

No. 887,020.

PATENTED MAY 5, 1908.

C. S. SHUTE.
LOCKING DEVICE FOR ADJUSTABLE HEELS.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 17, 1908.

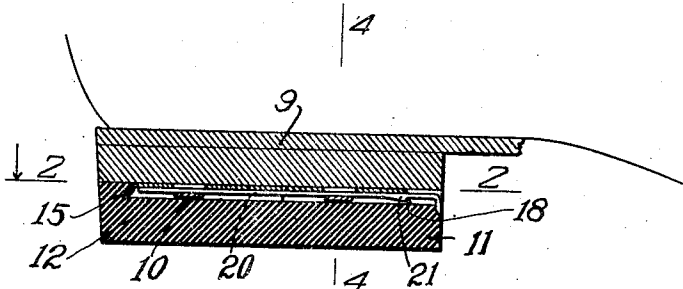


FIG. 1.

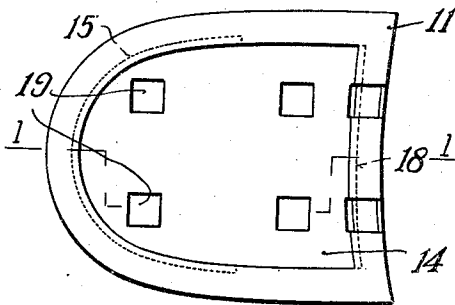


FIG. 2.

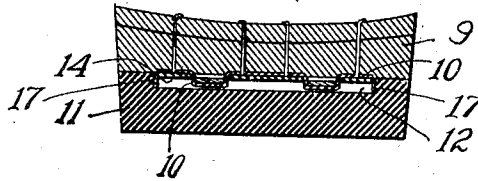


FIG. 4.

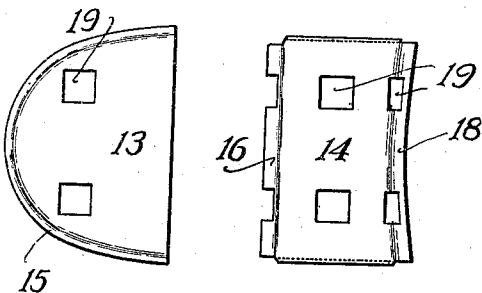


FIG. 3.

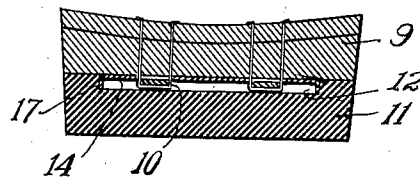


FIG. 5.

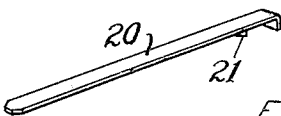


FIG. 6.

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LOCKING DEVICE FOR ADJUSTABLE HEELS.

No. 887,020.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented May 5, 1908.

Application filed February 17, 1908. Serial No. 416,237.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES S. SHUTE, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Locking Devices for Adjustable Heels, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to shoe heels and heel lifts and more particularly to a locking device for adjustable heels of rubber, leather or other material, the construction being such that a new heel or lift may be readily substituted for an old or worn out one when desired.

Briefly stated this improvement is embodied in a boot or shoe having its heel base provided with fixed, downwardly projecting eyes or staples and its heel proper or outer heel lift being recessed and furnished in its upper face with a metallic or other suitable plate vulcanized in place or otherwise secured in position, and slotted or perforated to admit such eyes or staples, insertible keys being introduced to hold the parts engaged.

The preferred construction is illustrated in the accompanying drawing and is herein-after more fully described with reference thereto.

A feature which may characterize this improved construction, is the formation of the metallic plate in two parts separately insertible in the recess of the heel.

In the drawing, Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section through the heel portion of a shoe taken on line 1—1, Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a top plan of the heel proper detached, showing the perforated plate on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, the keys being removed. Fig. 3 represents, in top view, detached, the two members of the locking plate. Fig. 4 is a vertical cross-section on line 4—4, Fig. 1 and Fig. 5 a like view substituting staples for the loops or eyes nailed on in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 shows one of the key bars removed.

The heel portion of the shoe is provided with the flat bottomed heel base 9, made somewhat concave on its upper face to fit upon the rear end of the sole and shaped marginally to conform to the outer walls of the heel. The heel base is a permanent fixture—that is, not detachable from the shoe. Depending eyes or staples 10 are nailed to or driven into the bottom of heel base 9 as best shown in Figs. 4 and 5. These eyes are shown in Fig. 4 as shallow loops formed in narrow strips of sheet-metal, nailed in position, the

nails being clenched as are the tips of the staple prongs in Fig. 5.

The heel proper 11, is preferably formed of vulcanized rubber, molded to perfect shape, with a shallow recess 12 in its upper face to receive the two-part locking plate 13, 14, the recess being under-cut marginally or grooved to admit the marginal flange 15, formed on the part 13, Figs. 1, 2, 3, fitting obliquely beneath the curved rear and side walls of the heel. Part 13, of the locking plate can therefore be pushed rearwardly into place in the recess and part 14 next inserted in front of it, with its three tongues slightly depressed to extend beneath the front edge of part 13—see Fig. 3. This insertion is readily effected, in rubber heels, by bending the front and rear ends of the heel downwardly (or the middle upwardly on a convex curve) while inserting the parts. Part 14 has vertical supports or flanges, 17, at its sides—see Figs. 4 and 5—and a depending oblique flange 18 at its front edge which engages the oblique rubber wall of the recess near the breast of the heel.

The locking plate, whether in a single embedded piece or in two separable parts as described, will be perforated as at 19 to receive the eyes or staples 10, accurately located for a perfect fit. Beneath said plate, and through such eyes or staples, keys 20 are inserted, grooved keyways or recesses being formed in molding the rubber or otherwise produced. In Figs. 1 and 6 the key is shown with a depending lip at one end, for withdrawing it when required, and also with a catch 21, on its under side to engage the edge of the rubber or of the perforation in the oblique flange 18 of part 14, through which the key passes.

I claim as my invention:

1. The improved locking device for adjustable heels, comprising the heel-base with downwardly projecting eyes affixed thereto, the heel proper formed with a shallow, plate holding recess in its upper face under-cut marginally to form a flange seat, in combination with a metallic or like plate located in such recess, slotted or perforated to receive said eyes and flanged marginally to engage said seat, and with horizontal key bars engaging such eyes beneath the plate, substantially as set forth.

2. In adjustable heels, a locking device comprising a two-part horizontal perforated plate located in a shallow recess in the upper

face of the heel, one member of said plate having a lateral and rearward curvature and depressed marginal flange and the other member flanged rearwardly at its back edge and downwardly at its front where perforated, in combination with eyes or staples fixed to the heel base, their looped portions extending downwardly through the horizontal plate and with horizontal key bars through

such loops and each formed with a catch engaging the edge of a perforation, substantially as set forth. 10

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

CHARLES S. SHUTE.

Witnesses:

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RICHARD P. ELLIOTT.