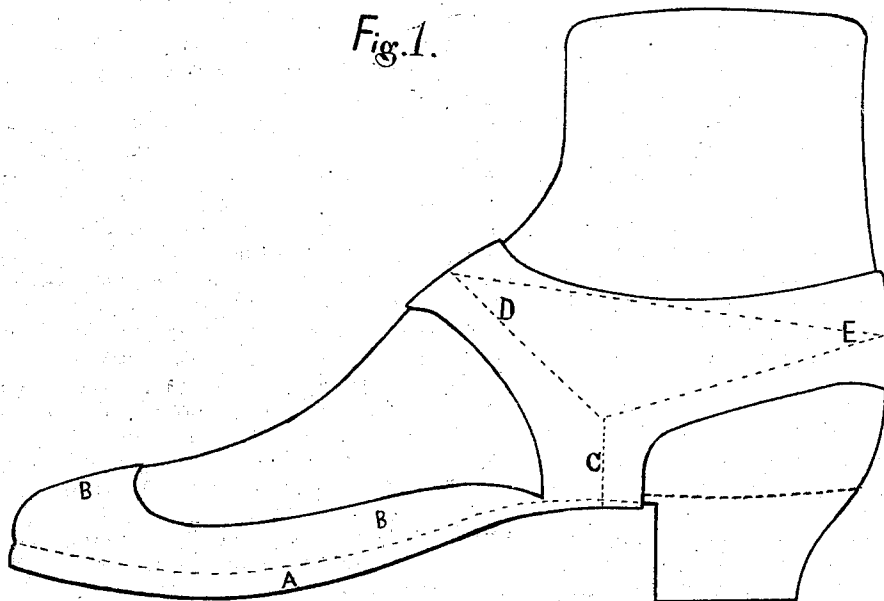


J. H. BENTLEY.
Rubber Sandals.

No. 149,634.

Patented April 14, 1874.



WITNESSES.

Sylvanus Walker
H. S. Talbot

INVENTOR.

John H. Bentley.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. BENTLEY, OF CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN RUBBER SANDALS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **149,634**, dated April 14, 1874; application filed December 22, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. BENTLEY, of Cambridge, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rubber Sandals, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to that class of rubber overshoes designed to protect the feet from moisture in wet or muddy walking; and the object is to provide a suitable rubber covering for protecting those parts of the feet which come more directly in contact or nearest to the ground, and are most liable to become wet, and yet obviate the many objections to the common rubbers as heretofore constructed, among which are a tendency to draw the feet, causing undue heat and perspiration; incumbrance by increased weight and size of such additional coverings for the feet, and great inconvenience in applying or removing such protections.

My invention is designed to fully overcome these and various other objections to the well-known rubber overshoe, and similar rubber coverings designed to protect the feet from moisture when walking; and it consists of a peculiarly-shaped rubber sandal, constructed with a thick bottom or sole, extending back to the hollow of the foot. This sole has a narrow toe-piece, and likewise extends backward on each side to near the hollow of the foot, where it terminates, its upper edge being gradually curved downward from the middle of the foot, until it reaches this point, where it ends. Immediately back of this, and upon each edge of the sole, is secured a short strap or band, about one inch in width, rising perpendicularly, say, about two inches, and then continuing diagonally forward and upward to the top of the instep, thus forming a band or strap across the same. Another strap or band connects with the former, and extends at nearly right angles backward to about the top of the heel; also continuing from the latter point across the top of the instep, being on a curve upon its upper edge. This latter one

is not separated from the former, but acts in conjunction therewith, and keeps the heel-strap from falling down.

By means of the peculiar arrangement of the straps and their attachment to the short perpendicular strap, and its connection with the rear end of the sole, and the whole being disconnected from the sides, they are made to fit the foot more neatly, and are not drawn outwardly from the same when the foot is bent, as in walking.

Thus I am enabled to produce a new article of manufacture which, when placed upon the foot, shall have a very neat, light, dressy appearance, the arrangement of the straps or bands being such as to allow the foot perfect freedom in walking. The short perpendicular strap not being connected with the sides of the sandal, the foot, when bent at the ball of the same, contracting its length, does not disturb any of the connecting parts; consequently they are neither drawn tight nor loosened, and they are entirely covered by the bottom of the leg of the pants when worn by a gentleman. This feature has not heretofore been produced as I am aware, it being an essential element in my invention.

Figure 1 is a view of my invention applied to a boot, the dotted lines showing the line of straps.

A is the sole. B is the toe and side pieces. C is the short perpendicular strap. D is the instep-strap, and E the heel-strap.

What I claim as my invention is—

As a new article of manufacture, the above-described rubber sandal, consisting of the sole A, having the side pieces B, which terminate at the edge of said sole near the shank, with the short perpendicular elastic strap C and oblique elastic straps D and E, all being constructed substantially as described; and for the purposes specified.

JOHN H. BENTLEY.

Witnesses:

SYLVENUS WALKER,
ROBERT F. NAYLER.