W. F. PRUSHA.

Metallic Nail-Strip for Boots and Shoes.

No. 200,839. Patented March 5, 1878.

Fig. 1.

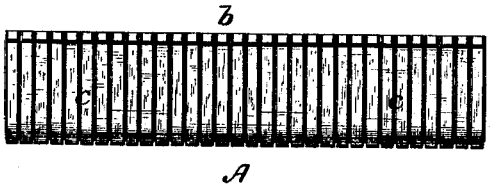

Fig. 3.

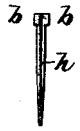

Fig. 2.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM F. PRUSHA, OF HUDSON, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-THIRDS HIS RIGHT TO WALDO B. BRIGHAM, OF SAME PLACE, AND ELIZER ALDEN, OF MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC NAIL-STRIPS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,839**, dated March 5, 1878; application filed December 29, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. PRUSHA, of Hudson, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and Improved Metallic Nail-Strip for Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the nail-strip. Fig. 2 is a top-plan view, and Fig. 3 is an edge view of a nail cut from the strip.

Similar letters of reference in the several figures denote the same parts.

My invention has for its object to provide a metallic strip from which headed nails can be successively cut in a suitable nailing or pegging machine, for securing the soles to the uppers of boots and shoes.

To this end the invention consists in a narrow strip of rolled metal formed with parallel transverse grooves in each side directly opposite to each other, and having one edge sharpened, and the other provided with a double flange, so that when the strip is put into the machine the operation of the latter shall break it off in the line of the grooves, and thereby produce a pointed and headed nail.

I am aware that grooved metal strips have been heretofore made without a flanged edge, and that flanged strips without grooves have also been made, but both have been defective in the following particulars: In the first instance, the nails broken from the strip, being without heads, would clinch against the last on the inside of the boot or shoe sole, but the sole would pull or work off the outer ends of the nails, particularly in cheap shoes, and so destroy the shoe. In the second case, the blank being unprovided with grooves, it is exceedingly difficult for the nailing-machine to cut or break off the nails, and it must either be made unusually strong, or the blanks must be made so thin that the nails cut therefrom will be too slight to hold well in the leather.

I am also aware that a nail-blank has been made with a series of separate teeth, like a comb, projecting from a continuous strip, which forms the heads of the nails when the teeth are cut off.

This construction, however, is objectionable for several reasons, to wit: first, because of the loss of metal resulting from making the teeth separate; secondly, because the head-strip, being thick and strong, requires too much power to sever it; and, thirdly, because the teeth being separated nearly throughout their entire length, the uncut ones are liable to be bent or twisted out of line with the one being cut and driven, and thereby fail to register with the nail-holes made in the shoe-sole by the nailing-machine.

My invention overcomes all these defects, for, by making the grooves in the blank very deep through the body and flange, the nails are slightly attached by a thin web substantially throughout their entire length, and can be easily severed by the nailing-machine, while their alignment is preserved.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents the metal nail-strip, formed with the double flange *b* at one edge, and with deep transverse grooves *c* on each side, extending through the body and flange of the strip, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, and at such distance apart as to form a nail-blank of the requisite width between them.

From the flange to the opposite edge both sides of the strip are beveled to form a pointed or sharpened nail when the blank is severed, as shown in Fig. 3.

The grooves are made deep, leaving only a very thin web, *h*, of metal to hold them together, (see Fig. 3,) so that but a slight blow of the nailing machinery is required to sever the nails.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

A metallic nail-strip for boots and shoes, consisting of a narrow strip of metal formed with one sharpened edge, a double-flanged edge, *b*, and deep parallel transverse grooves *c* on each side, extending from the sharpened edge through the body and flange, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

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Witnesses:

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