

(No Model.)

J. W. SKINNER.
SHOE SHAPER.

No. 531,393.

Patented Dec. 25, 1894.

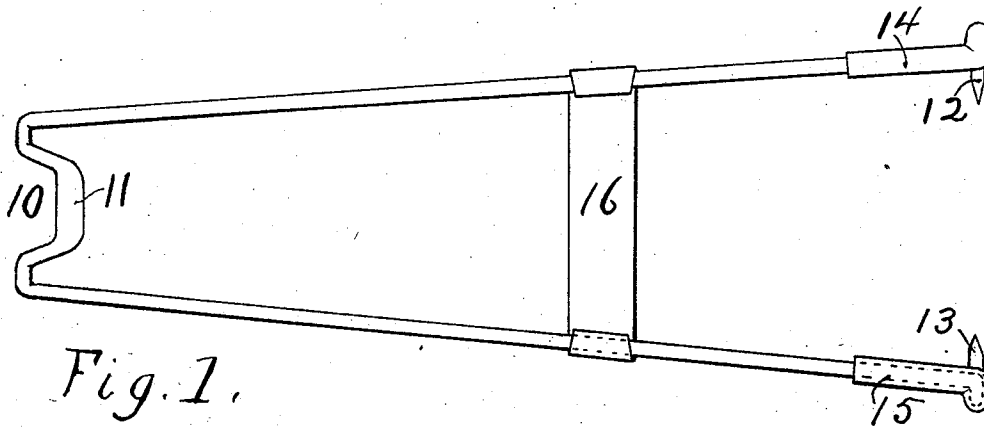


Fig. 1.

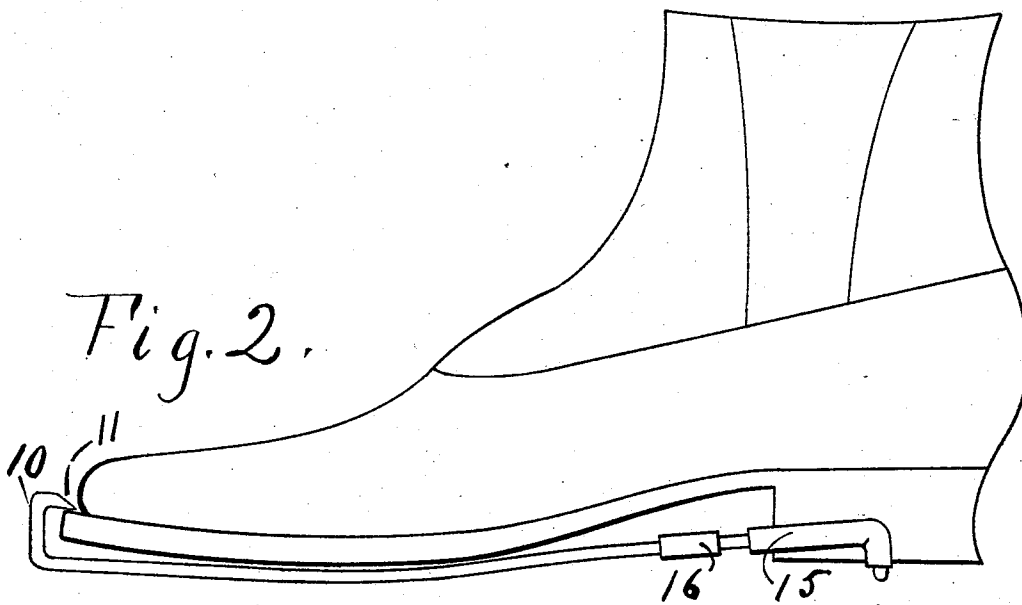


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES:

H. W. Cameron
H. E. Willie

INVENTOR:

J. W. Skinner

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH W. SKINNER, OF LA CROSSE, WISCONSIN.

SHOE-SHAPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 531,393, dated December 25, 1894.

Application filed April 12, 1894. Serial No. 507,312. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH W. SKINNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at La Crosse, in the county of La Crosse and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Shoe-Shaper, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in devices which, when attached to a shoe, tend to preserve the original shape of the shoe.

Shoes, when worn, absorb moisture from perspiration of the foot and from damp walks. When the shoes are removed and the moisture in them evaporates the toes of the shoes curl up forming injurious and unsightly wrinkles or creases across the instep.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap and efficient device which can readily be attached to a shoe and which will prevent the toe of the shoe from curling while the shoe is drying.

I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a top view of my device; and Fig. 2 a side view of the shoe-shaper attached to a shoe.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts throughout both the views.

The construction of my device is as follows: A wire is doubled and at the bend a hook 10 is formed adapted to catch the sole of a shoe near the toe. A part of this hook is flattened as shown at 11. Each end of the wire is sharpened to form the points 12 and 13, and each end is then bent as shown. Portions of the wire, near each end, are covered with pieces of rubber tubing 14 and 15. A flat piece of metal has each end bent around each wire so as to form the slide 16.

The device tapers outward from the toe hook to the heel points.

The wire should preferably be of spring steel.

The operation of my device is as follows: The hook 10 is attached to the sole of the shoe near the toe. The rubber bearings 14 and 15 are placed on the sides of the heel and clamped there by moving the slide 16 toward the heel, as shown in Fig. 2. If the heel is of such a shape that the rubber bearings do not hold on the heel firmly enough, the points 12 and 13 should be inserted into the sides of the heel.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A shoe shaper consisting of a wire spring formed with a hook 10, adapted to attach one end of said shoe-shaper to the toe of a shoe, and with the points 12 and 13, adapted to attach the other end of said shoe-shaper to the heel of a shoe, and provided with the slide 16, adapted to clamp said points 12 and 13 into the heel.

2. A shoe-shaper consisting of the combination with a wire spring, formed with a hook 10 at one end and provided at the other end with the rubber bearings 14 and 15, of the slide 16, adapted to clamp said rubber bearings upon the heel of said shoe.

3. The combination, in a wire spring shoe-shaper, of the hook 10 located at one end of said shoe-shaper, the points 12 and 13 and the bearings 14 and 15 located at the other end of said shoe shaper, and the slide 16.

JOSEPH W. SKINNER.

Witnesses:

W. D. CAMERON,
H. E. WILLSIE.