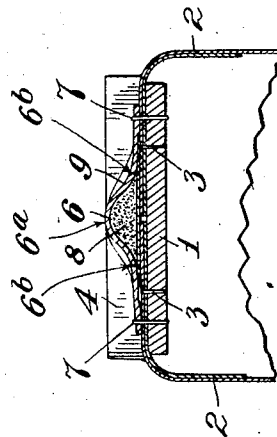
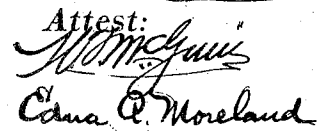


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Inventor:
by *George L. Pierce*
Eschen & Atty

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. PIERCE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

SHOE.

1,025,423.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. PIERCE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to an improved shoe-construction, and particularly to athletic shoes where flexibility and lightness are wanted at the shank of the shoe intermediate a toe- or tap- sole and a heel.

My improvement attains these features with increased simplicity and lessened manufacturing cost.

In the drawings which show one embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view of such a shoe, with a portion of the upper cut away to show internal structure; Fig. 2 is a cross section partly in elevation through the shank portion of the shoe on the line 2—2 in Fig. 1, looking in the direction of the arrow.

I will now describe the devices of the drawings, reserving it to the claims to point out the novel features constituting my invention and to define the scope thereof, it being understood that the claims will be given due range of equivalents.

In the drawings, 1 is the inner sole of the shoe, 2 is the upper or vamp which after being "lasted" may have its lower portions secured against the under side of the inner sole by tacks 3 or otherwise.

4 is a heel and 5 is a tap-sole respectively on the heel and toe of the shoe. These, of course, may be of sole leather or rubber or other preferred material for the purpose.

6 is a pad on the shank of the shoe intermediate the heel and tap-sole which protects the arch of the foot from being hurt without losing the desideratum of flexibility in the shank of the shoe. Further, the pad may be made to give support to the arch of the foot by giving the pad sufficient thickness to bear on the ground or floor coincidentally with the tap-sole alone or with both the tap-sole and heel. In short, the thickness of the pad may be adjusted to approach to a greater or less degree the tread-line of the shoe. The particular pad shown consists of felt or equivalent material 8 under a thin or pliant piece

of leather 9 serving as a covering strip to conceal and retain the felt. The ends of the covering strip 9 preferably extend more or less under the heel and tap-sole and indeed may underlie them to their entire extent. The pad is preferably thickest as shown in a longitudinal median line or zone 6^a and rounds or inclines up to this elevation from the sides and ends of the pad. Stitches 6^b through the covering strip and the felt serve to hold the felt in place.

7 designates stitching extending marginally around the bottom of the shoe through the heel, upper, and inner sole (and the covering strip 9 if it extend that far) at the heel of the shoe, through the side-edges of the pad 6, the upper, and the inner sole at the shank of the shoe, and through the tap-sole, upper, and inner sole (and the covering strip if it extend that far) at the toe portion of the shoe.

7^a designates transverse stitching at the heel and 7^b at the toe portion of the shoe.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is:

1. In combination, a flexible inner sole; an upper lasted to the inner sole; a heel secured to the heel portion of the shoe thereby formed; a tap-sole secured to the toe portion of said shoe; and a light weight flexible pad under the shank of the shoe comprising a pliant covering secured under said shank, with its ends extending under the heel and tap-sole, and further comprising a quantity of soft stuffing material between said covering and the shank of the shoe.

2. In combination, a flexible inner sole; an upper lasted to the inner sole; a heel secured to the heel portion of the shoe thereby formed; a tap-sole secured to the toe portion of said shoe; and a light weight flexible pad under the shank of the shoe comprising a pliant covering secured under said shank, with its ends extending under the heel and tap-sole, and further comprising a quantity of soft stuffing material between said covering and the shank of the shoe, said pad rounding from its sides to a longitudinal median zone which is the thickest portion of the pad and which approaches the tread-line of the shoe.

3. In combination, a flexible inner sole;

an upper lasted to the inner sole; a heel secured to the heel portion of the shoe thereby formed; a tap-sole secured to the toe portion of said shoe; and a light weight flexible pad under the shank of said shoe between its tap-sole and heel, said pad consisting of soft stuffing material under a flexible covering.

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

GEORGE L. PIERCE.

Witnesses:

E. W. SCHERR, Jr.,
ALAN C. McDONNELL.