J. Read,

Boot or Shoe Heel.

No. 104,200. Patented June 14, 1870.

Fig. 1.

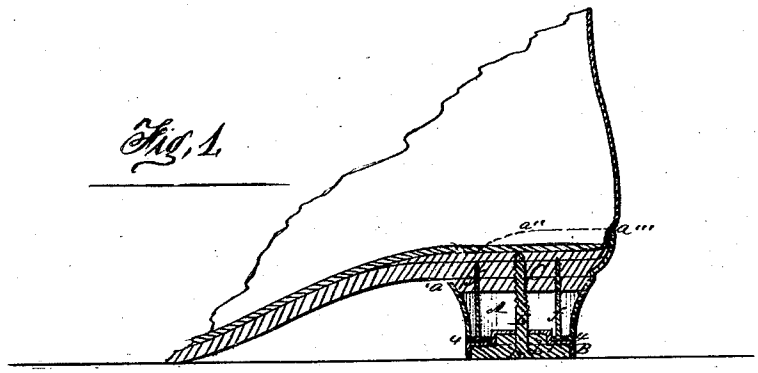


Fig. 4

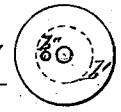


Fig. 5.

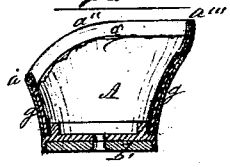


Fig. 3

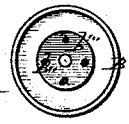
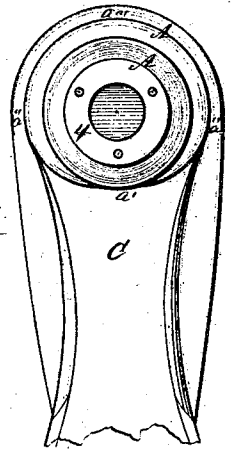


Fig. 2



Witnesses:

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JOSEPH READ, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 104,200, *dated June* 14, 1870.

IMPROVED HEEL FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

I, JOSEPH READ, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain Improvements in Heels for Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

Nature and Objects of the Invention.

The first part of my invention relates to the construction of the body of the heel out of sheet or thin metal, substantially in the hollow form of a bell or wide-mouthed cup, with a portion of the edge of its mouth recessed or cut away so as to cause it, when applied, to fit closely across the rear portion of that part of the sole which comes under the hollow of the wearer's foot, while the remaining portion of the upper edge of the said cup-shaped body slopes gradually upward and backward therefrom, in such a manner as to fit closely and neatly, with its thin edge around and against the sides and back of that portion of the upper-leather of the boot or shoe which is just above the sole, say to the height of half an inch, more or less, the object of this part of my invention being to afford a body for the heel, when finished and applied, that will not only be lighter, more substantial, and less costly than the equally-high leather heels now in general use, but will also afford such support to the stiffening and leather immediately around the rear part, above the sole of the boot or shoe, as to effectually prevent the said part from "siding" or "backing over" the heel in wearing.

Description of the Accompanying Drawings.

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section of the back or rear half of a lady's high-top shoe or gaiter-boot, embodying my invention.

Figure 2 is a plan view of the under side of fig. 1, with the adjustable tap, Figures 3 and 4, detached.

Figure 5 is a vertical section of the body and tap of the heel, having the said body covered with thin leather or white kid.

General Description.

A is the hollow metallic body of the heel.

B, the adjustable tap or wearing-plate.

C, the outer sole of the boot or shoe.

D, the insole.

E, a central wood screw, which secures the cap B to the body A, and both of them more firmly to the sole C.

The body A, for ladies' and children's gaiters or other light shoes, is intended to be "formed up," of thin sheet-metal, by spinning, or by pressure in suitable dies. For the heavier boots and shoes, of men's wear, the body A is intended to be cast substantially in the same hollow form shown in the drawings.

The adjustable tap or plate B, for men's boots and shoes, is intended to be of solid metal; but for ladies' and children's boots and shoes, it is intended to be "formed up" of thin sheet-metal, and a disk, of solid sole-leather, *b'*, fitting into and filling its cavity.

The edge of the larger open end of A is cut away or recessed at its front and parts of its sides, from *a'* to *a''*, so as to cause it to fit close up against the bottom of the sole C, and along the sides of the upper leather, while the remaining part, from *a''* to *a'''*, of the said edge, fits around neatly and closely against the upper-leather, sufficiently high up to serve as a support to the stiffening in that part of the boot or shoe, and thus prevent its "siding" or "backing over" the heel.

The smaller end of A is generally made to have an inner flange, 4, through suitable holes in which two or three wood-screws, *f f*, pass, and screw into the sole C, so as to secure the body A firmly to the said sole; but these screws *f f* need to be applied only in men's heavy wear, the central wood-screw E being sufficient to firmly secure the heel and tap to all lighter wear.

It will be seen that the tap, whether in one solid plate or in two parts, B *b'*, can be turned around by loosening the screw E and readjusting it in position to equalize the wearing away of the same, a small nail or pin, *b''*, being driven through the tap into either of the holes *b''* in B, for the purpose of preventing the tap from being turned round by use in wearing.

For those shoes requiring heels covered with fancy leather, silk, or other fabric, as sometimes worn by ladies in wedding or party dress, it is intended to form the body A without the inner flange 4, so that the delicate fancy leather *g*, (see fig. 5,) can be drawn over the thin edge and secured within the same by the insertion of the flanged or recessed portion of B, the upper edge of the said leather being drawn over the upper edge of A, and pasted fast on the inner side of the same, as represented in the figure.

I am aware that a hollow metallic body for a heel has been made with a guard, to prevent the backing or siding over of the upper, and secured to the sole mainly by means of screws inserted through its sides, and also through the part which crosses the instep of the sole, and with a leather tap or bottom for the heel, secured thereto by a series of projections around the lower edge of said hollow body; therefore, I do not desire to claim, broadly, a hollow metallic heel and guard for a boot or shoe; but

What I desire to secure by Letters Patent is confined to the following

Claim.

I claim as my invention—

A metallic heel for a boot or shoe, consisting of the hollow metallic body A and support or guard *a'' a'''*, in combination with the adjustable metallic cap B and central screw E, constructed, arranged, and applied substantially as hereinbefore described and set forth.

JOSEPH READ.

Witnesses.

BENJ. MORISON,

WM. H. MORISON.