

W. H. WEASER.
GAITER.
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1,061,510.

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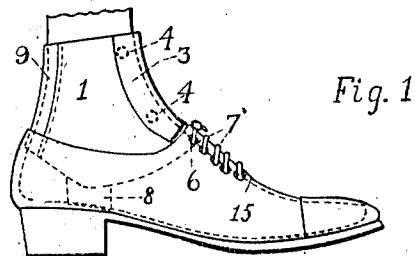


Fig. 1

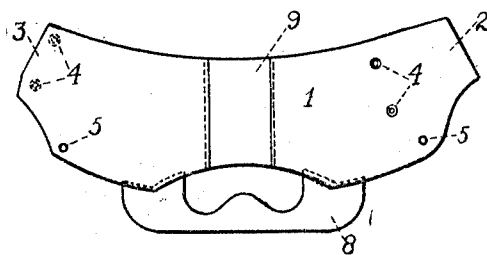


Fig. 2

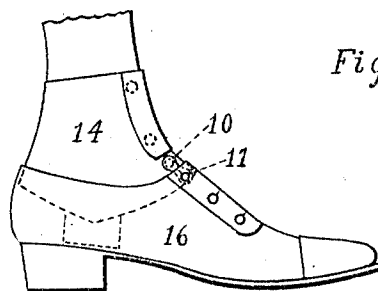


Fig. 3

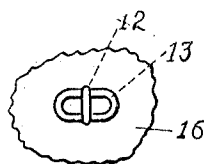


Fig. 4

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. WEASER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Pittsfield, in the county of Berkshire and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gaiters, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention relates to footwear, and more particularly to gaiters worn as a shield and protective covering about the lower portion of the leg and the ankle. Articles of this character have been heretofore constructed, when employed in conjunction with low shoes, to overlap the top edges of the shoe, the lower margins of the gaiter being normally extended down over the outer surface of the shoe. This arrangement offers an obstacle to rubbers or galoshes worn at the same time over the shoe, the edges of the gaiter ordinarily interfering with the ready adjustment of the rubbers, whose edges overlap those of the gaiter and are thereby unduly stretched and torn. Gaiters thus constructed and arranged may be termed, in contradistinction to my present construction,—outside-gaiters, and are also objectionable for deficiency in neatness and conformability to variations in the sizes of ankles.

The foregoing objections are met in my present device, wherein I provide an inside-gaiter, which is in the nature of a supplementary or removable shoe-upper and extends down inside the shoe, closely conforming to the contour of the foot and ankle and giving the appearance of a high shoe.

My device is especially advantageous when worn in conjunction with low shoes in the winter season, affording the necessary protective covering for warmth and the exclusion of dust while avoiding the discomforts of high shoes by its flexibility and ready admission of air. I further provide, in connection with my device, novel retaining means whereby it is held in normal position and prevented from working up on the leg or around the ankle.

Having referred to the general character and purposes of my invention, I will proceed to describe a specific useful form of embodiment thereof, together with certain modifications of the same, wherein,

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the foot and ankle having my device operatively applied thereon, in conjunction with a low shoe of the lace

type: Fig. 2, a developed outside view of my device; Fig. 3, a view similar to Fig. 1 and showing a modification of my device as applied to a low button shoe; and Fig. 4, a detail view showing the means for removably attaching my device to the button shoe on the inner side of the foot.

The body-portion of my device is shown as comprising a flexible strip 1 of any suitable material, such as cloth and woven fabric, or leather, somewhat curved in outline and disposed around the lower portion of the leg, including preferably the ankle, and having its ends 2, 3, secured together in front (see Fig. 1) by any suitable means, such as the ball and socket fasteners 4, 4, which are preferably arranged so as to be invisible from without. The ends 2, 3, thus secured, are constructed to overlap, thereby preventing the admission of dust and other foreign substances.

When my device is used in conjunction with lace shoes 13, I provide in the lower corners at opposite ends of the body-portion 1 separate eyes 5, 5, which are arranged to be coincident with the top eyes 6 of the shoe on corresponding sides of the foot, whereby the lace 7 may be passed through the eyes 5, 5, thus securing the device in a fixed position over the instep and preventing it from working around the ankle.

The principal novel feature of my invention consists in the extension of the lower margins of the strip 1 well down inside the shoe, instead of overlapping the top edges of the shoe. This construction enables the wearer to secure a close fitting device which does not interfere with the putting on and taking off of rubbers or overshoes and conforms to the outlines of the parts engaged, giving the appearance and possessing the advantages of a high shoe, with none of the disadvantages of the latter in sweating and binding in summer and affording sufficient warmth with greater flexibility and comfort in winter. As further means for retaining the device in its normal position and to prevent the lower margins of the body-portion from working up above the top of the shoe, I have shown a stirrup or sole-strap 8, preferably of soft woven fabric, arranged transversely under the foot and having its ends extended upward on each side of the foot and connected to the lower margins of the body-portion 1, which is shown as cut somewhat lower at these points.

To insure a close fitting article to conform to variations in size and contour of ankles of substantially the same circumferential dimensions, I preferably insert centrally in the body-portion 1 a yoke 9 of cloth covered rubber or other resilient material uniting the ends 2, 3.

In case my device is adapted to low button shoes, I provide, as a suitable means of attachment to prevent displacement of the gaiter 14 and as a substitute for the eyes 5, 5, employed in the form for laced shoes, a tab 10, which is suitably secured to the body of the gaiter adjacent the top button 11 of the shoe and provided at its free end with a suitable opening to receive said button, said free end being preferably interposed under the shoe lap, while on the opposite or inner side of the gaiter I preferably provide a bar-hook 12, adapted to intercept an elongated eye 13, to be provided in the shoe, and disposed transversely thereof after insertion.

It will be understood that I do not limit myself to the particular forms of attaching means herein shown for either the lace or button types of shoe, the object thereof being to prevent the device from working out of its normal position.

I claim:

1. A separate gaiter to be worn in conjunction with low shoes, comprising an ankle-portion, a sole-strap attached thereto and arranged to be worn under the foot

within the shoe, means attached to the front of said ankle-portion adapted to cooperate with means on the shoe to fasten said ankle-portion to the inner side of the shoe, and means to close said ankle-portion.

2. A separate gaiter to be worn in conjunction with low shoes, comprising a closable ankle-portion provided with depending margins constructed to extend within the top of the shoe, eyes on the front of said depending margins adapted to cooperate with the shoe lace for attaching said margins to the inner side of the shoe, and means for closing said ankle-portions above the top of the shoe.

3. A separate gaiter to be worn in conjunction with low shoes, comprising a closable ankle-portion provided with depending side margins arranged to be worn inside of a shoe, a sole-strap attached to said depending margins arranged to be worn under the foot and within the shoe, means on the front of said depending margins adapted to cooperate with means on the shoe for attaching said margins to the inner side of the shoe, and means for closing said ankle-portion at a point above the top of the shoe.

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

WILLIAM H. WEASER.

Witnesses:

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CHARLES M. WILCOX.