

S. E. WHITEMORE.
Rubber Boot and Shoe.

No. 205,711.

Patented July 2, 1878.

Fig. 1.

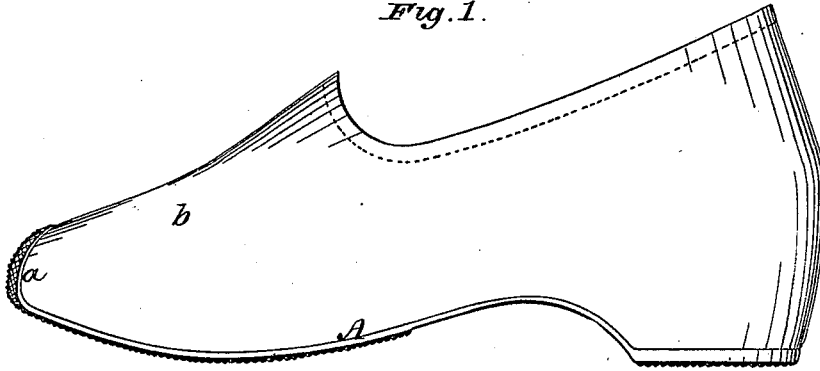


Fig. 2.

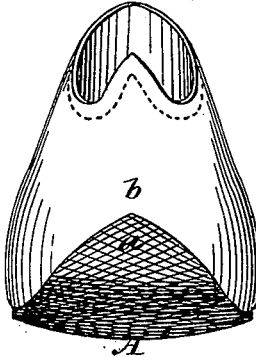
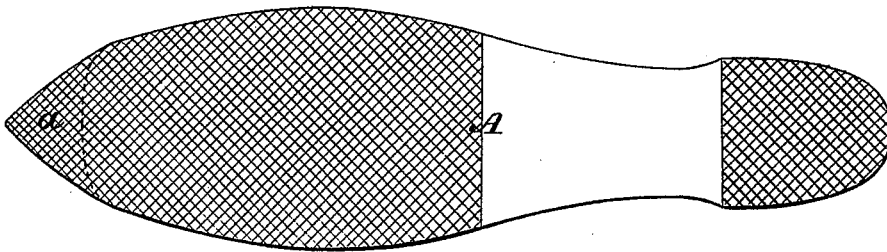


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL E. WHITTEMORE, OF BRISTOL, RHODE ISLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN RUBBER BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 205,711, dated July 2, 1878; application filed May 14, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL E. WHITTEMORE, of Bristol, in the county of Bristol and State of Rhode Island, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Rubber Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings furnished and forming a part of the same, is a clear, true, and complete description thereof.

The object of my improvement is to increase the durability of rubber boots and shoes; and my invention consists in a rubber boot or shoe provided at its toe with a binding-shield, which protects the toe and binds the upper and the sole together by overlying the front joint or seam at which the upper and the sole are united. This binding-shield may be made of a portion of the sole extended sufficiently to admit of its being turned upward over and upon the upper at the toe; or it may be made in a separate piece, and so united to the sole as to operate as a "binder," to prevent the separation of the sole from the upper, by covering the front joint or seam.

In my prior Letters Patent, dated April 2, 1878, No. 202,082, I describe an improvement by which a similar object is attained in connection with the rear portion of the shoe by extending the rear of the heel-sole, turning it upward, and uniting it to the rear of the counter.

My present improvement is sometimes employed in connection with my former invention.

It is well known that in addition to the liability, in ordinary use, of the front portion of the sole to be detached from the upper, the common habit of thrusting the foot into overshoes without using the hands is conducive to severe strain on the front portion of the shoe, and tends to a separation of the sole from the upper at the toe.

It is practically impossible for shoes embodying my present improvement to be injured in the manner stated.

To more particularly describe my invention,

I will refer to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a shoe embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a front view. Fig. 3 represents the sole thereof as it appears before being applied to the shoe.

The sole A, instead of terminating on a line with the upper, as heretofore, is extended at the front beyond said line, as at *a*. This extended portion may be pointed or rounded; but it is only necessary to have it of such length as will cover the joint or seam between the sole and upper, and afford a good, firm union with the upper *b*.

It is desirable, both for neatness and utility, that the extended portion of the sole be so tapered or rounded that when applied its end will be centrally located on the toe of the shoe, thereby affording a neat finish and an effective shield for the central portion of the toe.

It is not absolutely essential that the sole be originally cut from one piece, as indicated, because good results may be attained if it be formed, as heretofore, of the usual length, and the extension *a* be separately cut and applied both to the upper of the shoe and to the front edge of the sole, the process of vulcanizing serving to so unite the sole and the shield as to render them practically homogeneous.

The bottoms of the soles are usually serrated or roughened, but sometimes a separate roughened tap-piece is applied to the sole; and the shield or extension *a* may be similarly roughened or smooth, according to the character of the finish desired.

With this shield one overshoe can be readily removed by the toe of the other, its toe-shield being the only portion thereof in contact with the heel of the other shoe, and under no circumstances can the toe of the shoe be injured, as is liable when constructed as heretofore.

The toes of rubber boots and shoes have heretofore been re-enforced in various ways; but I know of no shoes prior to my inven-

tion in which the joint between the sole and upper at the toe has been guarded or shielded as herein shown, nor any having the upper and the sole at the toe thus firmly bound together.

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

A rubber boot or shoe provided at its toe

with a binding-shield, which protects the toe, is united to the sole and upper, and overlies the joint or seam at which the sole and upper are united, substantially as described.

SAMUEL E. WHITTEMORE.

Witnesses:

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