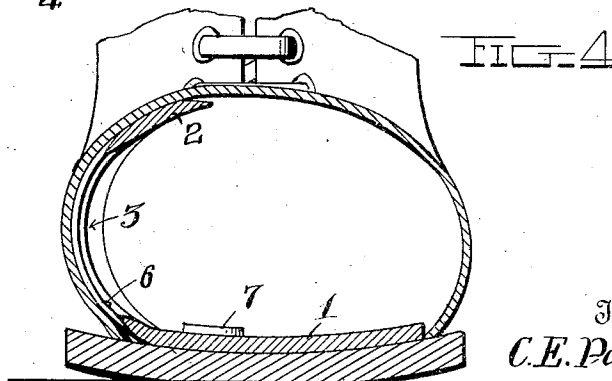
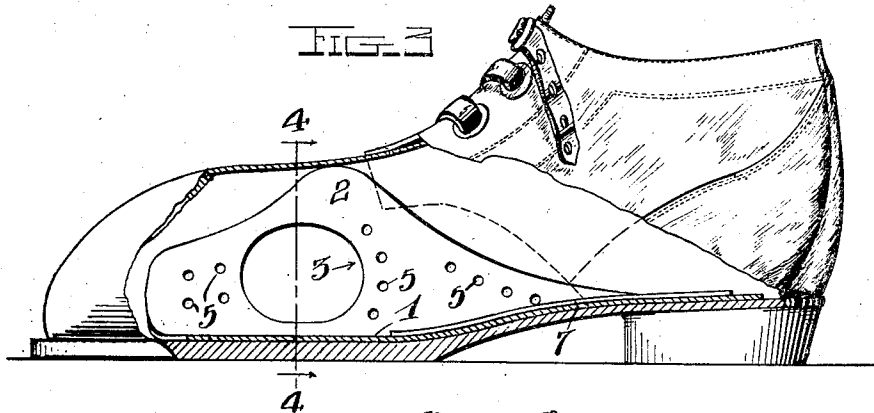
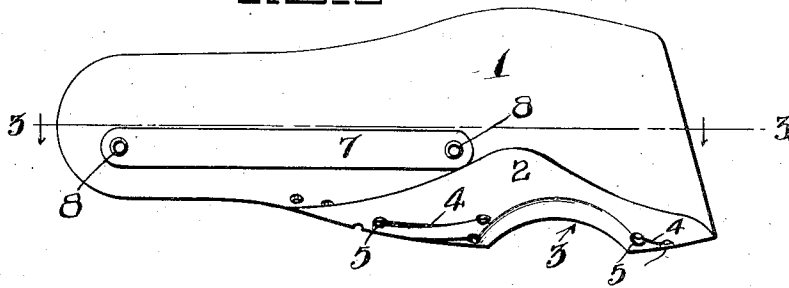
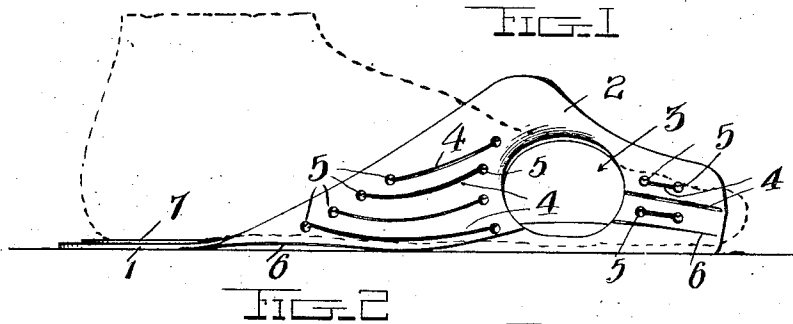


C. E. PASSAGE.
FOOT SUPPORTER.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 25, 1909.

936,155.

Patented Oct. 5, 1909.



Witnesses
Emmet Crocker.

C. H. Griesbauer

by

A. B. Wilson & Co.

Attorneys

Inventor
C. E. Passage.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRISTOPHER E. PASSAGE, OF PASADENA, CALIFORNIA.

FOOT-SUPPORTER.

936,155:

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 5, 1909.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRISTOPHER E. PASSAGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pasadena, in the county of Los Angeles and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Foot-Supporters; and I do 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 appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to improvements in foot supporters.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of this character by means of which the muscles and ligaments of the arch of the foot will be yieldingly supported and cushioned and the joint of the great toe protected.

A further object is to provide a simple and inexpensive supporter and protector of this character which may be formed in the shoe when manufactured or which may be applied to shoes already made and having means whereby the same will be firmly held against movement in the shoe.

With the foregoing and other objects in view, the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts as will be more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of the supporter showing the same applied to a foot, the latter being shown in dotted lines; Fig. 2 is a top plan view of the supporter; Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view through a shoe and through the supporter arranged therein; and Fig. 4 is a cross sectional view of the same.

My improved supporter may be constructed of any suitable material but is preferably formed of stiff leather and consists of a sole portion 1, which is substantially the same shape as the insole of the shoe and is made in various sizes to fit various sized shoes. The sole portion 1 extends from the heel 2 of the shoe nearly to the toe portion thereof, as shown. The devices are made in rights and lefts and on the inner edge of the sole portion 1 is formed an upwardly projecting supporting and cushioning portion 2. The portion 2 begins at or near the heel end of the sole and extends to the toe end thereof and has its upper edges inclined upwardly

to a point immediately behind the place where the large joint of the great toe engages the shoe.

In the supporting portion of the device, at the point where the sole is engaged by the joint of the great toe is formed a circular opening 3 which is engaged by the joint of the great toe. The edges of the opening are beveled off on both the inner and outer sides of the portion 2, so that a recess is formed and the material on either side of the opening 3 serves to hold the side of the shoe away from the joint and thereby protects the latter from being rubbed or injured by the shoe.

In the supporting portion of the device, on the outer side of the same, the material is cut to form a series of parallel scores 4, said scores being connected at their opposite ends with perforations or apertures 5 formed through the portion 2, as shown. Where the portion 2 joins the sole portion 1 on the outer side of the material, is also formed an elongated score 6 which follows the shape or contour of the inner side of the insole and facilitates the bending upwardly of the supporting portion 2. The scorings 4 and 6 and the apertures 5 extend on both sides of the hole 3.

Secured to the upper side of the sole portion 1 of the device, is a longitudinally disposed flat metal spring 7 which is rigidly secured to the sole at its opposite ends by means of eyelets or other suitable fastening devices 8. The spring 7 is arranged along the inner sides of the sole adjacent to the portion 2 and serves as a yielding support for the arch of the foot or to aid the sole portion 1 and the supporting portion 2 in performing this office when they are formed of a light flexible grade of leather. When the device is formed of a heavy or stiff grade of leather, the spring 7 may be dispensed with.

This device may be readily applied to shoes already manufactured and when so applied, will be held in position by means of the sole portion 1 which fits snugly within the shoes and engages the insole thereof. In shoes which are being manufactured, the device may be readily inserted and secured thereto in any suitable manner during the course of constructing the shoes. The device when applied to a shoe in either manner, will be found to be an efficient support for

the muscles and ligaments of the arch of the foot, relieving the same of a great deal of strain and by providing the scorings and apertures hereinbefore described, the supporting portion of the device will form a cushion for the sides of the foot and the aperture 3 will form a recess to receive the joint of the great toe and the surrounding portions of the material form a shield or guard to protect the joint from being rubbed or injured by the side of the shoe.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, the construction and operation of the invention will be readily understood without requiring a more extended explanation.

Various changes in the form, proportion and the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention, as defined in the appended claim.

Having thus described my invention what I claim is:

A foot supporter comprising a sole portion shaped to fit within a shoe, an integrally formed supporting portion on the inner edge of said sole portion, said supporting portion projecting upwardly around the inner edge and arch of the foot and having formed therein a joint protecting aperture and a series of longitudinally extending scorings terminating at their opposite ends in perforations whereby a cushioning effect is imparted to said protecting and supporting portion of the device.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CHRISTOPHER E. PASSAGE.

Witnesses:

P. J. CHRIST,
JOHN McDONALD.