

H. C. KARPEN.
SHOE HEEL.
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978,896.

Patented Dec. 20, 1910.

Fig. 1.

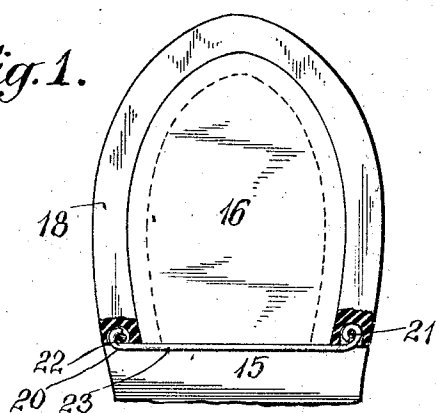
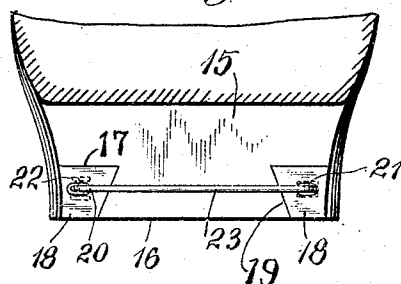


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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HENRY C. KARPEN, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

SHOE-HEEL.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY CHARLES KARPEN, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Brooklyn, county of Kings, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Heels, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part thereof.

My invention relates to shoe heels employing removable tread portions and consists in an improved means for securing the removable tread portions in place, the main object of my invention being to facilitate the removability and replacement of such tread portions while insuring their firm attachment in place except when it is desired that they be removed.

In order that my invention will be fully understood, I will now proceed to describe an embodiment thereof, having reference to the accompanying drawings, and will then point out the novel features in claims.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is an under side view of a heel constituting an embodiment of my invention. Fig. 2 is a front end view of the same.

The heel of the shoe comprises a main body portion 15, the lower face 16 of which constitutes in part the tread portion of the heel. This main body portion may be composed of any suitable material,—preferably leather or similar material,—and it is provided with a recess 17 around the edge thereof, the said recess running along either side of the heel and at the rear thereof but not along the front portion of the heel. Fitted in the recess 17 is a yielding flexible member 18 which is preferably formed of rubber or rubber composition, and in order that the same may be readily retained in place the said heel is provided with an overhanging portion at some part thereof, the said overhanging portion being preferably formed by undercutting the recess 17 as at 19. The elastic member 18 is prevented from slipping off rearwardly by means of a hook 20 which is pivoted at 21 to one end of the flexible member, is hooked over a pin 22 with which the other end of the flexible member is provided, and intermediate its ends engages the front portion 23 of the body portion 15 of the heel. The natural springiness of the rub-

ber or rubber substitute of which the elastic member 18 is composed will tend to retain the hook 20 in place, and to prevent it from accidentally being removed while the shoe is in use. The tendency of the heel in use is to spread outward and this will cause the hook 20 to hold more and more securely; while to release the said hook from engagement, it will only be necessary to compress the end or ends of the member 18 laterally.

It will be readily understood that besides providing a detachable-rubber or other elastic heel member, I have also provided a heel having a compound tread, a portion of the tread being composed of leather or similar material and a portion thereof being composed of elastic material such as rubber. The advantage of this is that while the rubber or similar material will give substantially all the elasticity required and will take up such shocks as are ordinarily experienced when walking with a rigid heel, yet, the tendency to slip which is so noticeable with a heel whose entire tread portion is formed of rubber, is obviated, because the coefficient of friction between leather and the ordinary surface to be walked upon is very much higher than that between rubber and such surface, especially under conditions of dampness and moisture.

What I claim is:

1. A shoe heel comprising a central body portion provided with a recess at the outer edges thereof, and having a part overhanging the said recess, a yielding flexible member located in the said-recess and engaged by the said overhanging part, and a retaining device movably secured at one end to the flexible member upon one side thereof, and removably secured at its opposite end to the other side of the said flexible member, the said retaining device engaging the front portion of the heel intermediate its ends.

2. A shoe heel comprising a main body portion having an undercut recess at the edges thereof, a U-shaped yielding flexible member fitted to the said recess, and a hook pivoted at one end to one of the ends of the said flexible member, and adapted to removably engage the other end of the said flexible member across the front of the heel, substantially as set forth.

3. A shoe heel comprising a main body member having an undercut recess at the

edges thereof, and a U-shaped rubber member fitted to the said recess, the said rubber member being provided with pins 21 and 22 at the ends thereof and a hook 20 pivoted
5 upon the pin 21 and adapted to removably engage the pin 22, the intermediate portion being adapted to engage the front of the

body portion of the heel, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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