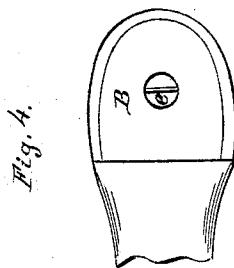
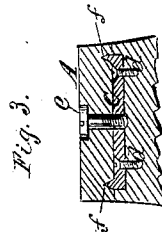
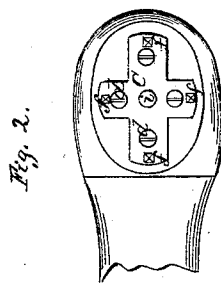
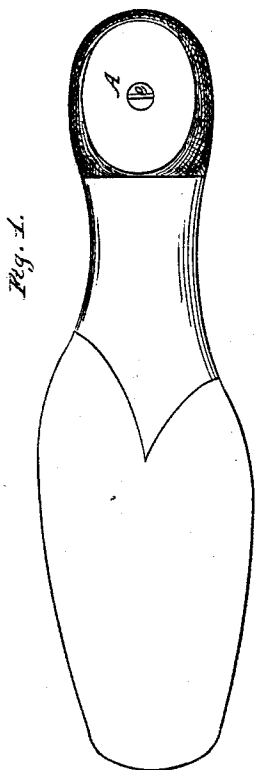


L. & A. A. Hoffman,

Heel Plate.

No. 65,487.

Patented June 4, 1867.



Witnesses:

J. P. Drake.
Jay Hyatt.

Levi Hoffman
Aug. A. Hoffman
by J. M. M. Co., atty.

United States Patent Office.

LOUIS HOFFMAN AND AUGUSTUS A. HOFFMAN, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 65,487, dated June 4, 1867.

IMPROVED BOOT-HEEL

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

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, LOUIS HOFFMAN and AUGUSTUS A. HOFFMAN, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful improvement in Reversible Heels for Boots and Shoes; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the bottom of a shoe provided with our improvement.

Figure 2 is a fragmentary view of the same, with the reversible part removed, showing a plan of the connecting plate.

Figure 3 is a plan of a heel of ordinary form, which is designed to be changed from one shoe to the other. Like letters designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Our invention consists in the special combination and arrangement, hereinafter described, by which the outer portion of the heel of boots and shoes is rendered capable of being easily reversed, as the rear portion becomes worn, or be transferred to the heel of the other shoe, when the wear is on one side, or be both reversed and changed to the other foot at the same time, as the peculiarity of the individual may require.

As represented in the drawings, A and B are the outer and detachable portions of the two styles of heels, A being of elliptical form, while B is of the ordinary shape. This detachable portion may be made of leather, rubber, or of both combined, as may be desired, and consists of two or more thicknesses of leather, fastened together in any suitable way. C is a plate of metal of the form of a cross, countersunk flush with the face of the rigid portion of the heel, and secured thereto by means of screws *d d*. At the centre is provided a threaded hole, *i*, in which the end of a screw, *e*, passing through the auxiliary part A or B, engages, which thereby firmly fastens the latter thereto. This plate is also provided with points or spurs *f f*, which extend into the detachable portion of heel, and thus prevent it turning or becoming laterally displaced. The spurs which are opposite being formed at an equal distance from the hole at the centre, enables the outer portion A to be reversed as it becomes worn, the spurs fitting in the holes of the cap-piece equally well in either position. These plates C, being cast, and of the same size, enables the outer portion A B to be changed from one heel to the other, or the former to be reversed at pleasure, by merely disengaging the screw *e* from the connecting plate. This plate being of the form shown, enables the points *f* to be arranged at such a distance from each other as to hold the cap-piece to the best advantage, while the broad bearing surface which the plate presents enables the cap to be clamped thereto by means of the screw *e*, in a most secure and reliable manner. The plate C is cheaply made, being readily cast, preferably of malleable iron, and allows such a transposition of the outer portion of the heel from time to time as the different peculiarities of wear may require, and causes the heel to wear evenly, and maintain the counter and boot in proper shape. By this means one pair of heels only will be required till the boots are worn out; besides, it saves the time and inconvenience of repairing them, which, as ordinarily constructed, is required by many persons every few weeks.

We do not claim broadly a reversible heel, but what we claim as our invention, is—

The connecting plate C, constructed and applied as described, and provided with the spurs *f f*, in combination with the screw *e* and reversible or removable outer portion A of a heel, arranged and operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

In witness whereof we have hereunto signed our names in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

LOUIS HOFFMAN,
AUG. A. HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:

JAY HYATT,
ALBERT HAIGHT.