To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DIGBY ESMOND COOK, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at Sydney, in the State of New South Wales, Commonwealth of Australia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ventilation Devices for Boots and other Footwear, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in ventilation devices for boots and other footwear, my object being to provide a device which will permit the ingress or egress of air but prevent the passage therethrough of water or dust.

The invention consists essentially in the employment across the ventilation opening of fine wire gauze the inner and outer surfaces of which are protected by flanges, projections, perforated or skeleton covers or caps or the like, whereby other materials such as portions of the clothing are prevented from being brought into direct contact with the gauze.

A device of this character will permit the free passage of air into the footwear. Preferably however I provide two or more parallel pieces of fine wire gauze maintained relatively to each other permanently by distance pieces or otherwise rigidly held apart. For example, I find a very useful ventilation device is formed by fixing two fine wire gauze disks in a short light metal tube or cylindrical member a short distance from each end and keeping them apart say 1/8th to 2/8th of an inch by a distance ring. A hole is made in the leather or other material and the tubular shaped device inserted and retained in position, preferably by a locking member.

The ventilation opening may be of any desired shape and size provided means are taken to prevent contact of other material with the surfaces of the gauze or the outer surfaces when parallel pieces are used.

I will now refer to the sheet of drawings herewith in which is illustrated the preferred form of device applied to a boot.

Figure 1 is a partial perspective view illustrating the device secured in position. Fig. 2 is an enlarged perspective view, and, Fig. 3 a similar view with locking member separated. Fig. 4 is a cross section.

The same reference numerals indicate the same or like parts.

5 is a boot through an opening in which, preferably at the instep, is passed the member 6 which is secured in position by the locking member 7. The member 6 consists of two gauze disks 8 maintained apart by 60 means of the ring 9 and has the flange 14. These disks are held in a groove or recess 10 in the member 6 which is threaded at 11. The locking member 7 is also threaded at 12 and takes over the threaded portion 11 and holds the ventilating device securely in position.

13 are holes in which are inserted the prongs of a tightening tool.

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

1. A ventilation device for boots and other footwear consisting of an annular locking member having a securing flange and a screw-threaded opening, an annular ventilator member provided with an annular seat therein and a screw-threaded portion to engage the screw-threaded opening of the locking member, wire gauze ventilators secured in said annular seat of the ventilator member, and means for holding the wire gauze ventilators in spaced parallel planes.

2. A ventilation device for boots and other footwear consisting of an annular locking member having a securing flange, an annular ventilator carrying member separately connected to the locking member, and wire gauze ventilators secured in the said carrying member and disposed in parallel spaced planes.

3. A ventilation device for boots and other footwear consisting of an annular locking member, an annular ventilator carrying member separately connected to the locking member, wire gauze disks disposed in the ventilator carrying member, and a ring between said disks for holding the latter in spaced relation.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DIGBY ESMOND COOK.

Witnesses:

CHARLES E. GRAHAM,
HENRY K. CLARKE.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C."