

H. E. VAN BENSCHOTEN.  
Sole for Boots and Shoes.

No. 160,042.

Patented Feb. 23, 1875.

fig: 1.

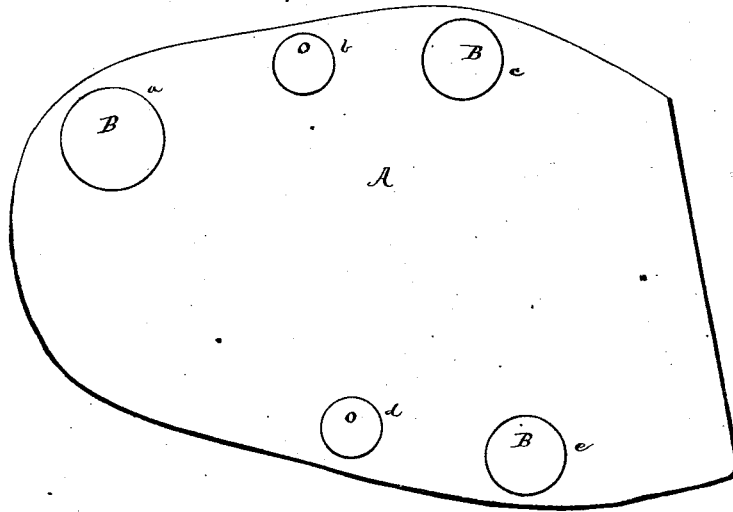


fig: 2.

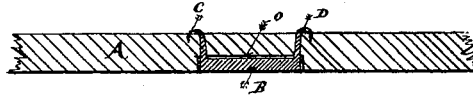


fig: 3.



Witnesses:  
Franklin Parritt.  
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Inventor:  
Henry E. Van Benschoten  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY E. VAN BENSCHOTEN, OF GHENT, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SOLES FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **160,042**, dated February 23, 1875; application filed June 19, 1872.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY E. VAN BENSCHOTEN, of Ghent, Columbia county, New York, have invented certain Improvements in Soles for Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to prevent the rapid wearing out of soles on boots and shoes by employing a device which is cheaper and more durable than any other heretofore used or invented. It consists in placing at those parts of the sole which are most exposed to wear and tear countersunk button-shaped metallic plates.

In order to describe my invention more fully, I will refer to the accompanying drawing.

Figure I is a bottom view of an outer sole of a boot or shoe embodying my invention. Fig. II is a view showing how the plates are countersunk and fastened to the sole. Fig. III is a view showing one of the plates.

A represents an ordinary outer sole used on boots or shoes. At or near the points *a b c* are countersunk into the sole A circular plates B, of iron, cast-steel, brass, or any other suitable metal. To these plates B are secured shanks C D, which are inserted from the outside of the sole, and clamped or riveted on the inner side of the same, to prevent the plate B from slipping from its socket or from the sole itself.

To apply my invention, a socket is made into the outer part of the sole to a depth corresponding with the thickness and size of the plate to be thereon inserted. This cut into the sole is simply and conveniently made by the aid of the well-known tool called the center-bit. The plates B are then inserted into the sole, and the shanks C and D are clamped or hammered down on the upper side.

This arrangement does away with the use of screws, which have heretofore been employed for this purpose.

Practice demonstrates that instead of the whole sole of a boot or shoe wearing away, only the parts here shown protected by the plates are exposed to wearing and tear.

Having thus fully described my invention, I desire to claim—

Soles of boots and shoes armed with the metal wear plates or protectors B B, inserted in countersunk depressions, so as to be flush with the outer surface of the sole, such plates or protectors being provided with and attached by means of the sharpened shanks or prongs C D, of sufficient length to penetrate and bind together the pieces composing the bottom, substantially as and for the purposes described.

HENRY E. VAN BENSCHOTEN.

Witnesses:

JACOB STUPPLEBUN,  
CHARLES MESICK.