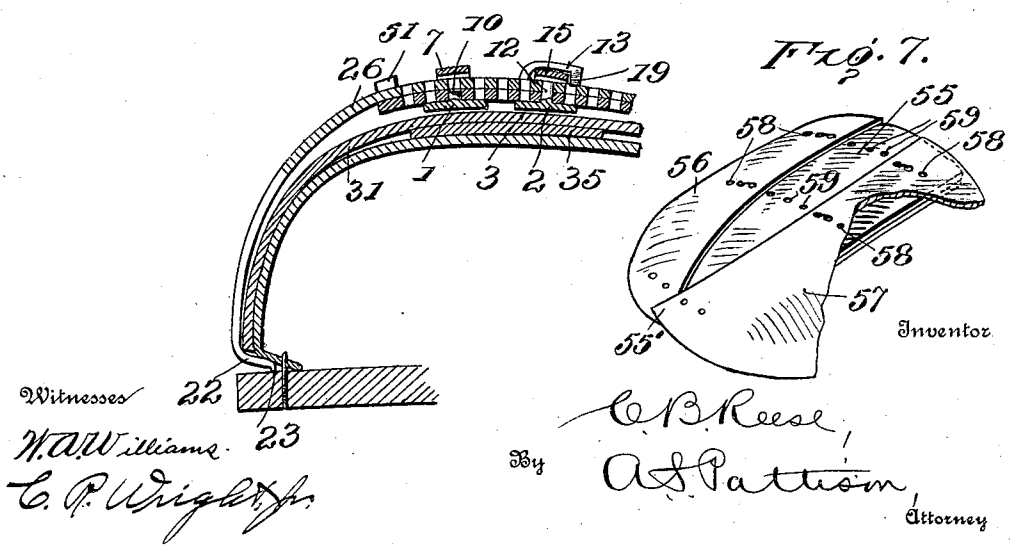
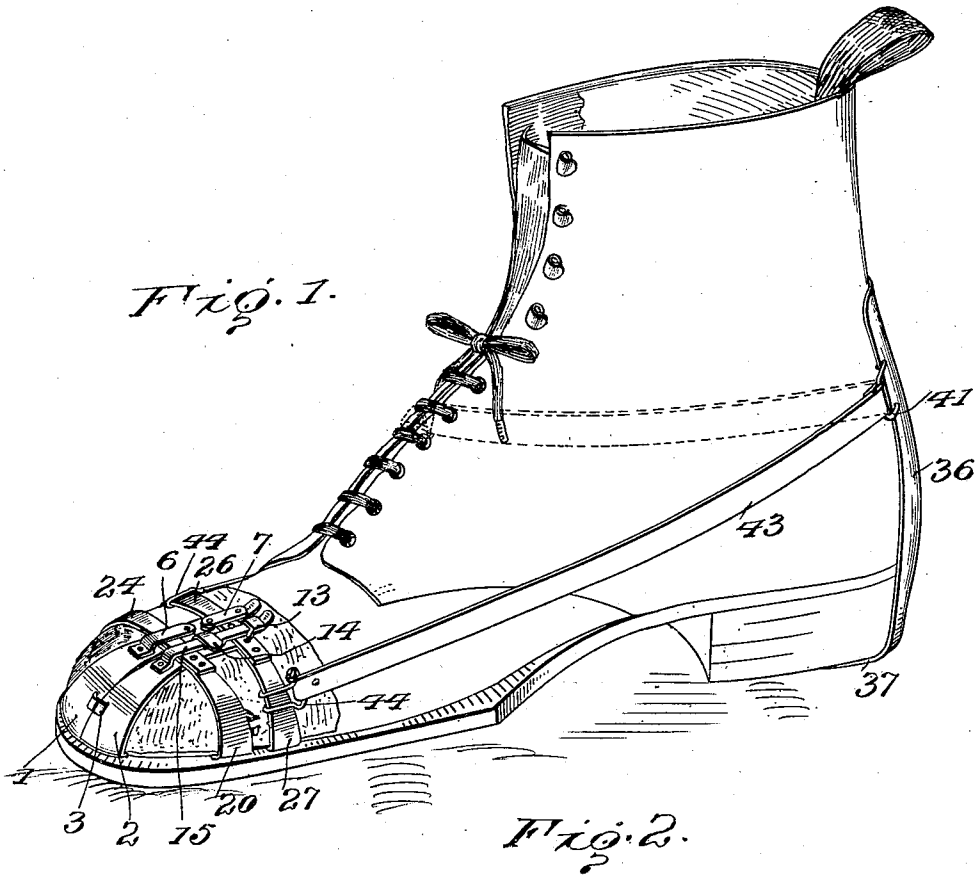


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 APPLICATION FILED MAR. 24, 1909.

977,399.

Patented Nov. 29, 1910.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

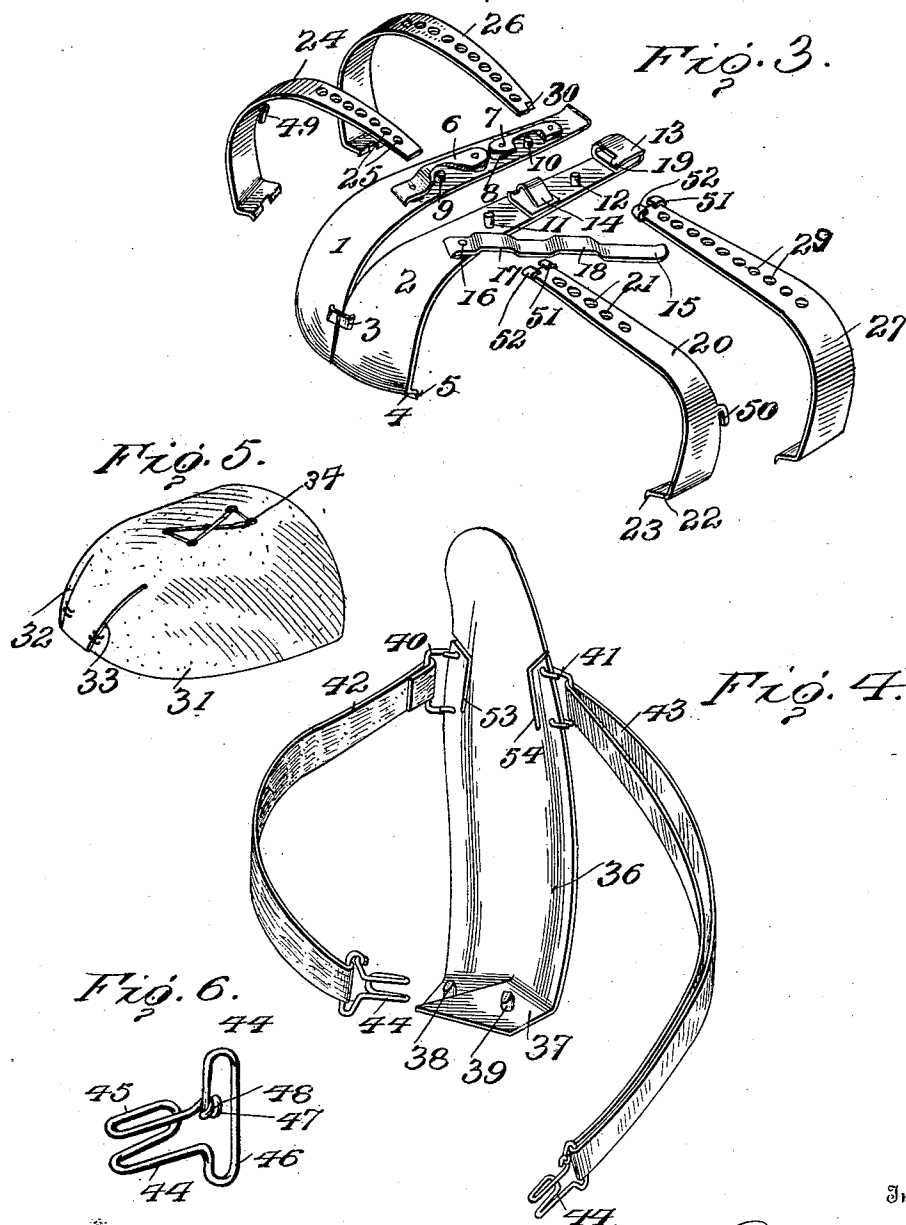


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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLYDE B. REESE, OF REESE, NORTH CAROLINA.

BOOT AND SHOE PROTECTOR.

977,399.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 29, 1910.

Application filed March 24, 1909. Serial No. 485,454.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLYDE B. REESE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Reese, in the county of Watauga and State of North Carolina, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot and Shoe Protectors, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

My invention relates to improvements in boot and shoe protectors.

The object of my invention is to provide a protector of the character hereinafter described which can be readily attached or removed from the shoe or boot, and which is so adjustable that it can be secured to boots or shoes of different sizes, and also boots and shoes of a different toe shape or curvature.

Another object of my invention is to provide a heel protector adapted to be used in conjunction with the toe protector, whereby all the wearing part of the shoe is thoroughly protected against wear, yet allowing the same to be readily attached or detached.

Another object of my invention is to provide a more simple, cheap and compact device of this character which will not injure the shoe or boot.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1, is a perspective view of a shoe showing my improved toe and heel protectors applied thereto and connected by the flexible straps. Fig. 2, is an enlarged transverse, sectional view partly broken away of Fig. 1. Fig. 3, is an enlarged perspective view of the toe protector showing the several parts separated. Fig. 4, is a perspective view of the heel protector. Fig. 5, is a perspective view of the leather protector which fits over the toe of the shoe before the metal protector is applied. Fig. 6, is an enlarged, perspective view of the removable hook carried by the elastic securing means. Fig. 7, is a perspective view of a modified form of a leather protector showing means for adjusting it to different size shoes.

My invention is designed especially for lumber inspectors who turn or move the planks with their heels and toes, and by so doing the ordinary shoe becomes so worn that it is useless and also unsightly.

By my invention, it will be seen that the device can be readily carried in the pocket and quickly applied to the shoe so that the

inspector can at all times have nice looking shoes without injuring the same, and also save the shoes against wear or other injury.

Referring now to the drawings, 1 and 2 represent the toe plates which, as shown, are broadened out at their outer ends to form a broad protecting portion for the shoe. These plates are loosely connected by the link 3 at their outer ends, the link giving the desired amount of flexibility, yet holding them together against separation. The lower ends of said toe members are turned inwardly as indicated at 4, and pass into the space between the sole and the upper, whereby they are held in their position. In order to prevent the said inturned ends from cutting the stitching between the upper and sole, the end is turned downwardly as indicated at 5, and said downwardly-turned end rests upon the sole of the shoe.

The member 1 adjacent the inner end, is provided with two plates 6 and 7 which are riveted or otherwise secured upon the member 1, and are spaced a distance from said member by washers 8 which surround the rivets or other securing means. The member 1, below each plate 6 and 7, is provided with upwardly-extending pins or studs 9 and 10 which are of a length less than half the distance between the plates and the members, as will be hereinafter more fully described.

The member 2 adjacent the inner end, and in a line with the pins 9 and 10, are provided with two upwardly-extending pins 11 and 12 which are of a length equal to twice that of the pins 9 and 10. The extreme inner end of the member is provided with a guide 13, and said member 2 intermediate the pins 11 and 12 is provided with a second guide 14 said guides having the outer ends open and under which the lever 15 is adapted to swing. The lever 15 is pivoted at 16 upon the member 2, and is provided with the two upwardly-raised or struck-up portions 17 and 18 which are arranged to come over the pins 11 and 12 when the lever is swung inwardly in the position shown in Fig. 1 of the drawings. The guide 13 has a downwardly-turned lip 19 which holds the lever 15 under the guide 13 to prevent it from being accidentally swung outwardly from under the guide. The clamping arm 20 has at its upper end a series of openings 21 into which the studs 9 and 11 are adapted to pass. The outer end of said arm is broadened outwardly to form

a protecting surface and has its end 22 turned inwardly to pass between the sole and upper of the shoe. This inwardly-turned end has its outer end 23 turned downwardly to prevent it from cutting the stitching between the sole and upper, the same as the members 1 and 2.

The arm 24 is the same shape as the arm 20 and passes under the loop or guide 6. Said arm is provided with openings 25, but the pin 9 being of such a length that it cannot enter said openings. The pin 11 is of such a length that it extends above the arm 20 and enters one of said openings in the arm 24, whereby when the lever is swung over, the two arms are locked together. The arms 20 and 24 are preferably made of spring metal, and when adjusted to fit different size shoes and differently shaped shoes, it will be seen that the same can be applied or removed by springing the arms outwardly without affecting the adjustment.

The arms 26 and 27 are constructed similar to the arms 20 and 24, only slightly longer, as that portion of the shoe over which they pass is broader and therefore these arms necessarily have to be longer. The outer ends of these arms are constructed the same to fit between the sole and shoe. The arm 27 passes under the loop 7 and the pins 10 and 12 enter the openings 29 therein. The pin 10 is of such a length that it only extends through the arm 27, while the pin 12 extends above the arm. The arm 26 is then inserted under the loop 7 and the pin 12 enters one of the openings therein. The clamping lever 15 is provided with struck up portions 17 and 18 as before described, which allows for the two thicknesses of the arms and holds the arms 24 and 26 in their downward position with the pins 11 and 12 in the openings in the arms 20 and 27.

The lip 19 bears against the arm 26 and in order to allow the ready insertion of the arm 26, the same is beveled as indicated at 30, which allows the arm to be inserted without moving the lip 19 up by hand. The arms 26 and 27 being of spring metal, also allows of the same being applied to the shoe without affecting the adjustment after it has been adjusted to fit the shoe.

In order to protect the toe of the shoe from wear by contact with the metal of the protector, I provide a leather cap 31 which is preferably made of a flat piece of leather having the forward ends provided with the two slits 32 and 33 which, when laced together as shown in Fig. 5, form a protector approximately the shape of the shoe. Secured thereto below the central upper portion by means of lacings, through the openings 34, is a heavy piece of leather 35 which is directly below the lever and arm connecting means, whereby not only the shoe is protected, but the foot is also protected. The

heavy piece of leather prevents any pressure upon the upper portion of the foot.

In order to protect the heel of the shoe I provide the curved plate 36 which is of a shape to fit the curvature of the heel portion of the shoe, and it may be made wider or narrower as the circumstances may require. The lower end of said plate is provided with a laterally turned portion 37 which passes under the heel of the shoe, and is provided with the two upwardly-extending studs 38 and 39 which enter the heel and prevent displacement of the plate.

The upper end of the plate 36 is provided with two loops 40 and 41 in which are secured elastic bands 42 and 43. The outer ends of the bands are provided with hooks 44 which are adapted to hook into the arms 26 and 27 of the toe protector, whereby the heel protector and the toe protector are more securely fastened on the shoe. If desired the bands 42 and 43 may be secured together around the instep of the shoe, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 1.

In order to use endless elastic bands, such as shown in Fig. 4, I provide a specifically constructed hook 44 which consists of a single piece of wire bent into the hook portion 45, and the attaching loop 46 has an eye 47 formed by one end of the piece of wire. The opposite end of the piece of wire extending from the hook is provided with a hooked end 48 entering the eye from the opposite direction from the hook whereby a pulling action on the hook forces the hooked end 48 farther into the eye and therefore prevents the hook from separating. By this structure, it will be seen that rubber bands can be readily used in the event of breaking of the elastic.

By the structure herein set forth, it will be seen that applicant has provided a shoe protector which can be readily carried in the pocket, and which can be readily applied and removed from the shoe after it has been adjusted to the shoe. The structure also provides means for adjusting it to different size shoes, and also sharp and round toe shoes, all of which is fully understood by the specification and drawings.

The arms 20 and 24 are provided with hooks 49 and 50 which hook into loops in the leather protector, and whereby the protector is carried by the arms. The arms 20 and 27 at their inner ends at opposite sides, are provided with upwardly extending ears 51 and 52 which form a guide-way in which the members 24 and 26 are adapted to slide, and which prevent the twisting of the two opposite members in respect to each other, and thus strengthening the same.

While I have shown the heel plate 36 provided with the loops 40 and 41, I can provide the plate 36 with slots 53 and 54 which have oblique open upper ends, whereby the endless

bands 43 may be readily inserted and retained in said slot. While I have shown the band 43 with a hook at one end, it will be understood that a hook 44 can be placed upon the opposite end of the band, and which would hook into the loops 40 and 41.

In Fig. 7 I have shown an adjustable leather protector which consists of a piece of heavy leather 55 preferably made of two layers, and having connected at the forward end two pieces of flexible leather 56 and 57. The said flexible pieces of leather have a series of openings 58 which are adapted to register with the openings 59 in the heavy piece of leather 55, whereby the pieces of leather 56 and 57 may be secured to the piece 55. The series of openings allow the two pieces to be adjusted in or out to vary the width of the protector for different size shoes.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

1. A shoe protector, comprising two members linked together at their forward ends, flexible side arms adjustably secured to the member and locking the rear ends of said members together, and inwardly turned lower ends carried by the arms adapted to extend between the sole and upper of the shoe.

2. A shoe protector comprising two front members linked together, two loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by the member below the loops, a lever pivoted to the other member, pins carried by last mentioned member below the lever, and overlapping clamping arms below the loops and lever and through which the pins pass.

3. A shoe protector comprising two front members adapted to approximately fit the toe of the shoe, loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by the members below the loops, a lever pivoted to the other member, pins carried by the last mentioned member below the lever, clamping arms having the pins of each member passing there-through, and clamping arms extending under the loops and having the pins of the second mentioned member passing there-through.

4. A shoe protector comprising two front members linked together and having their outer ends turned inwardly and adapted to pass between the sole and upper of the shoe, loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by the member below the loops, pins carried by the second member, arms extending from one side of the members and having openings receiving the pins of both members, arms extending from the opposite direction under the loops and having openings to receive the pins of the second member, a lever pivoted to said member, guide loops carried by the second member for said lever,

and a spring catch formed integral with one of the guide loops and adapted to engage and hold the lever.

5. A shoe protector comprising two front members movably secured together, two loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by the said member below the loops, a lever pivoted to the other member, pins carried by the last mentioned member below the lever, overlapping clamping arms below the loops and lever and through which the pins pass, and means for securing the lever in its inward position above the member to which it is pivoted.

6. A shoe protector comprising two front members adapted to approximately fit the toe of the shoe, a loose connection between said members, loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by the member below the loops, pins carried by the last mentioned member below the lever, clamping arms having the pins of both members passing therethrough, clamping arms extending under the loops and having the pins of the second mentioned member passing there-through, and a lever pivoted to the second mentioned member and holding the clamping arms thereon.

7. A shoe protector, comprising two front members linked together and having their outer ends turned inwardly and adapted to pass between the sole and upper of the shoe, loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by said member below the loops but leaving a space between the ends of the pins and loops, pins carried by the second member and of a length twice that of the pins of the first member, arms extending from one side of the members and having openings receiving the pins of both members, arms extending from the opposite direction under the loops and having openings to receive the pins carried by the second member, the outer ends of the arms curved inwardly, a lever pivoted to the second member, guide loops carried by the second member and under which the lever passes, and a spring catch formed integral with one of the guide loops and adapted to engage and hold the lever.

8. A shoe protector, comprising two front members linked together adjacent their forward ends and having downwardly turned outer ends adapted to pass between the sole and upper of the shoe, loops carried by one of said members, pins carried by said members below the loop but having a space between the ends of the pins and loops, pins carried by the second member and of a length twice that of the pins of the first member, arms extending from one side of the members and having openings receiving the pins of both members, arms extending from the opposite direction under the loops and having openings to receive the pins car-

ried by both members, the outer ends of all the arms curved inwardly to enter the space between the sole and upper of the shoe, a lever pivoted to the second member and having upwardly bulged portions to receive said
5 arms, spring guide loops carried by the second member and under which the lever passes, a spring catch formed integral with one of the guide loops and adapted to en-

gage and hold the lever under the guide 10 loop and a leather protector carried by the arms between the same and the shoe.

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

CLYDE B. REESE.

Witnesses:

G. W. SUDDERTH,

G. P. HAGAMAN.