# HOME BOOK

TO LEARN EXPERT

# SHOE REPAIRING

BY J. M. LEVINSON

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PRICE 50 CENTS

The best part of a man's work is when he sees how it is done by others and tries to better it himself.

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Any inexperienced shoe repairer can learn from this book how work has to be done, so it should give the wearer comfort. So this will increase his business.

# This is a Home Book on How to Learn Expert Shoe Repairing

— BY —

**J. M. LEVINSON**

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This book is written so that any intelligent person can learn the art of expert Shoe-repairing. All over the country, people wonder why schools have not got the art of shoe-repairing in boys' manual training.

This book gives you a full course on how to do expert shoe repairing, from beginning to the end. If you want to experiment on shoe repairing, study every detail we have written in this book. I am an expert in the art of shoe-repairing, and I have a good record with the State Board of Education at Sacramento. This book will give more knowledge to shoe-repairers who are in business now.

Anyone who wants to make a success must learn the best way how. There are schools where people are learning and learning good. It takes many years of hard study for a doctor to get his diplomas. And then he must practice all his life to become an expert physician. A designer or a draftsman must work out his plans before he can complete machinery. An inventor works many years on his invention before he can get it in perfect order. Every line of trade must take several years of practice, and in many trades you cannot find experts. The differnce between the man who has a trade but is not an expert at it, and the man who is an expert is, the man who is not an expert at his trade always tries to get through his work as quickly as possible, so he can get the money quicker. He is the one that will lose in the end.

The expert does the work and studies the best way he can do it. They are the ones who get a better price for the time they spend at their job. Every man is trying to better himself as far as his ability will let him go. From many years of practice in shoe repairing I find that today the shoe-repairing trade is a very important one. No matter how stockings look in a shoe, whether they are silk or cotton, it doesn't show. But if a shoe is torn, that will show, and it must be fixed. Nowadays,

the shoe-repairers are established with the best machinery, and the machine does all its work in stitching and finishing. But in the meantime you cannot call yourself an expert when the machines do the work. Nowadays, we have thousands of shoe shops where the owner of the shop never has learned the trade thoroughly to be an expert. Although he may have business ability, you can call them speculators, or as I would call them "fakers." No man has a right to call himself a doctor when he is not. Such doctors, or quacks, are getting prosecuted by the law. A man who is starting a shoe repair shop and doesn't know how a shoe has to be repaired, not only ruins the shoes, but makes it a danger for the people. That is why such shoe-repairers cannot make a success. There are thousands of dollars' worth of shoes thrown away. People claim they cannot wear their shoes after the inexperienced shoe-repairer has fixed them.

No matter how badly a shoe has been worn and torn, it can be repaired and put in shape so that it can give the wearer comfort and will have an appearance like a new shoe. After the shoe is worn out again, the shoe can be repaired as long as the upper of the shoe lasts.

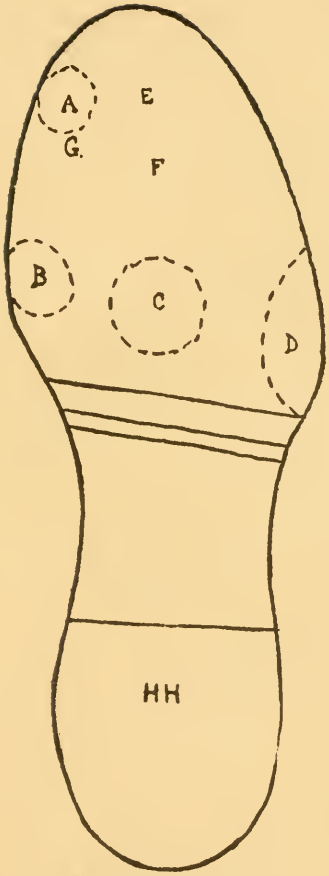
In shoe repairing there is just as great a profit as in any best line of trade. With my many years of experience I find it necessary to have this book published so people can study and experiment on how the repairing must be done. Nowadays, the public look on shoe-repairing as a low trade. That is because shoe-repairers do not know how to repair shoes as they should be. And the public suffers from the comfort they need.

**To Prepare a Sole So It Should Be Comfortable.**

The sole should be flat and the shoe straight after it is repaired.

**Follow the Model**

Fig. A. The sole is worn out in the toe. It presses out a hole inside. Fig. E. Then it leaves a bump. First scive off at Fig. E the inner sole. Then fill in with felt in Fig. A so it will become level. Then the inner sole is thicker in Fig G. Scive under a little, fill out the bottom with the felt. It should then be level with welt. Fig C is worn out in the center. Some times it is worn through the inner sole. So it leaves a bump at Figure F. Scive off a piece of leather and put it in where the inner sole is worn in. Figure C. Paste the piece of leather on and put it in the shoe so it shall all be level. Figure F. In this place the inner sole is bent



Model of a Sole

If you put on the sole the bent part will press in the foot and it will be very uncomfortable to your feet when you walk. Then by sciving in Figure F it will relieve the bent part and then it will work like a spring.

Figure B. Prepare the same way as Figure A.

Figure D is worn on the outside. Then you turn the sole toward the inside. Hold your hand at Figure H, press the shoe back to the outside, hammer down the bottom, put a tack in the shank of the shoe where you see Fig. H. Press so it holds the shank from moving toward the inside; when you feel the bottom don't fill in Figure F as this place has to be repaired so that the bent part of the inner sole should have room to go back.

By putting the sole on the shoe, it depends on how the sole should be put on to put the shoe in good shape.

## Figure H

Figure H shows you the right measure from the soles to the heels. Where you see double H, when you put the sole on, put it on from the shank and drive in each side, and one nail in the center. Then raise the toe of the shoe with your hand and then have the sole straight, drive a tack in the sole near the toe, then trim the sole so that you don't cut the welt from the shoe. You cannot take much pains by putting on a

sole on a hand turned shoe, when the old sole is worn out.

A good many inexperienced men don't prepare the old sole before they put on the new one. They trim the shoe so that the stitches are getting loose. So there is no sole left to sew to it, as they cut the edge of the sole away, that the foundation of the shoe is gone.

### How to Nail a Sole in a Turned Shoe

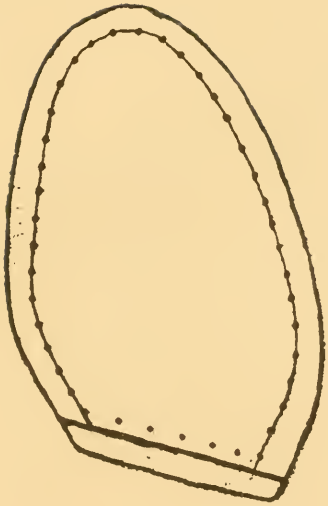
Examine the part where the sole is worn so the stitches are disaffected. First seive the sole so it should be all level. in Figure F. Seive off the sole so it should be the same thickness as it is worn in Figure C or Figure D. See which part of the sole is mostly worn, then seive the sole all around the same thickness. Around the edge leave enough extra sole leather so you can put your nails in, and nails ⅜ of an inch are big enough. But before you put on the sole it must be level as any little will hurt.

The young will learn if they study this book. Some shoe-repairers will tell you that the bottom has to be inside the way the shoe is worn. It is more comfortable. My experience is that the inside of the shoe has to be level. It is unlevel because the sole from the shoe is worn. If you ever tried to play with a little ditch, and you put water where it is lower the water will flow

down, and if it is hilly, it stops, and if you want water to run the place you want it to, so you will get it to a level place, so it won't flow either way. And this is the way with the veins in your feet. If one place is lower and the other place higher it stops the vessels in the vein to run and it weakens your feet, and it produces all kinds of trouble, and by doing the right way will get away with the ignorant which they call first-class shoe repairing.

There is a model for a nailed shoe. You can't take too much care to nail on a welt shoe. A good many shoe-repairers, when they nail the sole on, clinch the welt to the upper. That draws the shoe in and pulls the welt out of shape.

Always repair the sole and follow the model A. B. C. etc. It shows you how far apart the nails have to be from the edge. By preparing the sole, have the sole wider than the welt. If you trim in close, and by nailing on, the welt spreads out. Then you have to trim the welt from the shoe, and that ruins the shoe. Before you nail the sole around, put rubber cement between the sole and the welt and let it dry a little before you nail it. Always drive the nails toward the sole so it will not clinch the upper.



Model of a Nailed Half Sole

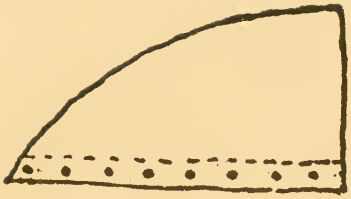
### To Prepare a Sole on a Slip-sole

If you notice uneven places in the inside of the shoe and you haven't any way to take it out, split the slip-sole from Figure F to Figure C. Take a screw driver and dig out the cork which comes together in one place by weaving the shoe. Then scive the slip-sole and fill in more with felt in the worn part, so it will be level. Then put your sole on.

### To Straighten a Heel

See which part of the heel is worn. See how the counter is. Sometimes a person will wear a heel outside, and the counter will turn to the inside. Straighten the heel where it is worn. Raise the inside a little higher. Extend the top lift to the inside. This will prevent the counter from turning down.

If a toe wears on a hand-turned sole it should not cut the foundation from the old sole. You can take a file and file it out as far as you want to put the tip on. Then you can cement both parts and this will make a neat job when finished, or you can nail it on so that the nail will not be too heavy so it will go through the shoe. Some people, if they wear on the side of the sole, like to have it fixed with a piece of leather. As they don't feel like spending their money for a new sole, and this can also be neatly done.



COUNTER NAILED AROUND HEEL

(Piece of Sole Leather)

Mark on the sole how far you will have that piece of leather on. Scive the old sole so the new piece of leather will set in a level, and make it so it should be a level edge.

A shoe is turned to the inside of the counter. Notice how the heel is turned to the outside. This can be easily straightened up so it will be as good as ever.

Take the heel off and remove the sole from the counter. See that the inner sole from the heel is in good condition, so that the nails should hold. Then open the side from the counter which is turned down. Make it wet and hammer it to your last so it gets straightened. Cut a thin piece of sole leather and scive it around. The leather could be shaped like the counter. Paste the piece of leather on and put some paste between the counter and the upper. Then put piece of leather in. Hammer down the outside of the counter so it should move to the inside, where it is turned. Next take and last the counter in. Put your sole back. Then move to the inside, put your heel on; also move to the inside. This will never turn down again.

**Broken Counter from a Heel**

On page 13 you will notice models of a counter and a piece of inner sole the model of a heel. Take the old counter out from the shoe and cut a piece of thin sole

leather. Scive the edges around on the counter. The next line indicates how far to bend it so it should go over the inner sole. Take the piece of inner sole like the model. Take the counter, nail it around the inner sole, so it will look like a box. Cut in the heel the old inner sole so the new piece will set to a level. Paste the new counter all around. Put in the shoe and push it back as far as the upper leather from the sole allows so it will hold the inner sole tight. This counter will stay in the shoe as long as the sole lasts.

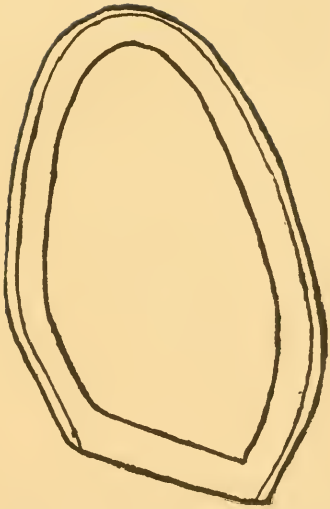
**The Right Way to Sew Rips in a Torn Shoe**

It has to be sewn the same way as when it was new. If you sew it from the upper to the sole, the stitches wear off and it gets loose. The right way to do is to take a double waxed end from the place you start to sew the rip. Take the sewing awl and pull through both ends to the waxed end. If you have a knot it should be left on top of the sole. Then take one line from your waxed end, take the awl and go through the same hole that you see under the sole. Then take the other line from your waxed end, and you will see the holes where it has been sewn before. Take it through the outside upper, the same end which you have gotten through the upper. Take it through again to the next hole. Then take the outside end and go

through the hole from the sole. Pull the end out only half way. Take your awl and put it in your waxed end. Take the inside end; the bristle from the inside put in the other waxed end—not far in. Pull the outside end out, so you can get the inside end out. Take the bristle from the waxed end, and pull both ends from the inside and the outside. Do this over again. Take the next hole and pull the outside end through the upper. Take the same end to the next hole. Put the outside end through the sole. Do the same till you have it sewn. When it is sewn you cannot see any stitches from the upper to the sole.

### How to Prepare a Patch on a Sole

Put a stretcher in the shoe and straighten the shoe. Take a piece of chalk and mark around the hole where it is to be patched. Take a new piece of leather, same as shoe. Put it on the chalk mark. Then cut piece of leather where it is marked. Scive that piece of leather very thin. Then scive off the grain of the shoe where your mark is. Take piece of sand paper where the patch has to set in. Sandpaper heavier, so the patch will rest in. Then take leather cement and put it on the patch on the shoe. Let it dry till the cement is fairly white. Then warm up with a match so it will melt. See that you keep the match far enough away so



Model of a Sewed Half Sole

you won't burn the leather. Put patch on, hammering slightly with a warm burnisher iron. Press it down and that will make a perfect job.

This model will show you how to prepare a sole for hand-turned shoes. First put your shoe on the last. Take a pattern of the sole. Cut out your leather. Put your leather on the old sole as far as the sole has to be. Take your knife and mark on the old sole the length of the new one. Trim the new sole off from the shoe. Put on the other sole. Cut it even so one sole will not be wider than the other. On the model you will see three lines. The first line is the line from the sole. Take your knife and channel as far as you see to the second line from the edge. Cut that channel out so the upper and stitches will rest on the edge—the edge from the sole. Then channel the third line toward the end so the stitches will cover up after you sew on the sole. Then cut off the old sole about one-half inch shorter from the mark you made. Then put on the sole and take the sole through the inside of the shoe. Pull the upper through so the shoe is turned. Put some paste between the upper and the lining in the toe. Then last the shoes, so that, if there are any tips on, one should not be longer than the other. When you start to sew start from the upper. When you have it sewed around, by

turning the sole, press the toe from the sole to the tip of the shoe and push it through until the shoe is turned. Put on the last, hammer it down so that it will come to a level. Take some paper, put it in the toe of the shoe so the toe of the shoe will get in shape. Let the shoe dry thoroughly before you finish.

A young man asked me what experience in shoe-repairing is, anyhow. You put on a sole and nail it around and blacken the edge until it shines and then it is done. This is done to protect the foot from the ground. You won't damage your feet if the shoe is fixed right. A shoe which has a slip sole or which has bumps and hollows or the edge from the welt sticks out from the shoe, if the inner sole is tight to the sole and there is no give to it. This is worse than splinters. When you have a shoe fixed you have to put your hand in and see how unlevel the inner sole is. When you see bumps or hollow places the model gives you the right idea how to relieve this.

A man should never go on a race track unless he is an experienced driver. Don't hurry with your work unless you know that you can do it good and neatly.

A young man wants to learn the shoe trade and he asked me if this trade pays, and what a man can earn

if you are a good, experienced man, a man who does good work. There always is a job open for him. And you can make from $3.50 to $4 a day. It also doesn't take much capital to start a business for yourself. You can earn from $5 to $6 a day. It depends on how much work you are getting in. You can always make as much as any good mechanic. And also you are your own boss. If you are a good worker, the public will soon know it and will keep you busy. You also can earn an unlimited amount of money if you have plenty of business to supply a couple of men. Good hired men now are very scarce. An expert's idea is not to do the work unless he can turn out good work, and to please the customers. After the people will study and follow the way it is explained, the market will have nothing but expert shoe repairers.

Most starters in shoe repairing have hardships to handle a knife. It is too hard for them to cut leather, giving blisters on fingers and spoiling the looks of the hand.

Take a piece of leather about one inch wide and measure around your finger so it is tight like a glove. Sew it together, cut a hole in the leather the size of your knuckle so you can move your finger. You then will handle your knife without hurting yourself and spoiling the looks of your hand.

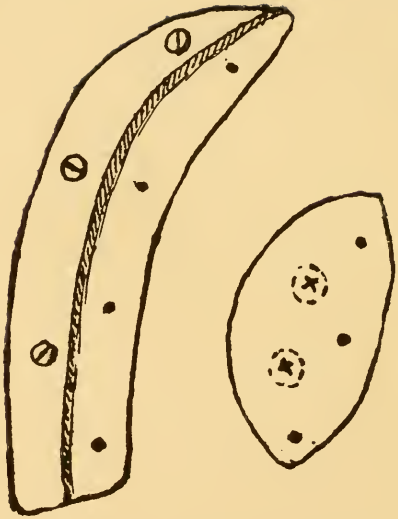
A good many people are troubled when they buy a new pair of shoes. The seam from the center is blistering their feet. Some inexperienced man will take a hammer and hammer it down as the customer tells them to. The hammering on the seam will break the thread easily. The only thing to do is to roll up a piece of newspaper and put it in the heel of your shoe so your foot will raise up. This will not only prevent from blistering your foot; it will give you more room in the front part of the shoe by raising the shoe.

If a seam breaks from the back part of the counter sometimes the cause is that a piece of strap inside is loose. The strength of the foot will break it easily. Before you sew it put in a new piece of leather and this will prevent it from breaking.

**The Right Kind of Heel Plates**

A man doesn't have to be selfish and he always has to look what savings he can make to the others. As for many years, I have seen all different kinds and shapes of heel plates. Not one of them suited me when I put them on the heel. So I designed these plates. They are not only perfect but it prevents the heel from turning on one side.

My design relates to sole and heel protectors and the principal object is to provide a sole and heel pro-



Metal Plates, Sole and Heel

tector that will be inserted to greater or less extent into the material of the sole. It is also an object to provide means for fastening the protector and also the inserted edge. Heretofore, wearing plates have been applied to soles and heels and various methods have been invented for efficiently securing the same. A difficulty, however, has always been experienced in co-apting the adjacent edges of the leather and the wearing plates resulting in an irregular surface, the edges of which are liable to catch obstructions and trip the wearer with consequent danger of receiving injuries from falls.

My dsign overcomes these objections. My plates are adapted either to fit the outer contour of the sole and heel, or to be entirely inserted as shown by the circular on page 22.

The portion of the protector formed by the rabbit forming a lip is provided with a series of openings adapted to receive shoe nails or other fastenings clinched in the material of the sole. In securing my improved protector to the sole or heel a recess is cut in the sole in depth equal to the thinnest portion of the body-portion of the protector and corresponding in contour to the body portion.

A groove is then cut in the leather parallel to the surface and flush with the bottom of the recess, a distance of the material of the sole.

A good many repairers do not understand how to put the plates on. To make a good job, straighten the heel. First put on the nails in the 3 holes on the outside. Cut your top lift so it will fit, with the even in the groove. Drive four nails in half way. Take your top lift, put on the nail and hammer down the top lift so that the nails will receive the top lift.

The side plate, which you see the two screws and two nails underneath the plate. Put the plate close to the edge.

Hammer down so the two nails under the plate will hold. Then drive 3 nails in the side and this will protect the sole from wearing off. This plate is designed right and left above.

**What Makes Crime?**

One man learns a trade like shoe repairing, plumbing, carpentering or machinist, as high as a financier has to have experience. Only by his doing good work, being steady on his job, he will not have a thought of committing a crime. If he is discharged from one place, there is always another place open for him. An inexperienced politician, as soon as he gets on his job, the first thought he has, is where and from whom he can graft. As his time is limited he isn't fit for the job.

A man who learns a trade and has been working at

it and his only thought is the 6 o'clock whistle, that man didn't learn enough, and when this man gets fired he finds it very hard to get another job. Being idle he is taking up one thing, how to make easy money, and stealing is not so easy when he gets caught. He occupies a room in prison. If that man would put his knowledge in good work, he wouldn't have to steal. Good work pays for life. We have some inexperienced financiers which they represent themselves with the first thought on how to get money from the class of working people. They are expert crooks and the people should not try any more.

**Everybody is an expert, and the next shoe repairer knows it.**

If a customer comes to a shoe repair shop and had shoes fixed and the shoes are ruined, the next time the customer tries another shoe shop, and the customer thinks the next man is better. Then she tells him how the other shoe-repairer ruined her shoes. And as the second less than the first one, he did not consider how the job was done by the first one. And instead of improving the shoe, he ruined it all. And now she gives the good shoes to the junk man.

Mr. Man, at home your wife does sewing; she never did it before; like sewing up the sleeves of a coat for

her children. And when the children come home she fixes the coat, and if you learn shoe repairing from this book you can fix your children's shoes, and it will save you many dollars. The sooner you fix the shoe the later you will have to buy new shoes. A young man who is stuck up is a lazy subject. And that kind of a man is not fit for a job. As I was writing this book a young man came to my shop and wanted to know what I was doing. I told him that I wrote this book so that any one can learn how to fix his own shoes and learn the trade so that he can go in business. Then the young man said, "Who wants to fix his own shoes? I would rather pay to get my shoes fixed, to let someone else do the job." Then he tells me he is out of a job for about two months, and that if I fix his shoes he will pay me next week. But I told the young man that this book is for his future. Then I told him he wouldn't have the money next week as you haven't today if you do not learn the trade.

## Instructions

If a man has a couple pair of shoes and he doesn't wear them very often, they get dry and then he can't wear them. The inner sole gets cracked so it cuts the foot, the counter is dry and that cuts the ankle. If you ever have your shoes in that condition, put water in the

shoes, and wet the counter so the leather will be moist And it will go back to its place when you wear them.

If you put on a sole and you see the inner sole is cracked, and the edge of the welt turns up· you should not hammer on the sole while it is dry. Put a little water in the shoe, let it soak in the inner sole for 5 minutes, then hammer the bottom down and put on the sole.

If you are in the habit of wearing out a hole in the upper, as the lining wears out in the little toe and it burns the leather, cut a round piece of leather, scive the edges thin, put some paste on the leathr, put it in the shoe so it sticks. This will prevent breaking.

When a lot of shoe-repairers receive children's shoes, they patch them up any old way. Because it takes just as long a time to fix small shoes as big ones, you can't take too much care in fixing children's shoes, as a child will say it hurts his feet. Then the parents will examine the shoe and as long as they don't find any nails sticking out in the shoes, the job is done right and there are no holes in the shoes. Then you find out that you will have to take the child to a foot doctor and then he finds that the foot is out of place. And this makes hollows and humps in the bottom.

If the top of a shoe breaks from the stitches near

the vamp, open the thread from the vamp, put a piece of leather under between the vamp and the top. Stitch it.

When you repair a sole on a shoe, always see you have leather enough to trim the edge so you can extend the sole, so when you nail a welt shoe you should not have to trim the welt.

If you cut a sole and it is too small and you're trying to press the welt in so you can have the leather, this will ruin the shape of the shoe, and it takes more time. Take the sole off and cut a wider sole; the first one you can use on a small shoe.

As you practice shoe repairing you don't need many tools, as the machinery is the most important. When you are ready to start business on a big scale, so when you have a sole fixed and you want it finished, cut your edge or heel to a level, then take your rasp, file and make the edge smooth and take a piece of window glass and scrape it very smooth. Then blacken the edge with ink, take burnishing iron, make it a little hot and burnish the heel to the edge, so it comes to a polish. Take a little shoe blacking, then go over it with a cloth. This will make a smooth finish.

### How to Straighten a Shoe

Sometimes a shoe which has a bad inner sole, and after the sole is worn, and it gets wet, then the shoe

will spread. After they are fixed, one shoe is wider than the other.

### To Put Shoe in Shape

Take one waxed end. If it is a welt shoe put your waxed end through the top of the welt, on one side. Then take the end and put through the other side of the welt. Then put a stitch an inch further and do the same on the other side. Draw it in so it comes the same width as the other one. Then put your sole on. After you finish, put on a stretcher, so the inner sole will come to a level.

### To Put on a Hand Sewed Sole

Prepare your sole as you see on the model. Trim the sole close to the welt. Cut a channel near the edge of the sole, as the channel should be cut so it will cover the edge from the stitches. Used a waxed end in six cord thick. This will be heavy enough to sew any ordinary sole. Examine the welt of the shoe. If the edge is cut nearer the stitches you can put your stitches next to the old stitches. If the stitches are further from the edge, then pick the stitches out so you can sew in the same holes. Whenever you start to sew start from the welt.

### How to Make a Waxed End

If you make a waxed end in six cord, first turn around twice on your third finger. Hold together with

the first and second fingers. Then take each cord and untwist by turning to the right so it will get unspinned. Take your finger on the point of the untwisted cord and pull it off. Do each one the same.

Then divide in two parts. Make it a little moist with your lips. Then put it on your lap and have it about an inch apart. Then turn to the left so both parts come together. Then turn it to the right so that it gets in a fine cord. Then take your cord and put on a hook and turn the thread to the right. Then put on shoe-maker's wax. Rub it down so it will be smooth. Then take a bristle and split it from the lower end to about three inches. Take one end, put it on your second finger on the left hand, and hold with your thumb, close to the place where the bristle is split. With one finger hold one end of bristle. Put your waxed end in the split from the bristle. Take the other part of the bristle and put it between your third finger.

Then take the first part and lay it down with the waxed end and roll it together. Then take the other part of the bristle and roll it. Separate so it is all twisted. Then put on your wax and turn all together. Then make a little hole in your waxed end near the end of the bristle. Pull your bristle through the hole so that both cords of the bristle will hold it together.

When you practice shoe repairing you can be your own judge. When you drive a nail in a sole see that it should be a quarter of an inch apart. Drive them in so they will be all straight. When a nail goes outside so it will clinch the upper, take a screw driver and bend it up so the upper will be free from the welt.

Sometimes the nail will bend from the inside to the upper, as that nail didn't go in the inner sole and this will draw the shoes. So you can bend the nail back from the upper. If you fix one job, try to see how good you can do the next one.

The best competitor is the dentist, as he is always trying to pull someone else's teeth. But if a shoe-repairer is ruining competition he is pulling his own teeth and ruins the other fellow who has to make a living. What does a fellow mean when he gives a dollar for 50 cents? Then you will think that you have made 50 cents profit without working. Now, you will lose a good many dollars by it. As that fellow who gave you the dollar for 50 cents is a crook and he is watching you. A shoe-repairer putting on rubber heels for 25 cents. The price is stamped on the box at 50 cents. It is registered by the U. S. Patent Office. Then you claim to put them on in five minutes. So you deceive yourself and the customer.

In the first place, it takes five minutes to take off the old heel. Then when a heel is worn on the outside you have to hammer the sole down so it should move toward the outside so the counter will get to its place. Then scrape the leather with the file and then scrape the rubber heel a little. Put the cement on both parts and the sole and the heel. Let it dry for five minutes. By doing this way it will pay you a dollar an hour for your good work.

If you think that to put on a rubber heel in five minutes and so it is as an advertisement, then you better go to a dentist. He will fix you right.

It is not necessary to have too many tools to do shoe-repairing. I went into a shoe-cobbler's. He was about 75 years old. His wife died before he was 30. The rest of his life he stayed single. His pleasure was to buy tools, and that is why his wife died, as she was more economical and couldn't stand it any longer. As he was talking about his wife he never shed a tear. Then I understood that he was satisfied to be single.

The world doesn't stand in one place. As every year he passes by, some new inventions came out. So he spent his life's savings to get some tools. My idea is you do not need many tools and you can save the soles.

This is the following tools you need to do expert shoe-repairing:

1. One stand and four lasts.
2. A pointed toe-lap last.
3. Peg awl.
4. A sewing awl.
5. Two hafts.
6. A hammer.
7. Eight-inch rasp file.
8. Lip point scive.
9. Pincher.
10. Burnisher.
11. Instep stretcher.
12. Sharp stone.

# The Levinson Shank Plate

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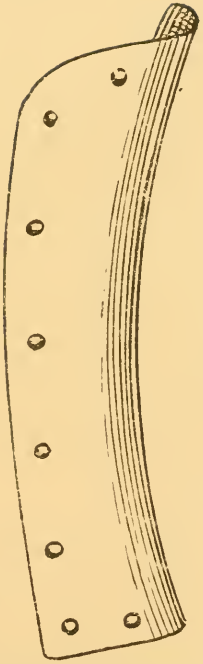
To whom it may concern: Be it known that J. M. Levinson of Los Angeles, California, invented and produced a new and original design for a "shank-plate" of which the following is a specification and reference, the accompaning drawing forming a part thereof.

The leading feature of said design being to protect the shank from the shoe, is a body portion extending from the heel to the half sole, the protector is amplified in this recess, the lip of the protector being slipped under the lip of the welt, (Fig. 1) representing a plain view of said shank plate and embodying said design (Fig. 2) with a view of the lip securely held under the welt binding the sole and welt together. Figure 3 forms a series of openings adapted to receive shoe nails, a recess being cut in the sole in depth equal to the portion of the protector, and thus readily be seen that the leather is securely held in relation to the protector, and a flush surface is simply



THE LEVINSON SHANK PLATE

and easily formed, and the wearing qualities materially increased where the sole is protected.

Honest and remunerative labor should be a pleasure, and while at work, one should be alert as to the world's needs, not merely for your own benefit, but mankind in general. You will observe that the model of a shank protector which farmers, miners and pole-climbers all wear out the edge of the shank, the steel shank under the sole breaks them in half, also the sole, and inner sole too, and a problem in repairing, necessitating the removal of heel and sole and replacing with new ones, and if your time is of any value, it will be found unprofitable, and more especially so when you consider the high price of leather. and my shank protector will prevent the shank from wearing out, the metal slat protects the edge from wearing away, the sole of the shank, and bottom of sole, being protected and holding the welt from the shoe tight to the sole and the edge being beveled the same as the shank, from the sole.

These come in all sizes, if the sole in the shank should be too thick, you can scive the leather a bit, so that it will fit, then place the shank of the shoe on edge of iron last, and hammer slightly down so the lip which goes under the welt will hold tight, and then add nails according to holes indicated.

The shank protector will hold the shoe in shape and will protect same from turning, the shoe of either side, and if you put a new sole on seive the sole a little on top, put on the shank protector so it will hold the corners from the sole.

Instead of putting the nails in the edge of the sole put them in the shank protection they will hold better, the edge of the sole will not loosen so easily being careful that your nails are not too long, causing them to clinch on the inner sole, 4-8 nails will hold any sole and be less trouble to remove.

Many persons wear out the leather on the inside of the counter when they walk, striking one foot with the other, until the leather is gone, and some shoe repairers will not take the time to patch invisible; and in the back of all shoes there is a seam; take a piece of white chalk, and draw a line from the back seam from the top stitches of the counter, and go down to the heel, then mark on the edge of the sole, from under the heel, and take your chalk on top of the counter under the machine stitches, going down as far as the leather is worn, then mark with chalk a half inch farther and a straight mark down to the heel, then take your leather and chalk pressing down hard enough so the mark on the leather, cut around the mark, this will give you the right pattern

for the patch, and with your knife cut slightly in the grain of the leather from the shoe, and cut no deeper than a piece of paper. With the point of your knife peel off the grain all around where you made the cut, but do not peel the leather towards the heel, and then take a piece of sand paper and smooth it off, and take leather cement and put on where you peeled the leather, let it dry until it gets white, and then take your patch and scive the leather down on the left side so the edge should be very thin and sharp, and with a screw driver lifting the sole a bit from the counter,and take your patch with the left side up and lay it down around the heel, as far as you made your mark and put in a tack on each side. Leave the patch down so that it will reach the counter from the heel, with your screw driver press your leather down a little so it goes between the heel and the counter, take your awl and make one stitch close to the patch, then with your waxed end put your awl in the patch so it goes between the sole and the counter, so the patch will sink in, and then make three or four stitches all around and then put cement on edge of your patch and leave to dry.

When the work is dry, warm up with a match until the same is in liquid form, and do the same to the shoe, then pull the patch up as far as the top of the seam

where you made the mark, and handle so it will not leave any wrinkles and hammer down slightly, and with a hot burnishing iron press it down hard enough so the patch will not show.

Before you repair ladies shoes, be sure and examine the inner sole to see if leather or canvas, as a canvas inner sole will not receive the nails when the sole is put on, and before you cut the old sole off take the lining out of the shoe and cut your leather inner sole a trifle smaller than the lining, then put the inner sole in the inner sole straight and put a nail in each side of the shank to hold the inner sole, then cut the old sole off, put a tack in the toe so the shoe will be straight on the last, and ready for the finishing work.