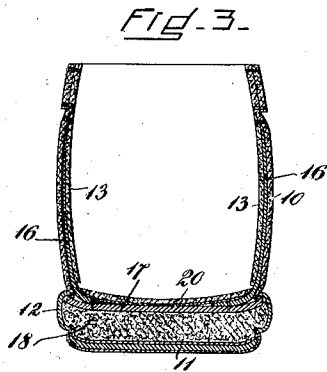
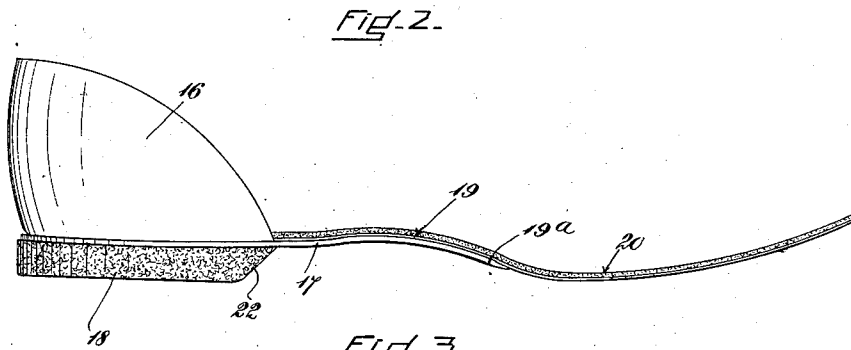
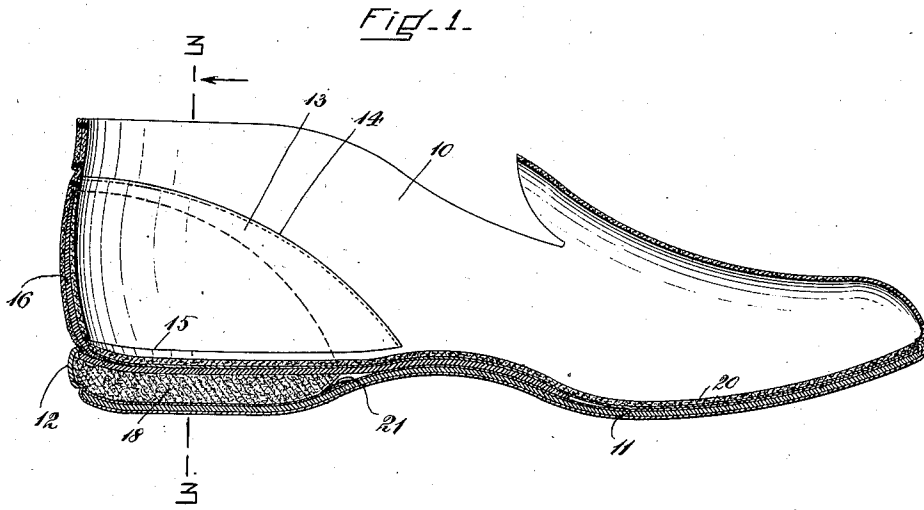


G. BASLER.  
SHOE.  
APPLICATION FILED JAN. 11, 1917.

1,283,456.

Patented Nov. 5, 1918.



INVENTOR=  
GEORGE BASLER  
By *Clyde L. Rogers*  
HIS ATTORNEY=

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE BASLER, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS.

SHOE.

1,283,456.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 5, 1918.

Application filed January 11, 1917. Serial No. 141,804.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE BASLER, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Worcester, county of Worcester, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Shoes, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like characters on the drawings representing like parts in each of the several views.

This invention relates to shoes and more particularly to house slippers being particularly though not exclusively designed for ladies' house slippers as commonly made of felt cloth in more or less ornamented styles and with a soft and flexible make-up throughout including the soles. As heretofore commonly made, house slippers of this character have had this yielding flexible characteristic throughout, including the heel portion of the shoe which has thus not been of a character to afford any particular heel base to the foot or to keep the slipper properly fitted on the foot of the wearer. Such slippers as heretofore made entirely without counters or any reinforcing shank pieces have also tended to become distorted and out of shape after a little period of use so as to become unsightly as well as uncomfortable to wear. A prime object of the invention therefore is to provide a slipper of this character that while preserving the flexible and pliable character of the same so far as desirable or advantageous is equipped with a counter, and also preferably with a shank piece to reinforce and hold in shape the heel portion of the shoe and afford a reliable heel base in use so that the shoe will remain properly fitted on the foot and retain its shape throughout its period of service. In accordance with my invention I provide a removable counter, preferably having fixed therewith a shank piece and a heel seat cushion, that may be easily and readily placed in the slipper or removed therefrom at will for ventilating or other purposes, this counter and shank piece when placed in the shoe being held therein just as reliably and securely as though it were permanently fixed as a part of the slipper. A further object is to provide a removable counter and shank piece of this character that may be equipped with an insole and cushion element if desired removable with the counter for drying out and ventilating the same as desired. The foregoing and other objects and advantages of

the invention will more fully appear from the following detailed description, and the distinctive features of novelty will be pointed out in the appended claims.

Referring to the drawings:

Figure 1 is a lengthwise vertical section through a slipper embodying my improved features;

Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the removable counter, heel cushion and shank piece removed; and

Fig. 3 is a transverse section on the line 3-3 of Fig. 1.

The upper 10 of the slipper may be made of any suitable material such as felt cloth with a sole 11 of soft flexible leather or other material secured thereto, and as shown at the heel portion with a stitched-in intermediate portion 12 of material which may be the same as the upper, between the heel and the upper proper, to give the appearance of a heel lift and space the upper proper from the heel. According to my invention a flap piece 13 having the general form of the sides of a counter, of soft flexible material which may be the same as the material of the upper, *e. g.*, soft felt cloth is stitched along its upper edge as seen at 14 to extend around the heel portion of the upper with its free edge 15 extending down adjacent the base of the heel. I provide a counter 16 of suitable material such as leatherboard or other usual or suitable relatively stiff durable material and secure to the base thereof a shank piece 17 of similar suitable reinforcing material such as leatherboard or fiberboard or leather and secure the counter 16 and the shank piece 17 together and to a heel pad cushion 18 by any suitable means such as rivets, stitching, or adhesive, this heel pad being made of suitable material such as soft wool felt or the like. I may also add to the assembled unit thus provided an insole member 19 secured thereto by stitching 19<sup>a</sup> or otherwise, which may be equipped with a pad 20 of soft wool or the like. The sole 11 is preferably shaped so as to provide a small break or shoulder 21 on the inside of the sole at a point adapted to permit the front 22 of the heel cushion pad 18 to fit thereagainst as the counter and heel pad are slipped into place, thus better insuring the accurate and ready seating of the same. In use the lower edge 15 of the flexible flap 13 is lifted up and the assembled unit consisting of the counter 16, shank piece 17, and heel pad 18 along

with the insole 19 are slipped into the shoe, and the flap 13 then pulled down smooth inside the counter 16 thus holding it securely against casual displacement as seen in Fig. 1, while permitting easy and convenient removal of the same when desired for drying out or ventilating the counter and insole or for other purposes when desired. It is to be noted that the described construction while not lessening the flexibility of the slipper in the portions thereof where flexibility is desired, at the same time provides an adequate arch support and is adapted to fit flat with the foot, whereas previous types of flexible slippers lacking such counter and shank piece have tended to rock or work sidewise on the foot. Since the counter and shank piece are thus readily removable, and even when removed the additional flap 13 makes an extra support for the heel portion of the upper, it will be understood that the slipper may when desired be worn without the counter and shank piece unit described. I desire the present embodiment particularly as to the materials mentioned, and as to details of construction to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive, reference being had to the appended claims rather than to the foregoing description to indicate the scope of the invention.

Having described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A shoe, comprising an upper and an outer sole secured thereto, and a counter removably fitted therein, the heel portion of said upper equipped with means for holding said counter removably in place consisting in a flexible flap piece of the same general form as the sides of the counter and secured to the upper along substantially the entire extent of its top and front edges but with its bottom edge left free to permit lifting up of the same for insertion of the counter.
2. A shoe, comprising an upper and an outer sole secured thereto, and a counter having a shank piece secured thereto removably fitted therein, the heel portion of said upper equipped with means for holding

in a flexible flap piece of the same general form as the sides of the counter and secured to the upper along substantially the entire extent of its top and front edges but with its bottom edge left free to permit lifting up of the same for insertion of the counter.

3. A shoe, comprising an upper and an outer sole secured thereto, and an assembled unit consisting in a counter, a shank piece, and a cushion pad secured together and removably fitted therein, the heel portion of said upper equipped with means for holding said counter and unit removably in place.

4. A shoe, comprising an upper, a flexible sole secured thereto, and a counter removably fitted therein, the heel portion of said upper having a flap secured along substantially its entire top and side edges to an upper portion of the upper, and having its lower edge free, to permit turning up for inserting the counter, said flap being in position to hold removably said counter in place in the heel portion of the shoe.

5. A shoe, comprising an upper, a relatively flexible sole secured thereto, and an assembled unit consisting in a counter, a shank piece, and an insole secured together to be fitted into the shoe, the heel portion of said upper having a flap secured thereto along substantially its entire top and side edges and extending down within said counter to hold the same and said unit securely in place with a capability of easy manual removal.

6. A shoe, comprising an upper with an outer sole secured thereto, and an assembled unit consisting in a counter, a heel pad and a shank piece secured together and removably fitted therein, the heel portion of said upper equipped with a flap of the same general outline as the sides of the counter and secured to the upper along its upper edge whereby said flap may be turned up to permit insertion and removal of said assembled unit.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification.

said counter removably in place, consisting  
**GEORGE BASLER.**