

J. SEARL & E. G. BLY.
Shoe.

No. 212,517.

Patented Feb. 18, 1879.

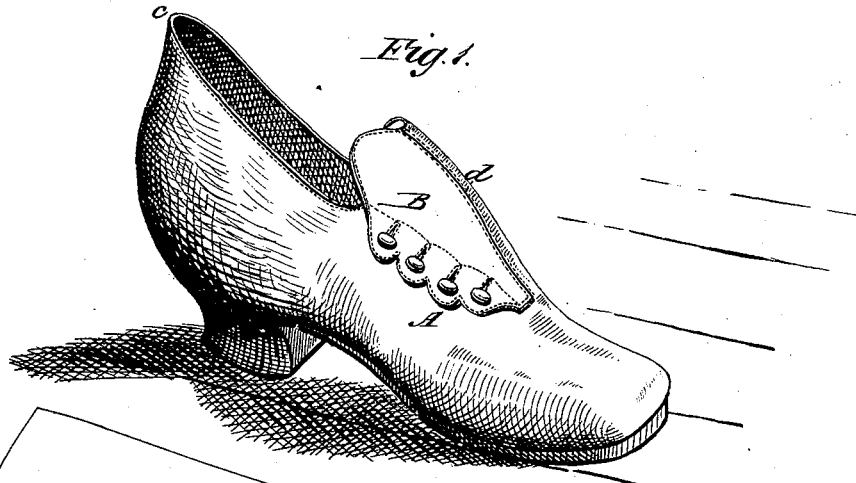


Fig. 1.

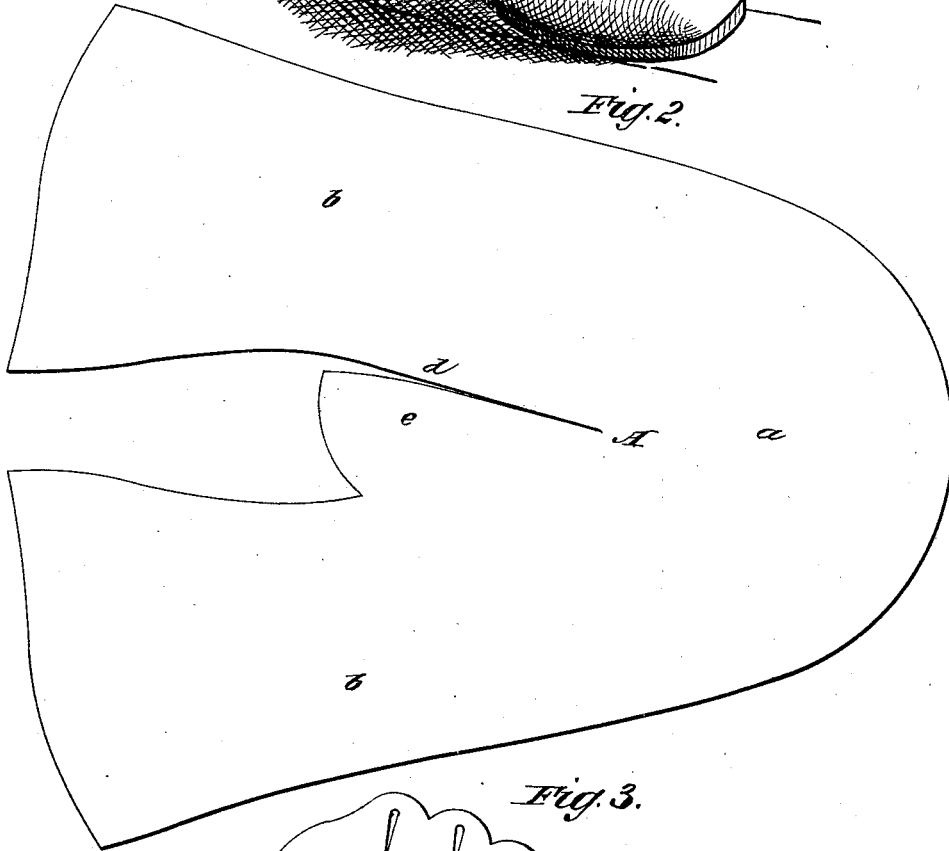


Fig. 2.



Fig. 3.

WITNESSES:

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JOHN SEARL AND EZRA G. BLY, OF HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **212,517**, dated February 18, 1879; application filed November 16, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN SEARL and EZRA GIBSON BLY, of Haverhill, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and Improved Shoe, of which the following is a specification:

The invention will first be described in connection with the drawings, and then pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a shoe with our improved upper. Fig. 2 is a plan of the upper; and Fig. 3 represents the button-piece.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the upper of the shoe, *a* being the vamp, and *b b* the quarters; and *e* is a flap, to which the button-piece B is attached. As clearly shown in the drawings, this upper is in one piece—that is, the vamp *a* and quarters *b b* are cut from the same piece of leather, so that when the shoe is made up there are no side seams, as is usual in shoes, but a homogeneous piece of leather extends from the toe to the heel, so that the only seam made is where the ends of the quarters are joined together at the heel, as at *c*.

At *d* the instep button-piece B is sewed to the upper. Practically this upper is seamless, and its advantages are obvious.

By avoiding the usual side seams a much neater appearance is given to the shoe, and it is much more comfortable to the foot. It can be buttoned over the instep much more tightly than when the side seams are in the shoe, as they chafe the foot; but in the seamless upper the bearing is even and uniform upon the whole of the foot. Further, the annoyance of ripping is avoided, and the stock can be cut to much greater advantage and more economically. The seamless upper can be used indiscriminately for ladies' and gentlemen's shoes, and for buttoned, tie, or buckled shoes. Having thus described our invention, we claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A shoe whose vamp *a*, quarters *b b*, and flap *e* are made in one piece from the blank described, and the instep button-hole piece B sewed to the piece *e* by a seam, *d*, as shown.

JOHN SEARL,
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Witnesses:

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