

1,428,232.

Patented Sept. 5, 1922.

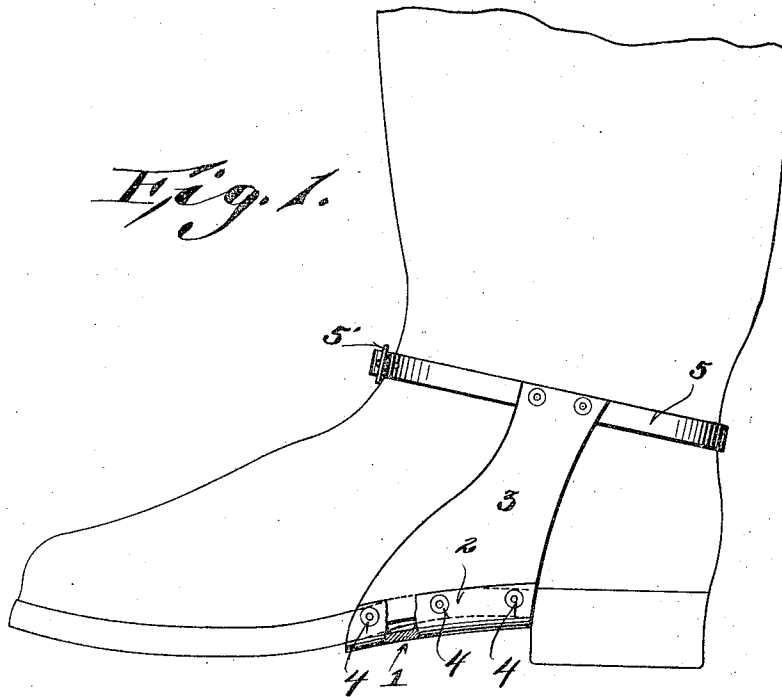
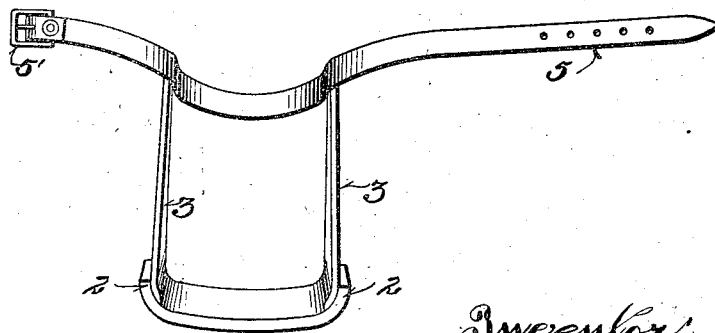


Fig. 2.



Witness
Robert E. Nelson

Inventor
Jacob Holmen

By *Young & Young*
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JACOB HOLMEN, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN.

SHOE GUARD.

Application filed April 5, 1920. Serial No. 371,379.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JACOB HOLMEN, a subject of Denmark, and resident of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe Guards; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention has for its object to provide a simple, economical and effective shield for protecting the shank portion of a boot or shoe while the wearer is doing such manual work as spading or shoveling, ditch digging and sewer work, also in climbing ladders and spike poles or the like.

The protecting shield or stirrup is especially serviceable when used in connection with rubber boots or foot wear which would likewise quickly become cut or worn out at the sole shank by the ordinary method of applying power to the upper sharp edge of a shovel, spade or analogous metallic tools which are forced into the ground by foot power.

As a practical boot and shoe maker, I have found that expensive rubber boots will frequently be cut out in a short time by laborers employed in moist ground work wherein it is necessary for them to use such rubber foot wear and wherein they are called upon to use shovels in manually digging.

I have also ascertained by actual experiment that a stirrup or pad for protecting the sole of a boot or shoe must be of fibrous material to resist the continuation of wear upon it and with this in view, specific objects of my invention are to provide a shank pad of tough fibrous material which can readily be attached to the sole of a rubber boot by a simple strap connection and which can be readily removed when not in use so as to prevent any impediment in the use of the boot under ordinary conditions.

To provide a high grade pliable fibrous pad such for example as a staple sole leather which is capable of resisting wear and to provide in connection with this comparatively expensive material a cheaper grade of strap connections so that the pad can be readily attached or detached from the shoe or boot to provide in some instances a stirrup of the character described wherein the comparatively expensive pad portion can be renewed when worn by simply removing the

worn pad and attaching a new pad section to the upper stirrup members.

With these and minor objects in view the invention consists in certain peculiarities of construction, combination and arrangement of the parts, which will be hereinafter set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings and subsequently claimed.

In the accompanying drawings:

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of the stirrup embodying the features of my invention, the same being shown attached to a rubber boot ready for use, and

Figure 2 is a perspective view of the stirrup looking toward the rear thereof with the retaining ankle strap end spread apart.

Referring by character to the drawing, 1 represents a concavo, convex pad strip which is preferably composed of a high grade sole leather adapted to resist the maximum wear to which it may be subjected.

This pad is adapted to be fitted to the shank portion of a boot or shoe as shown with its rear edge in engagement with the heel of the boot. The pad as shown is transversely positioned with reference to the boot sole and its upper edges are curved upwardly as shown at 2-2 to form flanges to which flanges the lower edges of the side straps 3 are secured by rivets 4, it being understood, however, that the side straps may be secured by stitching or other means known to the art. The side straps 3 are cut from scraps of leather of a cheaper variety whereby the cost of the stirrup is materially reduced due to the fact that this material is of sufficient strength to resist the slight strain and wear put upon it. The lower ends of each of these side straps are of approximately the same width as the pad and from this point the said straps are gradually contracted in width and inclined backwardly toward the heel so as to form a line of connection with the pad approximately in the line of strain put upon said pad to hold it in its proper position.

The side straps also form protectors for the boot against wear adjacent to the ankle thereof which would ordinarily come at these points due to the fact that the shovel handle will contact with one of said straps.

Particular attention is called to the fact that the pad element is composed of tough pliable fibrous material which will not only

resist wear, but which will also prevent slippage when the person using the stirrup is operating a metallic shovel by imparting thereto, pressure which is absorbed upon the
5 body of the pad.

It should also be obvious that the up-turned flanges of the pad taken in conjunction with the flared lower lapped surfaces of the side straps, form a reinforced joint
10 when secured, which will thus eliminate wear that will particularly come at this point of the stirrup, due to rubbing contact against the metal sides of a shovel handle.

Still a further advantage of this pliable
15 construction is that not only the pad and side straps are pliable, but that the ankle strap and side straps are of cheap thin material, which is not subjected to strain and which will compensate readily to the boot
20 of the wearer and render movements of the foot free.

Obviously while I have shown a solid side strap in some instances for cheapness of construction I may provide a skeleton structure
25 for the same.

The upper ends of said side straps have riveted or otherwise secured thereto an ankle strap 5, which is provided at one end with a standard buckle 5' and the other end of
30 said strap is suitably apertured for the engagement of the buckle tongue whereby the stirrup may be readily secured or fastened to the boot. Attention is directed also to the fact that while I have described the pad
35 particularly for use in connection with protecting the bottoms of rubber boots or shoes this stirrup may also be used for soft soled shoes of any type when the wearer of the

same wishes to use such soft soled shoes for garden work with a shovel and while I have
40 particularly designed a fine grade of sole leather for the pad proper in practice it may be found satisfactory to use some composition material for example such as cotton and rubber or neolin.
45

I claim:

As a new article of manufacture, a protector stirrup for rubber footwear comprising a shank pad composed of tough pliable fibrous material for completely covering
50 the instep, whereby slippage is resisted, the transverse edges of the pad being curved upwardly to form flanged elements for a reinforced seam, side straps having flared lower edges lapping the flanged element of
55 the pad, on the inner sides thereof and extending in substantially vertical planes, a plurality of rivets securing the lower flared edges of the straps to the flanged elements of the pad, whereby a reinforced joint results
60 conforming to the arch of a boot, and an ankle strap secured to the upper edges of the side straps on the inner sides thereof at a point substantially vertically above the front of the heel, said side straps being of
65 gradually increasing width from said point of securement to said pad and exerting lifting tension on the front of said pad, the ankle strap and side strap being of thin pliable material, whereby the stirrup, as a
70 whole, is compensated when fitted to a boot.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand at Racine in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin.

JACOB HOLMEN.