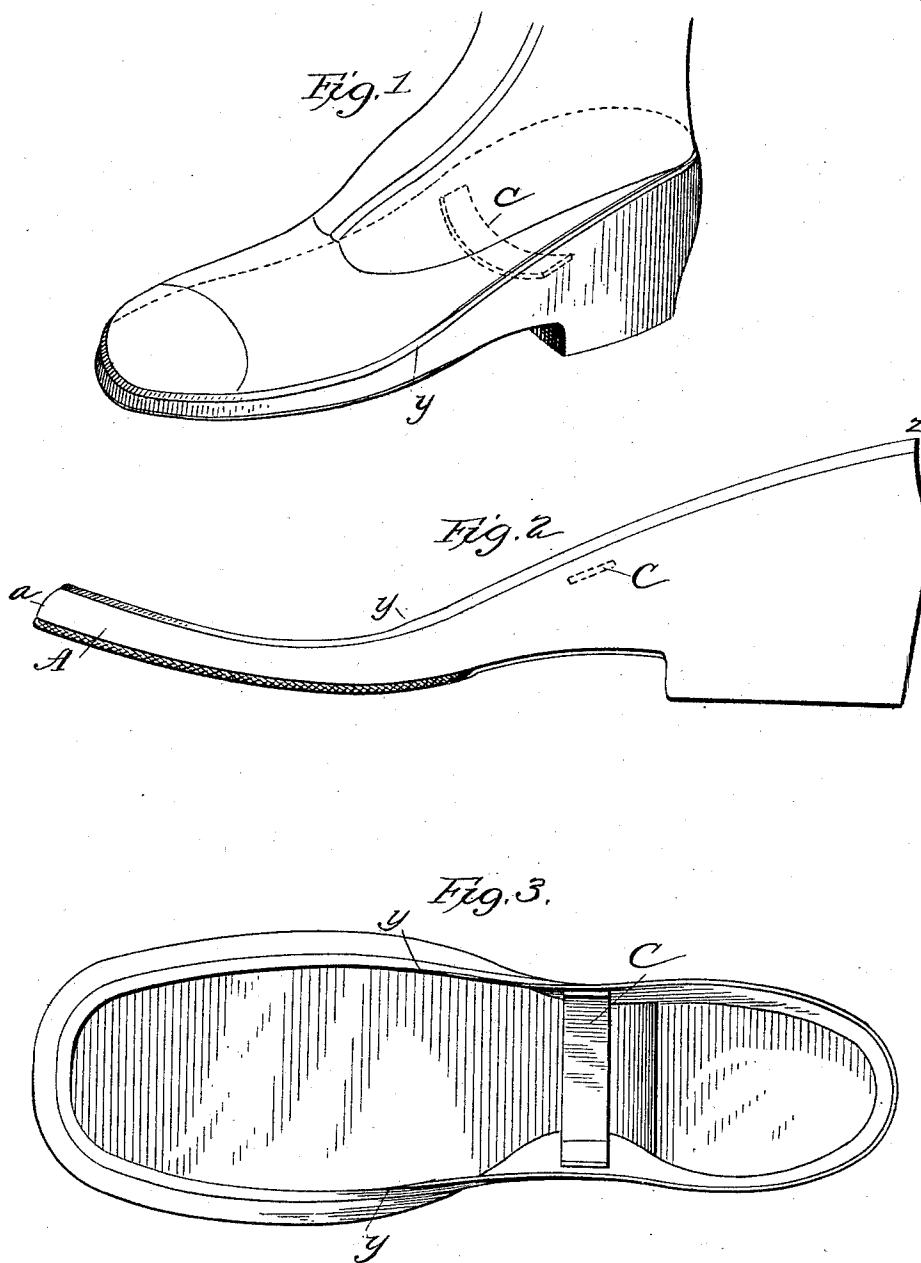


(No Model.)

J. F. O'BRIEN.
OVERSHOE.

No. 462,950.

Patented Nov. 10, 1891.



Attest
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN FRANCIS O'BRIEN, OF MONTREAL, CANADA.

OVERSHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 462,950, dated November 10, 1891.

Application filed February 7, 1891. Renewed October 12, 1891. Serial No. 408,407. (No model.) Patented in Canada December 2, 1890, No. 35,552.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN FRANCIS O'BRIEN, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at Montreal, in the Province of Quebec and Dominion of Canada, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Overshoes, of which the following is a specification.

The invention has been patented by me in Canada under date of December 2, 1890, bearing No. 35,552.

My invention is particularly confined to that class of overshoes in which the sole only of the front part of the boot or shoe to which it is applied is to be covered and in which the front part of the sole of the overshoe is provided with a flange adapted to cover the edge of the sole in front of the instep and to fit into the rand-seam. It includes, however, in addition to this, a heel portion and a special construction of flange extending from the heel portion and connected to the rand-flange above referred to. The special object of soles of rubber or other water-proof material formed without an upper is to protect the sole of the boot or shoe to which it is applied without covering the upper and with such elastic material, such covering being objectionable for the reason that it draws upon the foot and also because it mars the polish of the boot or shoe.

Heretofore water-proof soles have been devised for covering only the sole of the boot in front of the instep and having a flange fitted to cover the edge of the sole and to fit into the rand-seam. Such soles leave the other parts of the boot or shoe unprotected, requiring a special clamp upon the narrow part of the sole at the instep, and, further, are liable to permit water to enter at the inner end. Rubber overshoes have also been devised having straps covering the front part of the foot over the uppers and with heel portions to protect the heels.

The object of my invention is to provide such heel portion in connection with a water-proof sole and with a connecting-flange between the heel and the front part of the sole, whereby both the heel and the instep are

protected and the sole held firmly to the boot or shoe.

My invention consists, further, of an interior cross-strap for more closely binding the sides of the heel portion to the boot or shoe.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows the overshoe in place upon the shoe. Fig. 2 shows a side view of the same; Fig. 3, a plan view.

In the drawings, the sole of the overshoe is indicated at A, and a small vertical flange *a* is formed upon the forward part of the sole with its upper edge extending inwardly. This flange is fitted to cover the edge of the sole of the boot or shoe on which the overshoe is to be used, the upper inwardly-extending part being formed to fit the rand-seam. This part of the flange, which has the inwardly-projecting upper edge, extends from the point, as *y*, at the ball of the foot, where the sole is the widest, around the toe to an opposite point, so that the overshoe can be slipped onto the boot and be drawn back to bring the edge of the flange into the rand-seam. As such overshoes are ordinarily made of elastic material, the edge of the flange will fit snugly into said seam. There is no difficulty with this construction in holding the toe in place and retaining it upon the boot or shoe if the sole be held drawn back as by a strap running back over the heel; but to hold the part about the ball in position, and, further, to protect the sole at the instep, requires special construction. The rear part of the sole, as above stated, has been held to the boot or shoe by a metallic clamp; but this is imperfect and troublesome in use and as a matter of course does not protect the instep. It is also desirable in overshoes to protect the heel, inasmuch as the clothing is liable to transfer the mud and wet to the heel. I have sought, therefore, so to connect the heel to the front part of the sole as to cause the heel to hold the front part firmly in place, and at the same time I have provided protection for the instep of the boot or shoe. I accomplish this by continuing the flange *a* along the sides of the instep and having its margin in a slightly-

curved but an approximately straight line from the point *y*, or thereabout, where the rand-flange terminates, upwardly to the rear upper portion of the heel. Thus the upper margin of the flange or side of the overshoe in rear of the line *y y* extends from said line approximately in straight line to the point *z*, which is at the middle of the upper portion of the counter of the overshoe. The overshoe at the point *z* is contracted in the usual manner, so that it binds closely upon the heel at that point. It therefore draws upon the edge of the material of the upper or flange in the direction of the line *y z*. This tends to hold up the sides or counter of the heel of the overshoe and also to hold up the flange *a* and keep its edge in the rand-seam, and thus it holds the overshoe in place and covers the instep, as well as protecting the same.

I have shown the boot to more clearly illustrate the fitting of the parts.

In order to connect more securely the sides of the overshoe at the counter portions thereof I have applied a flexible strap C, which is attached, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, to the inner faces of the sides of the counter a little in advance of the heel and above the sole. This is so proportioned that when the overshoe is in place the sole of the boot presses it down and causes it to draw the sides of the overshoe inwardly, so as to clamp the foot of the wearer and thus aid in holding the overshoe in place.

It will be understood that the overshoe is

formed of rubber or composition thereof, such as is ordinarily used for overshoes, but any equivalent material may be used instead in substantially the same form.

I do not herein broadly claim the combination of a heel in an overshoe having a rand-flange on the front part of the sole, that being shown in another application pending in the United States Patent Office, filed on the 22d of November, 1890, Serial No. 372,318.

I limit my claims herein to the particular construction of the flange and to the cross-strap.

I claim as my invention—

1. In combination with a shoe having a sole and heel portion, a transverse strap connected to the counter on the inside only, slightly above the sole, whereby when in use the strap is depressed and the sides of the counter drawn in to compress the shoe, substantially as described.

2. In combination with an overshoe having a sole provided with an upwardly and inwardly extending flange adapted to the groove between the upper and the sole, and having also a heel portion, as A, a transverse strap C, connected to the inside of the counter, substantially as described.

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

JOHN FRANCIS O'BRIEN.

Witnesses:

HENRY E. COOPER,
JAMES W. SPEAR.