(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

G. E. SWAN.

SPRING HEEL FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

No. 323,971. Patented Aug. 11, 1885.

Fig. 1.

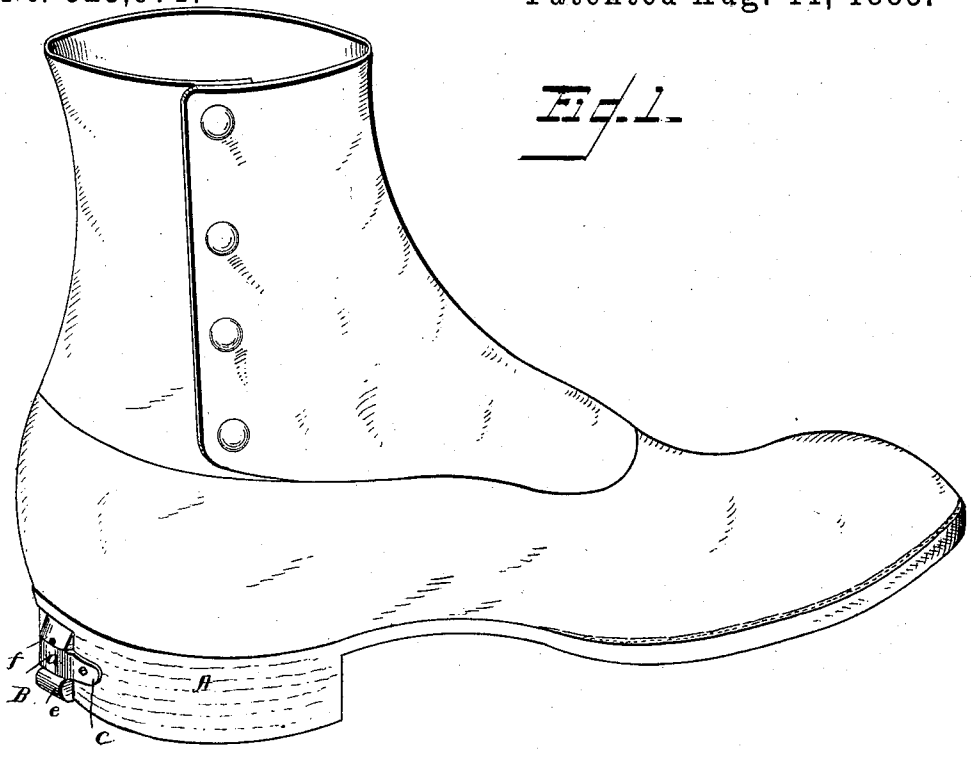
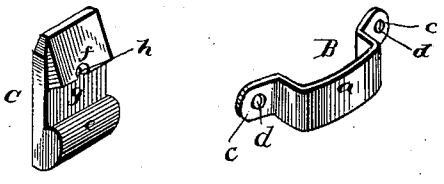


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES
F. L. Ourand
F. B. Noyes

George E. Swan,
INVENTOR
by J. R. Littell,
Attorney.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

(No Model.) 2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

G. E. SWAN.

SPRING HEEL FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

No. 323,971. Patented Aug. 11, 1885.

Fig. 2.

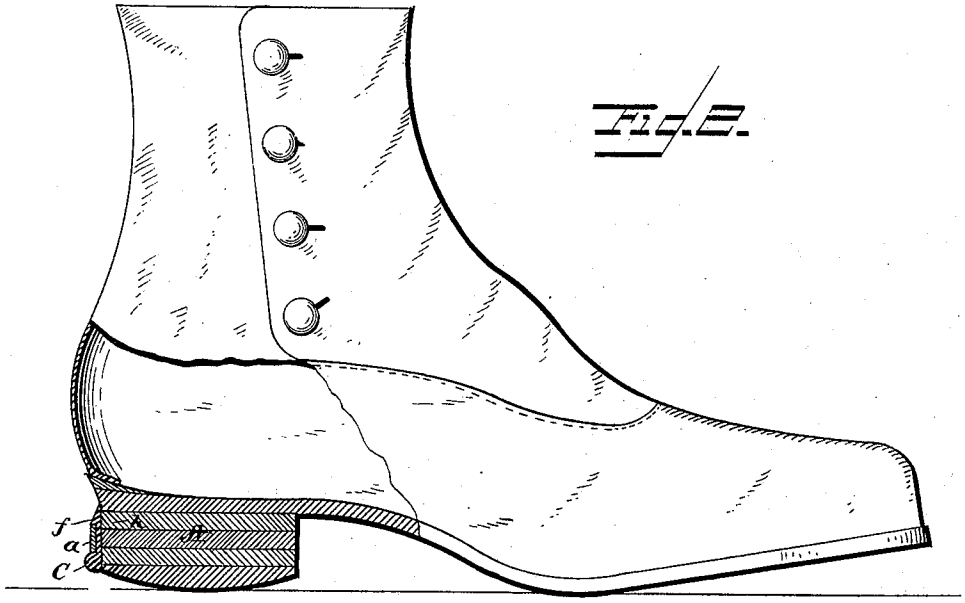
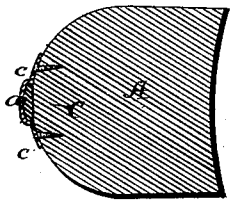


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES
F. L. Ourand
F. B. Noyes

George E. Swan,
INVENTOR
by
J. R. Sutton
Attorney.

N. PETERS, Photo-Lithographer, Washington, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE E. SWAN, OF BEAVER DAM, WISCONSIN.

SPRING-HEEL FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 323,971, dated August 11, 1885.

Application filed December 22, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. SWAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Beaver Dam, in the county of Dodge and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring-Heels for Boots or Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to a device adapted to be applied to the heels of boots or shoes to impart an easy elastic step to the user; and it has for its object to provide a device of this character which shall be cheap and simple in its construction, effective in its operation, and one that will be thoroughly effective and serviceable.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the combination, with a boot or shoe, of an elastic cushion adapted to be clamped against the vertical surface of the heel, and having its lower end on a horizontal plane, or nearly, with the bottom of the heel.

The invention further consists in the improved construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improvement applied to the heel of a boot or shoe. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical section. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section. Fig. 4 is a detail view of parts detached.

In the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, A represents the heel of a boot or shoe, upon the rear face or wall of which is secured my improved attachment. This attachment consists of a bracket, which may be cast or formed of malleable metal. The said bracket B consists of a main or body portion, *a*, formed at its ends with downwardly-extending shoulders, from the lower ends of which extend at right angles thereto, or nearly so, ears or lugs, *c*, having holes or openings *d* at their ends, for the passage of screws or equivalent fastenings for the attachment of the said bracket. It will thus be seen that a seat is formed between the under side of the main or body portion and the lower ends of the shoulders.

C represents an elastic cushion. This cushion is preferably constructed of rubber, and is formed at its lower end, upon its upper side with a rib, *e*, which serves to re-enforce the plate or cushion, said rib forming the wearing-surface. Near the upper end of the cushion C is provided an outwardly-extending shoulder, *f*, which, in conjunction with the rib on the lower end of the cushion, forms a seat, *g*, for the reception of the under side or face of the main or body portion of the bracket B, which holds said cushion against vertical or lateral displacement. Said cushion is also provided with a hole or opening, *h*, near its upper end, and with a plain rear side or face, which is adapted to receive a string by which the rubber may be pulled into position.

My improved heel cushion or spring is applied as follows: The cushion is placed on the rear wall of the heel and adjusted in position, which brings its lower end on a horizontal plane, or nearly so, with the contact or wearing surface of the heel. The bracket is then fitted over the cushion and is secured by the bracket, which is firmly screwed to the heel, said bracket preventing the vertical or lateral displacement of said cushion, as before described.

My improvement is simple in its construction, may be manufactured and supplied at a slight cost, and is thoroughly serviceable.

I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The herein described cushion attachment for boots or shoes, consisting of an elastic cushion having the re-enforcing rib and a bracket for its attachment, substantially as set forth.

2. The herein-described cushion attachment for boots or shoes, consisting of an elastic cushion having the seat upon its outer face and a bracket for its attachment, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the heel of a boot or shoe, of an elastic cushion having a re-enforcing rib at its lower end, and a shoulder having an opening near its upper end, said rib and shoulder forming a seat for a bracket adapted to fit said seat, substantially as set forth.

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

GEORGE E. SWAN.

Witnesses:
EDWARD ELWELL,
R. V. BOGERT.