

G. F. Clemons,

Ice Creeper,

Patented May 19, 1868.

N^o 77,960.

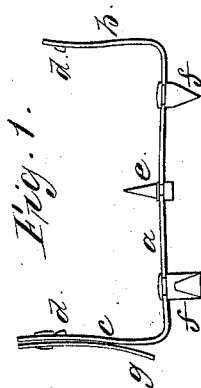
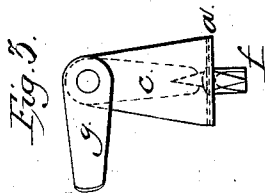
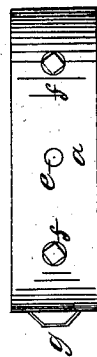


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
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Inventor:
George F. Clemons

United States Patent Office.

GEORGE F. CLEMONS, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 77,960, dated May 19, 1868; antedated May 15, 1868.

IMPROVED HEEL-CORK.

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. CLEMONS, of Springfield, in the county of Hampden, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Heel-Corks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The characteristic feature of my said improvement is adapting a heel-cork to be self-securing to the boot of the wearer, by means of spring-clamping action of the ears of the heel-cork.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the heel-cork.

Figure 2 is a bottom view of the heel-cork.

Figure 3 is an end view of the heel-cork.

The like letters refer to like parts in all the figures.

The heel-cork is made of a single piece of steel plate, which is turned up at its two narrowed ends, forming the slightly upward-curved base or foot-rest, *a*, and the two ears *b* and *c*, curved nearly as shown, so as to give, near their ends, inward-projecting clamping-surfaces, which are armed with projecting catches, *dd*, formed by upsetting the clamping-surfaces with a punch, and filing away the lower side of the raised surface.

In the centre of the foot-rest *a* is an upward-projecting spur-pin, *e*, riveted securely to the foot-rest. On each side of the spur-pin *e*, and near the base of the ears *b c*, and in the central line of the foot-rest *a*, are downward-projecting corks, *ff*, riveted securely to the foot-rest *a*.

The longest ear, *c*, has, pivoted to its upper end, a releasing-lever, *g*, turned outward at its outer end, which is folded down on the ear *c* when the heel-cork is being worn, as shown in figs. 1 and 2.

In taking off the heel-cork it is swung to the position shown in fig. 3, thus forming a lever-handle for springing apart and releasing the ears from the boot-heel. It is so bent or curved that when folded down it is secured in place by its pressure against the ear *c*.

The foot-rest *a* and ears *b c* are tempered to spring-temper.

In using the heel-cork, it is placed across the middle of the boot-heel, and, by a stamp of the foot on the floor, is forced to its proper position, with the spur *e* sunk in the boot-heel, and the ears *b c* clamping against the sides of the boot-heel, and holding the heel-cork in place on the boot.

It will be observed, that when the foot rests on the heel-cork the pressure resulting is taken on the pin *e* and on the centre of the foot-rest *a*, and will act to press together the ears *b c* with a double-leverage action, the corks *ff* forming the fulcra of the two levers.

Certain modifications of the described device may be used, but retaining the characteristic feature of the invention, which is the adaptation to a heel-cork of means to produce the clamping self-securing action.

Of such modifications are the following, viz:

First, the spur-pin *e* may be dispensed with, and the foot-rest *a* be either smooth or roughened surfaced, or otherwise provided with spurs or catches.

Second, the clamping-surfaces of the ears *b c* may be either spurred, roughened, or plain.

Third, the releasing-lever *g* may be dispensed with.

Fourth, the foot-rest *a* may be made rigid and inelastic, and have spring-clamping ears similar to *b* and *c* secured to it by rivets or otherwise.

I claim as a new and of my invention—

1. A heel-cork, adapted to be self-securing to the boot by means of spring-clamping surfaces, substantially as described.

2. The releasing-lever *g*, when employed substantially as described and for the purposes set forth.

GEORGE F. CLEMONS.

Witnesses:

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