

S. T. HENNESSY.
LAST.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 7, 1909.

948,093.

Patented Feb. 1, 1910.

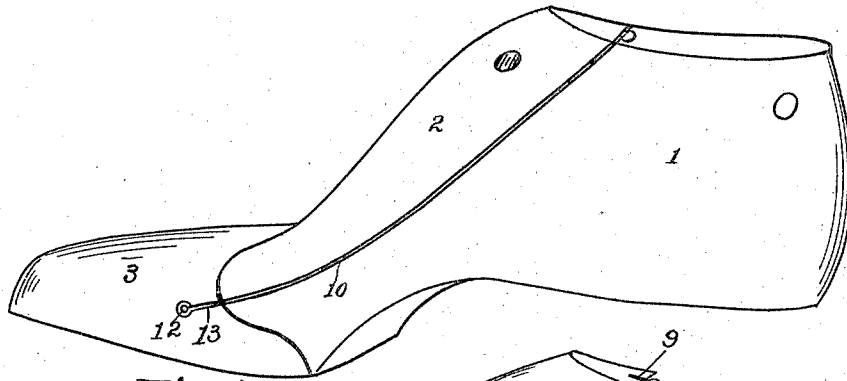


Fig. 1.

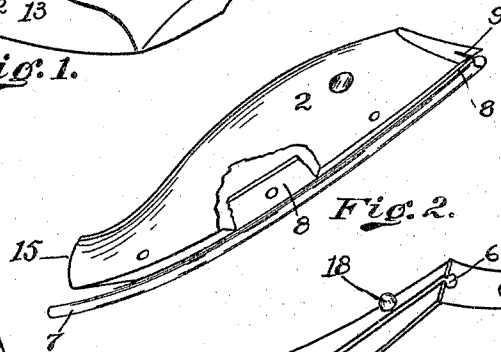


Fig. 2.

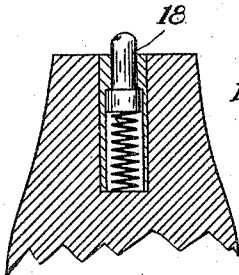


Fig. 6.

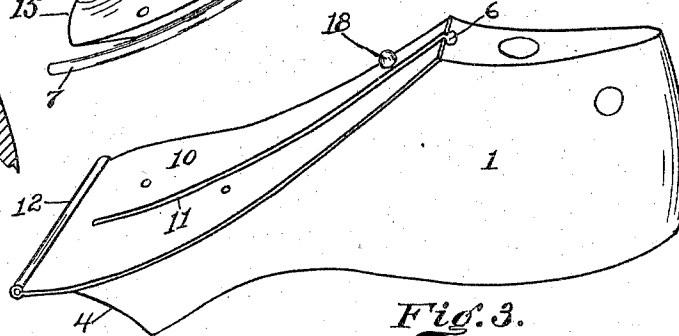


Fig. 3.

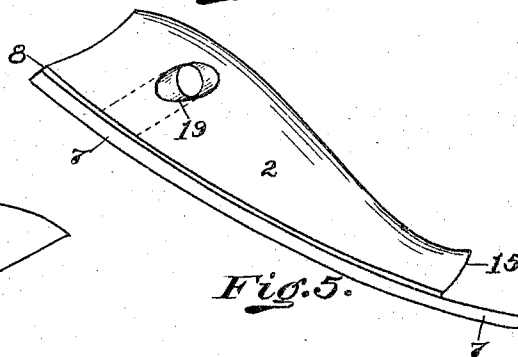


Fig. 5.

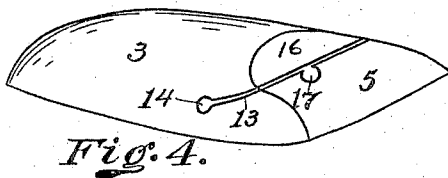


Fig. 4.

Witnesses.

W. W. Symmes,
Mary Richardstein

Inventor
Stephen T. Hennessey,
By George B. Christman,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

STEPHEN T. HENNESSY, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

LAST.

948,093.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 1, 1910.

Application filed September 7, 1909. Serial No. 516,600.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN T. HENNESSY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lasts, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to separable lasts, and its objects are to provide a separable last having a readily detachable toe block; to provide such a last which shall be rigid when in use but which may be readily rendered yielding for the purpose of removal from the shoe; to provide a last which yields where the human foot yields, and to provide a last which shall combine the advantages of a solid last and a collapsible last.

My invention consists in the parts and combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a last embodying my invention. Fig. 2 a perspective view of the instep block, a part being cut away to show the interior construction; Fig. 3 a perspective view of the heel-and-arch block; Fig. 4 a perspective view of the toe block; Fig. 5 a side elevation of the instep block showing the side opposite that shown in Fig. 2; and Fig. 6 a detail.

The reference numeral 1 designates the heel-and-arch block 2 the instep block and 3 the toe block. The heel-and-arch block terminates in a face 4, preferably curved and adapted to register with a corresponding face 5 on the rear of the toe block, the lower line of junction being approximately where the arch, or shank, ends and the broad sole begins. The instep face of the heel-and-arch block is provided with a longitudinal slot 6, adapted to receive a guide and fastening rod 7 connected with the instep block by a thin plate or fin 8, secured in a longitudinal slit 9. To the instep face is secured a plate 10, preferably of sheet metal, provided with a narrow longitudinal slot 11 registering with slot 6 and adapted to receive the fin 8 of the guide rod 7. The plate 10 extends beyond the front end of the heel-and-arch block and, at its free end, is rolled to provide an abutment 12. The toe plate is provided with a slot 13 adapted to receive the free end of plate 10, the slot terminating in a bore, or enlargement, 14 adapted to receive the abutment 12. The end face 15 of the instep block is cut to correspond with the upper rear face 16 of

the toe block. Guide rod 7 extends beyond the front face of the instep block, and is adapted to take into a socket 17 in the toe block. A spring pin 18, mounted on the heel-and-arch block, and adapted to take into an aperture 19 in the instep block, serves to lock the instep block in position.

In assembling the last, the toe piece is slipped over its free end of plate 10 until the two blocks are in proper alinement. This will bring socket 17 into alinement with guide slot 6, and the abutment 12, engaging with the walls of the bore 14, will lock the blocks against longitudinal movement relatively to each other, the joint, however, being somewhat flexible. The instep block is then positioned by inserting the guide rod in slot 6 and sliding the block into engagement with the toe block. The free end of the guide rod takes into the socket 17, and locks the toe block in alinement with the heel-and-arch block and the instep block. As the instep block reaches its position of use the spring pin 18 takes into aperture 19 and the three blocks are firmly locked together. By forcing the spring pin out of engagement, the instep block may be withdrawn, the connection between the heel-and-arch block becomes flexible, and the last may be withdrawn from the shoe without difficulty.

Making the joint between the heel-and-arch block and the toe block where the main joint in the foot comes places it where it is most effective for withdrawal purposes.

By making the main, or body portion of the last to include both heel and arch it is possible to use a large number of toe blocks of different form with a single heel-and-arch block of a given size and height of heel, and the same toe blocks may be used with all lasts of the same size, without regard to the height of heel, thus avoiding the necessity of keeping individual lasts for each style of toe and a series of such lasts for each height of heel.

By making the metal plate on the instep face of the same thickness as the kerf made in separating the heel-and-arch block from the instep block, the necessity of allowing for the kerf in turning the last is avoided, and a last is produced which has no unfilled joints which might injure the shoe.

I claim as my invention:

1. A last comprising a heel-and-arch block; a toe block adapted to be detachably

and flexibly connected therewith; an instep block; and means for locking the toe block into rigid engagement with the heel-and-arch block.

5 2. A last comprising a heel-and-arch block; a toe block adapted to be detachably and flexibly connected therewith, and an instep block adapted to lock the toe block into rigid engagement with the heel-and-arch block.

10 3. A last comprising a heel-and-arch block; a toe block adapted to be detachably connected therewith; an instep block; guard elements in the heel-and-arch block and the toe block; and a guide rod carried by the instep block, adapted to take into the guard elements and lock them in engagement.

15 4. A last comprising a heel-and-arch block; a toe block adapted to be detachably and flexibly connected therewith; an instep block; guard elements in the heel-and-arch block and the toe block; and a guide rod carried by the instep block, adapted to take into the guide elements in the heel-and-arch block and the toe block and lock them in engagement.

20 5. The combination in a last of a heel-and-arch block having a longitudinal slot in its instep face; a plate secured to the instep face having a slot registering with the slot in the block, the plate extending beyond the front face of the block, and provided with an abutment at its free end; a toe block having a slot adapted to receive the free end of the plate and hold it against longitudinal movement; an instep block; and a guide rod carried thereby and adapted to take into the slot in the instep face of the heel-and-arch block and lock the several blocks against lateral displacement.

25 6. The combination in a last of a heel-and-arch block having a longitudinal slot in its instep face; a plate secured to the instep face having a slot registering with the slot in the block, the plate extending beyond the front face of the block, and provided with an abutment at its free end; a toe block having a slot adapted to receive the free end of the plate and hold it against longitudinal movement; an instep block; a guide rod carried thereby adapted to take into the slot in the instep face of the heel-and-arch block

and lock the several blocks against lateral displacement; and means for locking the instep block in position.

55 7. The combination in a last of a heel-and-arch block having a longitudinal slot in its instep face; a flexible plate secured to the instep face having a slot registering with the slot in the block, the plate extending beyond the front face of the block and provided with an abutment at its free end; a toe block having a slot adapted to receive the free end of the plate and hold it against longitudinal movement; an instep block; and a guide rod carried thereby adapted to take into the slot in the instep face of the heel-and-arch block and lock the several blocks against lateral displacement.

60 8. The combination in a last of a heel-and-arch block having a longitudinal slot in its instep face; a plate secured to the instep face having a slot registering with the slot in the block, the plate extending beyond the front face of the block, and provided with an abutment at its free end; an instep block; a guide rod carried thereby extending beyond the front face of the block and adapted to take through the guide slot in the heel-and-arch block; and a toe block having a slot adapted to receive the free end of the plate and its abutment and a socket adapted to receive the free end of the guide rod.

75 9. The combination in a last of a heel-and-arch block having a longitudinal slot in its instep face; a plate secured to the instep face having a slot registering with the slot in the block, the plate extending beyond the front face of the block, and provided with an abutment at its free end; an instep block; a guide rod carried thereby, extending beyond the front face of the block and adapted to take through the guide slot in the heel-and-arch block; a toe block having a slot adapted to receive the free end of the plate and its abutment and a socket adapted to receive the free end of the guide rod; and means for locking the instep block in position.

STEPHEN T. HENNESSY.

Witnesses:

W. W. SYMMES,

MARY GERHARDSTEIN.