the instep portion of the upper. The lacing-flaps are stitched to the quarters and the vamp, all being formed of separate pieces of leather.

In case of breakage of the lacing, or it accidentally becoming untied and loose while the shoe is in wear, the elastic gore will operate to keep the shoe closely fitted to the foot.

What I claim as my invention is as follows:

1. A shoe having lacing-flaps C C, a tongue, D, and an elastic gore, B, arranged with each other and the instep of the upper, substantially as set forth.

2. A shoe having its quarters united by an elastic gore, forming with them the instep portion of the upper, and having separate lacing-flaps, fastened to such quarters and arranged with the gore, as set forth.

3. A shoe having its quarters united by an elastic gore, forming with them the instep portion of the upper, and having separate lacing-flaps and a tongue, fastened to such quarters and arranged with the gore, all substantially as specified.

LABURTON JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,
JOHN R. SNOW.