To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLAUDE D. SCOTT, a citizen of the United States, resident of Kinston, in the county of Lenoir and State of North Carolina, have made a certain new and useful invention in Boots and Shoes; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a side view of the invention, as applied. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a central vertical longitudinal section of the same, partly broken away. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the pneumatic cushion. Fig. 5 is a detail perspective view of the supplemental sole. Fig. 6 is a rear view of the invention, as applied, with parts broken away. Fig. 7 is a detail cross section on the line 7-7, Fig. 1, with parts broken away. Fig. 8 is a detail perspective view of the heel block.

The invention has relation to boots and shoes, having for its object to provide an improved pneumatic cushion in connection therewith, designed for the use mainly of artisans or those who have to stand during a large portion of the day.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combinations of parts, as hereinafter set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, illustrating the invention, the numeral 1 designates an ordinary shoe, having the usual insole 2 and outer sole 3, a lower supplemental sole 4 forming the wearing sole and designed to rest upon the ground, a flexible connection 5, preferably of leather, being provided between the soles 3 and 4, and a removable inner pneumatic cushion 6, preferably of soft rubber, being provided within the flexible connection between the soles 3 and 4. This flexible connection is preferably formed of a single piece of leather inturned at its upper and lower edge portions 7 and 8 and stitched to the sole 3, preferably by the same stitches 9 that secure the soles 2 and 3 together, and stitched to the sole 4 at 10. It has its ends preferably brought together at the rear of the shoe, where they are stitched or laced at 11 after the pneumatic cushion has been inserted in place. The supplemental sole 4 is also formed preferably of a single piece of leather, having a right angle bend 12 forming the breast of the heel, and a second right angle bend 13 forming the bottom of the heel, the bend 12 being preferably arcuate transversely to increase its strength and having a recess 14 within the arc wherein is located a block 14, preferably of metal, such as iron, this block being secured to the heel preferably by screws 15 or the like and having an upper surface 16 in engagement with the lower surface of the sole 4 at and serving to brace the instep portion thereof.

The block 14 is provided with an aperture 17 with which a tubular nipple 18 of the pneumatic cushion has engagement, the cushion being inflated through this nipple by the use of an air pump.

In inserting the pneumatic cushion in position, the toe portion thereof is first inserted in the interval between the open ends of the flexible connection 5, a cord or wire 19 being first connected with this toe portion and passed forward in the space between the soles 3 and 4, through a small perforation 20 at the toe of the flexible connection. When the end of this cord is pulled, the cushion is drawn forward between the soles 3 and 4 until it contacts at its toe with the toe of the flexible connection, the enlarged heel portion 21 of the cushion sliding in place within the enlarged heel portion 22 of the flexible connection, and the nipple 18 sliding into engagement with the aperture 90 of the heel block. The flexible connection is then stitched or laced together at the rear, the cushion inflated, and the screw cap placed upon the nipple, which will lie within the instep portion of the sole 4, out of sight and out of the way.

Preferably, the supplemental sole 4 is a little less wide throughout its length than the sole 3, with the flexible connection slightly tapered from top to bottom, the length of the two soles being about the same. A rubber heel 23 is preferably secured to the heel of the sole 4.

The invention is of neat appearance, differing very little from that of the ordinary shoe, capable of being economically manufactured, is strong and durable, and will be found of advantage in relieving the feet of factory and store operatives, artisans and others of the strain incident to their work.

The heel block, which is located in the angle between the breast of the heel and the
The instep portion of the supplemental sole, is preferably also connected to said instep portion by screws 24, whereby the angular bend of this sole is preserved. The transversely arched heel bend 12 of the supplemental sole is designed to prevent the collapse thereof under the strain of the weight of the wearer.

The enlarged heel portion of the pneumatic cushion is designed to give a greater cushioning effect at the heel, where most needed, the cushioning being at the same time equalized over the bottom of the foot. The cushion being separate from and below the sole of the shoe proper, the foot will not become loose and chafed in the shoe when the cushion yields under the weight of the person.

Having thus described my invention, what

1. In boots and shoes having a sole, a supplemental sole, a flexible collapsible connection between said supplemental sole and the sole of the shoe, said connection having along its upper and lower edges permanent attachment to both soles, and a rear division provided with a fastening for its edges, and a removable pneumatic cushion located within said flexible connection between the supplemental sole and the sole of the shoe having an enlarged heel portion, a heel block having attachment to the breast of the heel portion of the supplemental sole and bracing engagement with the instep portion thereof, and a removable pneumatic cushion located within said flexible connection, having an enlarged heel portion and a nipple for inflation engaging an aperture of said heel block.

2. In boots and shoes having a sole, a supplemental sole having an instep portion and a heel bend provided with an arcuate breast, a flexible connection between the supplemental sole and the sole of the shoe having an enlarged heel portion, a heel block located in the recess of the arcuate heel breast, having attachment to said breast and bracing engagement with the instep portion of the supplemental sole, and a removable pneumatic cushion located within said flexible connection, having an enlarged heel portion and a nipple for inflation engaging an aperture of the heel block.

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

C. D. SCOTT.

Witnesses:

GEORGE M. ANDERSON,
RICHARD A. CURTIN.