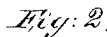


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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABRAM CAYWOOD AND GEORGE W. CAYWOOD, OF ITHACA, OHIO.

IMPROVED BOOT-CRIMP.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 50,904, dated November 14, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ABRAM CAYWOOD and GEORGE W. CAYWOOD, both of Ithaca, Darke county, Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boot-Crimps; and we do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

Our invention relates to an improvement for crimping the uppers of boots, whereby the leather is made to permanently and rapidly assume the proper form without wrinkling and with a small expenditure of labor and skill.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of our invention, showing the form and mold detached. Fig. 2 represents the inner face of one of the jointed cheeks of our molds.

The inner portion of the crimp, called the "form," is composed of two slabs, A and B, united so as to move freely in one plane and in the direction for crimping by the butt-hinge C. The slab A terminates in a shoulder, D, made to catch under a bar, E, in the mold. The slab A is prolonged to form a handle, F, which may be perforated (f) so as to enable the form to be hung up when out of the mold.

G is a screw which penetrates the joint or hinge C, and which carries a customary vise, H H', to grasp the intermediate portion of the upper and to keep it from slipping on the form.

I is a pin, which, being inserted into a perforation of the hinge, serves to hold the form to the bent position and prevent the stress of the leather from springing the form back when removed from the mold.

The mold is composed of two cheeks, J and J', each of which cheeks is composed of two precisely-corresponding slabs, K K' and L L', united by hinges C' and C'', of the same kind as that which unites the two members of the form.

The two cheeks of the mold are secured together by screws M M', which, in connection with spring-helices N N' and nuts O O', enable the operator to regulate the width of interval between the cheeks of the mold, so as to adapt the instrument to any thickness of leather.

J are sloping shoulders on the mold to cor-

respond with the chamfered front edge, a, of the form.

The mold is notched (P) to enable its insertion within a staple, Q, upon a stand or horse, R, whereby the instrument is held in a convenient working position.

The operation is as follows: The form having been arranged so that the slabs A and B are apparently prolongations of each other, the leather, thoroughly moistened, is drawn over the form and secured in place by the vise G H H'. The mold having been straightened to the same shape as the form and adjusted to the needed thickness, the form is so inserted in the mold as for the shoulder D to engage under the bar E. The slabs B, K, and L are now pressed down and turned on their hinges by bearing against the handle F. The pin I is then placed in the perforation of the hinge to keep the form from springing back. The form is then taken out of the mold, and the edge of the leather being secured by a few tacks, the form, with the leather upon it, is hung up to dry.

By means of the above-described provision we entirely supersede the common tedious manipulation by hammering and tacking over a stiff form. With our crimp the process is a comparatively instantaneous one, as it takes but two minutes to crimp a pair of uppers, while by the common mode the shaping of a single upper often consumes half an hour.

A person utterly ignorant of the art of shoe-making can, after a few trials, perform the work as readily and perfectly as a skilled workman, and a mere boy can operate it, as it requires but little power.

The elastic element in the mold enables the proper pressure to be maintained on every part of the leather, and while avoiding the danger of tearing the leather effectually prevents the formation of wrinkles, while the adjustable feature enables a single mold to be employed for a great variety and number of forms.

We claim herein as new and of our invention—

1. The combination, substantially as described, of a jointed or hinged form, operating in conjunction with a hinged and yielding mold.

2. A boot-crimp composed of a mold having the pair of hinged cheeks J and J', having a flexible and adjustable connection when combined with a hinged form, A B, in the manner set forth.

3. The arrangement of rod I and hinged form A B, as described.

In testimony of which invention we hereunto set our hands.

ABRAM CAYWOOD.

GEORGE W. CAYWOOD.

Witnesses:

GEO. H. KNIGHT,

JAMES H. LAYMAN.