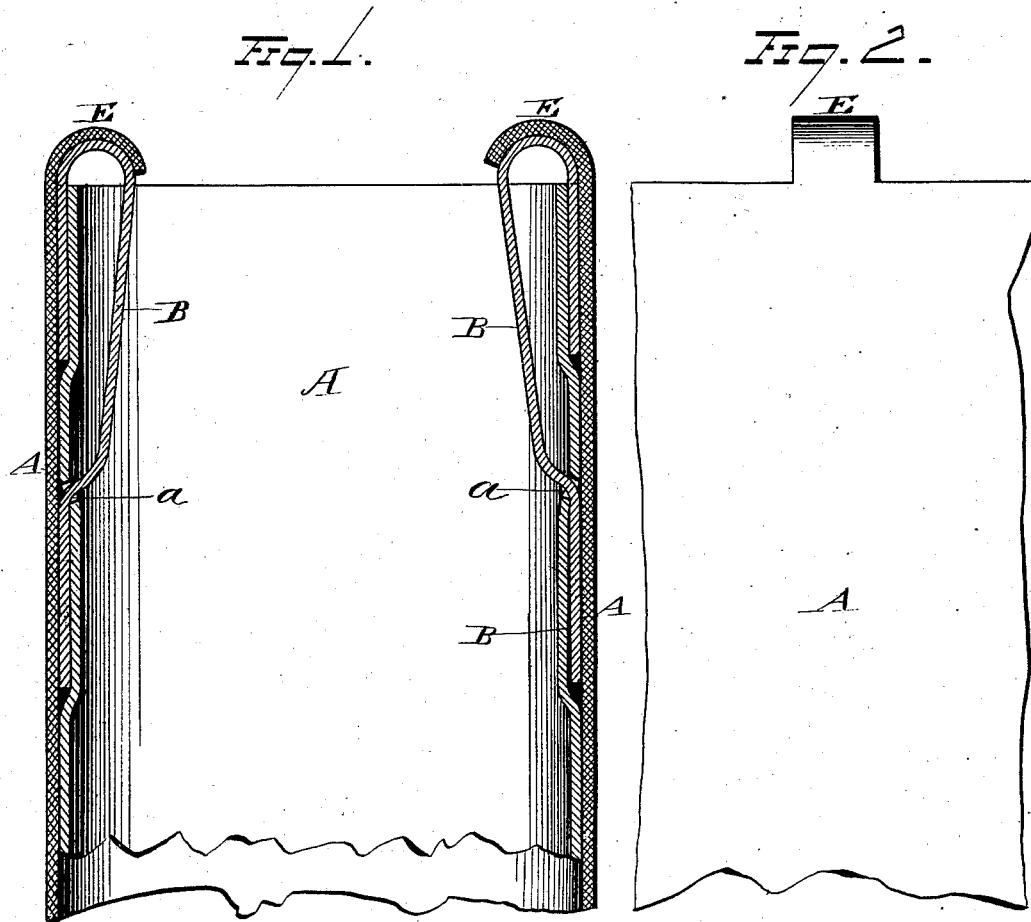


H. M. WEAVER.  
Boot-Strap.

No. 216,544.

Patented June 17, 1879.



WITNESSES  
*E. D. Nottingham*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY M. WEAVER, OF MANSFIELD, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOT-STRAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **216,544**, dated June 17, 1879; application filed December 13, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, H. M. WEAVER, of Mansfield, in the county of Richland and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot-Straps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in boot-straps.

Heretofore boot-straps have been attached to both the inside and outside of boot-legs. It is objectionable to have straps attached to the outside of the leg of a rubber boot, for the reason that the boot-legs are high, and necessarily large, and in use the legs scuff or rub against each other, which soon operates to wear away the straps on the inner sides of the boot-legs. Again, the straps are often exposed to brush and briars, and are caught and torn from the boot-legs when fastened to the outer sides thereof.

As heretofore stated, boot-straps have been secured to the inner surfaces of boot-legs; but in such cases the ends of the straps have been either sewed to the leg or else inserted through a single slit, with the loop extending through such point of attachment. This ordinary method of attachment of a strap is objectionable for two reasons: First, the strap does not form an open loop, but the sides of the loop lie in close contact with each other, rendering it of some considerable trouble to insert the fingers in pulling on a boot; and, second, when the ends of the strap are secured within the leg of the boot at a single point of attachment the strap is liable to be forced downwardly when the foot is inserted in the leg of the boot, and hence cause considerable trouble in reversing its position for the insertion of the fingers therein.

The object of my invention is to obviate the objections heretofore noted; and to this end my invention consists in a boot provided with straps, the opposite ends of which are secured to the inside of the boot-leg at two different points, and one above the other, and a re-enforcement of rubber or equivalent material attached to the upper portions of each strap, whereby the loop is retained in an open condition for the ready insertion of the fingers,

and the strap prevented from being forced downwardly with the leg when the boot is being pulled upon the foot.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical section of a boot-leg provided with my improved straps. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of a portion of the boot-leg.

A is the leg of a rubber boot. B represents the straps. The lower end of each strap is inserted through a slit, *a*, formed in the lining of the boot-leg, and the upper end inserted between the upper edges of the lining and outer covering.

The outer covering of a rubber boot is ordinarily cut straight across the top of the boot-leg. In my improvement I form a projecting piece, E, on the upper edge of the outer covering, which is attached to the upper end of the strap, and thereby serves a double purpose, to wit: It serves to strengthen and stiffen the boot-strap; and, second, it serves as a spring to retain the loop open and make it readily accessible for the engagement of the fingers therewith.

Instead of forming the piece E in a single piece with the outer covering of the boot, it may be made separately therefrom, and be suitably attached to the strap and outer covering.

My improvement obviates the objections heretofore noted in that the straps are protected from abrasion and wear, and, again, the loop is prevented from turning downward, and is retained in an open condition, and at all times accessible for the fingers when it is desired to pull the boot upon the foot.

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

A boot-leg having straps secured to the inner surface thereof, the ends being secured between the lining and covering of the boot-leg at different points of attachment, and the upper portion of the strap provided with a re-enforcing strip of rubber or equivalent material for retaining the strap in an open position, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of December, 1878.

HENRY M. WEAVER.

Witnesses:

JNO. M. JOLLEY,  
FRED. K. TRACY.