

G. L. PIERCE.
CLEAT FOR ATHLETIC SHOES.
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1,041,667.

Patented Oct. 15, 1912.

Fig. 1.

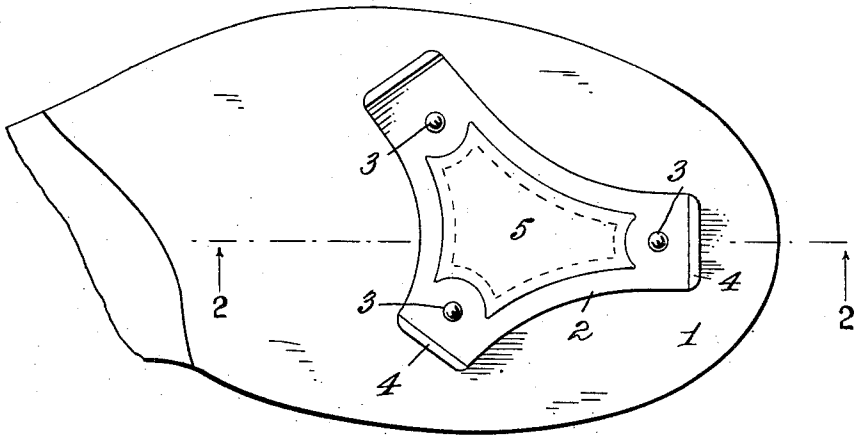
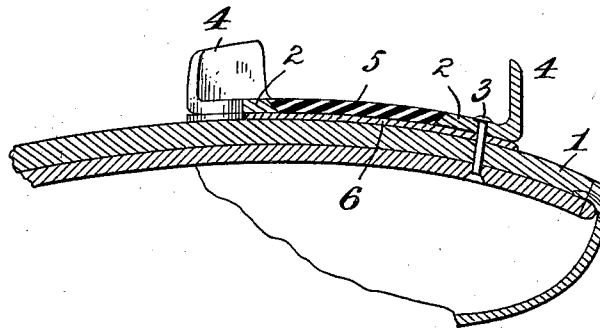


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. PIERCE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

CLEAT FOR ATHLETIC SHOES.

1,041,667.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 15, 1912.

Application filed August 3, 1911. Serial No. 642,048.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. PIERCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cleats for Athletic Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention is an improvement in cleats for athletic shoes and has for its object the production of a cleat which does not pick up clay and dirt to handicap the player by the added weight and especially to handicap him by clogging the cleat so that its calks cannot fully enter the ground to give them perfect hold against slipping.

In the drawings which show my improvement applied to a baseball cleat, Figure 1 shows a toe cleat provided with my invention on a baseball shoe, and Fig. 2 is a vertical section partly in elevation on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1 looking in the direction of the arrows.

I will now describe the devices of the drawings, reserving it to the claims to point out the novel features and to define the scope of the invention, it being understood that the claim will be given the due range of equivalents to which they are entitled in view of the art.

Although the drawings show my improvement applied only to a toe cleat nevertheless it will be understood that the invention is equally applicable to and may be used in precisely the same manner in connection with a heel cleat.

1 designates the toe portion of a shoe.

2 is an open metal frame, in this particular case triangular in shape, constituting the base of the cleat. The rivets 3 secure the base of the cleat flat against the bottom of the sole of the shoe.

4 designates prongs or spikes or, in general, ground-entering parts or calks which project downwardly from the frame at about right angles thereto.

5 is a rubber piece whose outline is such that it fills the hollow space or opening in the frame 2.

6 is a flange projecting beyond the outline of the rubber piece, being the overhanging edges of a piece of canvas or other suitable material vulcanized to the top of the rubber piece 5. This flange is clamped be-

tween the frame 2 and the sole of the shoe for the purpose of holding the rubber piece 5 in its described position within the opening of the frame. The thickness of the rubber piece is shown with its outer surface flush at the edges with the outer or exposed face of the cleat-frame.

The purpose of making the base of the cleat in the form of an open frame is to make the cleat as light in weight as possible. This, however, provides a hollow space which picks up masses of clay, thereby making the player run on this mass of clay with the result of correspondingly shortening the effective lengths of his calks, not to speak of the further handicap of the added weight. However, the rubber piece 5 filling the opening of the frame and having a smooth outer surface prevents the clay both from entering the opening to hold therein and from clinging to the surface of the base-plate of the cleat which, being for the most part smooth rubber as distinguished from rusty metal, is ideally effective to free itself from the clay and dirt. In short, the improved cleat, as it leaves the ground, does not pick up and carry away masses of clay but frees itself clean and clear, thereby maintaining a constant lightness in weight and a constantly free and unclogged condition to enter and take perfect hold upon the ground.

In construing the claim, the intention is to include as equivalent to "rubber" any material having the property of rubber in freeing itself from clay.

What I claim is:—

An improved cleat for athletic shoes comprising the combination of an open metal frame constituting the base of the cleat by which it is secured against the shoe, ground-entering parts projecting from the frame at about right angles to the plane thereof, and a piece filling the opening of the frame whereby the base of the cleat is prevented from picking up masses of clay, said piece being secured in place by a flange thereon which is clamped between the metal frame and the sole of the shoe.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE L. PIERCE.

Witnesses:

WM. H. BENNETT,
EDWIN J. BORTHWICK.