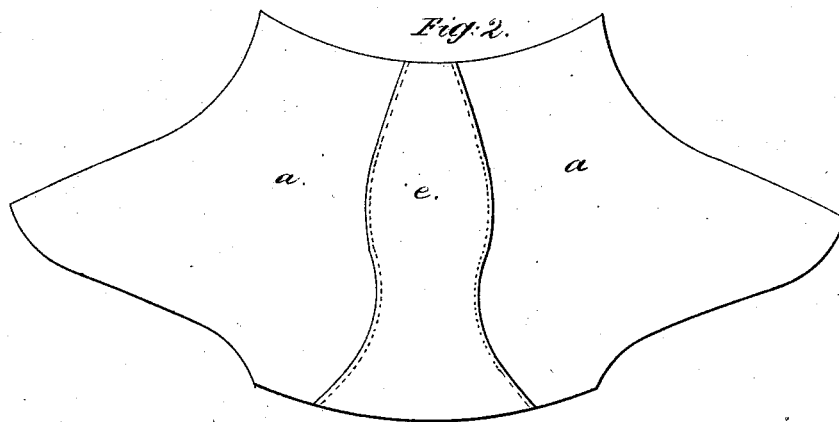
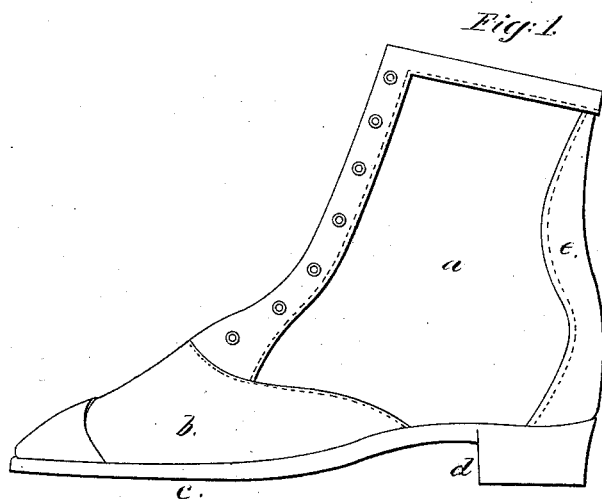


F. Weed,
Shoe Upper,
No 50,057, Patented Sept. 19, 1865.



Witnesses:

J. D. Hale Jr
G. H. Washburn,

Inventor,
Fitch Weed.

by his attorney
R H Edg

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FITCH WEED, OF MIDDLEBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,057, dated September 19, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FITCH WEED, of Middleborough, in the county of Plymouth and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots or Shoes; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a shoe provided with my improvement. Fig. 2 is a representation of the quarters and the back piece in a distended state.

The nature of my invention or improvement consists in constructing the boot or shoe with a back piece connecting the two quarters and running down the back and from the top to the bottom of the upper, the object of such invention being not only to obtain a better fit of the upper to the heel and ankle of the wearer of the shoe, but to avoid the usual back seam, which imparts a disagreeable stiffness to the upper and frequently operates to chafe the foot or wear the stocking.

In the drawings, *a a* denote the quarters, *b* the vamp, *c* the sole, and *d* the heel of the sole, of an ordinary shoe or bootee.

In carrying out my invention I connect the two quarters *a a* with a back piece, *e*, formed essentially in manner as exhibited in the figures, each quarter not being sewed to the other, but to the back piece, which thus comes directly between the two quarters. The middle of the said piece *e* runs down the back of the heel part of the upper. As the seams are

brought on the sides of the ankle and heel part of the upper, they do not injuriously interfere with the proper flexibility of the upper. The back piece, while enabling the workman to obtain a better form for the shoe, is effective in saving stock and beneficial in various other respects.

I am aware that shoes have been made with their uppers brought together and sewed at their edges so as to form a seam down the back of the heel and ankle parts of the upper, and that such seam has had a strip of leather laid on it and sewed to both conjoined portions of the upper. I do not claim such, as it differs wholly from my invention, as in carrying out the latter the two portions or quarters of the upper are not lapped on one another and sewed together so as to form a seam running down the back of the heel, but they are arranged apart, and are only connected by the back piece arranged between them and sewed to each. Therefore,

What I claim as my invention or improved manufacture is—

A shoe as made with the back piece, *e*, inserted between and sewed to each of the quarters *a a* of the upper and running from the top down to the heel of the sole, substantially as hereinbefore specified.

FITCH WEED.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,
F. P. HALE, Jr.