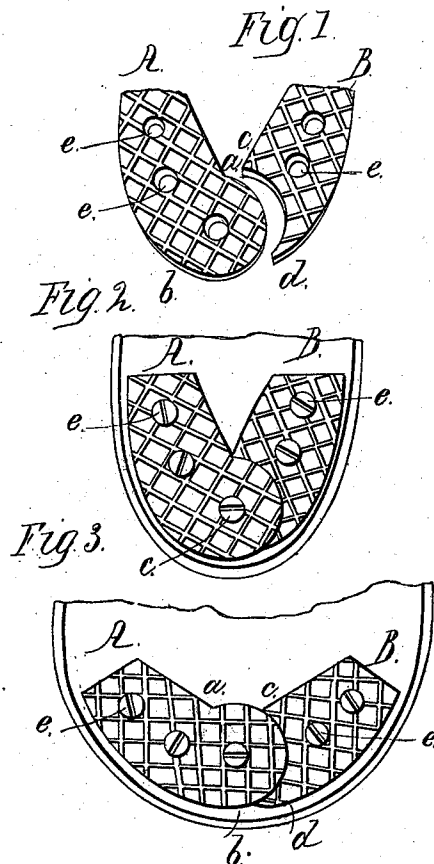


W.E. Hamlin, Jr.,
 Boot Heel,
 № 81,777, Patented Sep. 1, 1868.



Benj F. Houston -
 Henry L. Hart

Inventor:
 W. E. Hamlin Jr.

United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM E. HAMLIN, JR., OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

Letters Patent No. 81,777, dated September 1, 1868.

IMPROVED HEEL-PLATE FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. HAMLIN, Jr., of the city and county of Providence, in the State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Heel-Plates for Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings making a part of the same, is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

Figure 1 exhibits in perspective the two parts of which the heel-plate is composed.

Figures 2 and 3 exhibit respectively the same heel-plate applied to boot-heels of different widths.

The object of a heel-plate is to furnish a metallic surface to the edge of the heel of a boot or shoe, and thereby prevent it from being worn away by the pavement so soon as it otherwise would be.

A device for this purpose has heretofore been employed, made in the form of a horse-shoe, and conforming to the outline of the heel of the boot, but it is objectionable, on the ground that each such plate is fitted only for one size of heel, and is not capable of being set upon either a broad or a narrow heel at pleasure.

My invention consists in forming a heel-plate in two parts, so fitted to each other that the two, so constituting a complete plate, can be adjusted to boot-heels of all usual sizes.

In the drawings, it will be seen that the heel-plate is composed of the two members, A and B. The portion A has one end made with a circular outline, *a b*, and the end of the other portion, B, fitting the same, is cut away upon a curved line, *c d*, corresponding with the curved outline *a b* of the portion A.

When the two portions A and B are placed with their ends so prepared in juxtaposition, it is evident that the two surfaces *a b* and *c d* can be made to slide one upon the other, in the same manner as they would do if the two portions A and B were hinge-jointed, and thereby the plate can be conveniently adjusted to boot-heels of any of the common sizes.

The plates are secured to the heel-tap by means of screws, *e*, and they may be let into the leather so as to make a flush surface with it, or they may be screwed upon the surface of the outer lift of the heel.

I prefer, also, to make the surface of the plate roughened, by dividing its surface into squares, or lozenges, by intersecting lines, as shown, and also to make the plate thicker at the back edge than at the front. These features, however, are matters of construction merely.

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

The improved heel-plate for boots and shoes, consisting of a plate made in two parts, A and B, constructed and fitted to each other so as to accommodate heels of different sizes in the way substantially as described.

WM. E. HAMLIN, Jr.

Witnesses:

BENJ. F. THURSTON,
GEORGE B. BARROWS.