

N<sup>o</sup> 3764



A. D. 1900

Date of Application, 27th Feb., 1900

Complete Specification Left, 27th Dec., 1900—Accepted, 19th Jan., 1901

PROVISIONAL SPECIFICATION.

Improvements in or appertaining to Foot Coverings.

I, JOHN ALBERT THACKER, of Fleet Street Buildings, Fleet Street, Leicester, in the County of Leicester, Shoe Mercer, do hereby declare the nature of this invention to be as follows:—

5 This invention relates to improvements in or appertaining to foot coverings of the kind known as welted boots or shoes.

The object of this invention is to provide in "Goodyear" or other machine or hand welted goods a flexible, non-absorbing or damp resisting "welt filler" which shall conform and adjust itself to the space left on the insole by the welt. Hitherto it has been customary to fill the said space with cork, felt and similar materials and combinations of the same mixed or secured with solution and forming a bed flush or thereabouts with the welt, this, being of the nature of a concrete substance becomes hard, lumpy and uncomfortable in wear. My desire is to obviate this and for this purpose I cause to be cut out blanks from a certain material known as muslin linoleum now supplied in rolls for making out soles or bottoms of slippers or house shoes.

15 Such material is made of granulated cork, and pressed securely to a backing or lining of muslin or other fine textile material, and also probably used for socks.

The said blanks which I have intituled "welt fillers of muslin lino:—" are cut out to the shapes by suitable knives and in the various sizes to correspond and fill in the space left by the welting, either the sole or forepart down to the waist only, or, in one or two parts the latter fitting together and continued down to fit within the rand of the heel. The front or linoleum face of the "filler" is placed in the space so that it fits close to the inside edges of the welt with the backing flush with the surface thereof, an extra muslin or other woven backing may be secured to the other a little wider all round than the "filler," and then driven or pressed firmly into position. When the boot or shoe is finished in the ordinary way and is in wear the said "welt filler" will be found, owing to its being well under the foot (and no other filling required to be used under the middle, or outsole) to retain its flexibility and even-ness of surface, and allow of the sole bottom to be level.

30 Dated this 24th day of February 1900.

W. BESTWICK MAXFIELD,  
Applicant's Agent.

COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

35 Improvements in or appertaining to Foot Coverings.

I, JOHN ALBERT THACKER, of Fleet Street Buildings, Fleet Street, Leicester, in the County of Leicester, Shoe Mercer, do hereby declare the nature of this

[Price 8d.]



*Thacker's Improvements in or appertaining to Foot Coverings.*

invention and in what manner the same is to be performed, to be particularly described and ascertained in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to improvements in or appertaining to foot coverings and more particularly to the kind known as welted boots or shoes.

The object of this invention is to provide in "Goodyear" or other machine or hand welted goods or sew rounds a flexible non-absorbing or damp resisting filler for filling the space between the insole and sole.

That this invention may be clearly understood drawings accompany this specification, in which Figure 1 is a fragmentary view showing the application of the invention to a man's welted boot or shoe.

Figure 2 the same applied to a females "sew round" boot or shoe, and Figures 3 and 4 are sections of the "filler," with single and double backing respectively.

The same letters of reference are used to denote same parts in all the figures.

The article forming the subject of this invention is made preferably in two thicknesses approximately under one sixteenth to not over one eighth of an inch which by reason of its light weight and fine texture will not crack (like sheet cork) in wear, and which will very readily conform and adjust itself to the space or hollow on the insole left after attaching the welt thereto and to the upper, at the same time producing an even surface after the attachment of the outer sole, whether bottom filling is used or not.

Hitherto it has been the custom of the trade in making welted or sew round work to fill the space or hollow with scrap leather as a bottom filler, sheet cork, felt, asbestos and other fibrous substances or materials and combinations thereof mixed, secured or covered with adhesive solution or cement forming a lumpy hard surface or concrete substance hurtful to the feet besides causing an uneven tread in wear.

Now to obviate this and provide a new and useful device I cause to be cut out by suitably shaped knives or from patterns of such shapes the sole blanks A from sheets or rolls of finely prepared "muslin linoleum" a term given to powdered or granulated cork B formed into a substance of the required thicknesses by the usual well-known process, and pressed to a lining or backing of muslin *a* by preference, but it is obvious that other fabric of a light material and fine texture may also be employed. The said sole blanks A are intituled for the purpose of this invention "welt fillers of cork lino:" and are either skived all round the edges *b* as seen in Figures 1 and 3 or made with a second backing *a*<sup>1</sup> larger all round the edges as seen in Figure 4 so as to allow of the raised part *b*<sup>1</sup> which is of the size to correspond with and occupy or fill the space recess or hollow C on the insole C<sup>1</sup>, the edges of the blanks being level or therabouts with the up-turned trimmed edges *b*<sup>2</sup> of the welt *b*<sup>2</sup> and clear of the stitches which unite the outsole D.

In the drawings Figure 1 the outsole D is only partly shown down to the shank or, waist, the welt filler A abutting therefrom, in practice the "filler" may be cut off to fit the fore part only or be continued down to the end of the shank or waist and welt strips, or in the case of "sew-rounds" or un-welted goods they may even extend to the rand of the heel as occasion may require. In the latter case the filler A is cut a deal smaller on all its sides as seen in Figure 2 and its extended or skived edges *b* lie upon the lasting tacks or the like *b*<sup>2x</sup>.

The smooth linoleum face of the "fillers" may be stuck down to the outer face of the insole by paste or other adhesive material, but this is not actually necessary; the outsole is then united and the boot or shoe heeled and finished in the ordinary manner.

I would have it understood that I am aware that so called fillers have been used made of sheet cork, and linoleum in combination with felt, flannel &c. and which form the insole or sock of the boot or shoe, and that a piece of cork has been skived round its edges to lie in the channel of the sole with the upper in turned shoes, also that an insole of cork has been secured to the sole and cork-line coated on both sides of the canvas, and that a sheet cork insole has been

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*Thacker's Improvements in or appertaining to Foot Coverings.*

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made covered with linen or the like and a linen strip for securing it to the shoe, but insoles or socks are known to be used in contact with the bottom of the stocking feet, and it is well known that pieces of cork however carefully skived will crack and gradually fall in lumps or crumble to small pieces.

5 Having now particularly described and ascertained the nature of my said invention, and in what manner the same is to be performed, I declare that what I claim is:—

10 1. The combination in a welted or sew round boot or shoe of a filler composed of muslin linoleum for filling up the space between the insole and outsole its edges clear of the stitches or rivets which unite the latter, substantially as described.

15 2. The combination in a welted or sew round boot or shoe of a filler composed of muslin linoleum or other backing fabric of a light material and fine texture its granulated smooth face or thicker portion fitting within the space or recess on the insole caused by the upturned trimmed edges of the welt, lining and upper, its thinner edges resting upon the trimmed edges of the welt, lining and upper clear of the stitches which unite the outsole, substantially as described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

Dated this 2nd day of June 1900.

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W. BESTWICK MAXFIELD,  
Registered Patent Agent, 34, Belvoir Street, Leicester,  
Applicant's Agent.

FIG. 1.

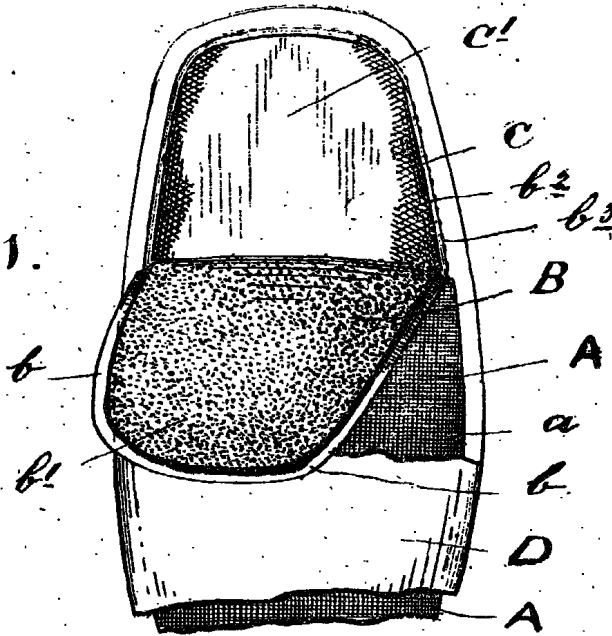


FIG. 4.

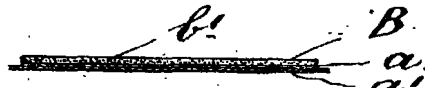


FIG. 3.

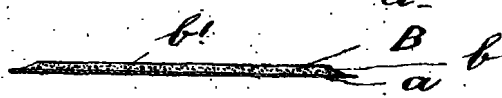
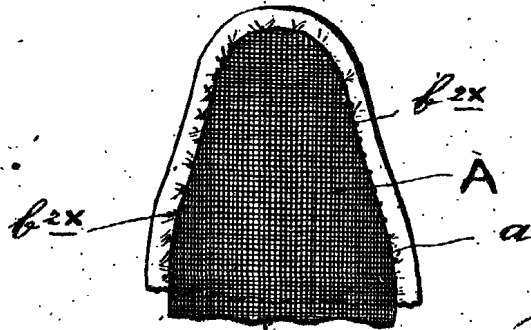


FIG. 2.



[This Drawing is a reproduction of the Original on a reduced scale.]