

J. M. WHITING.
Heel for Boots and Shoes.

No. 217,309.

Patented July 8, 1879.

Fig. 1.

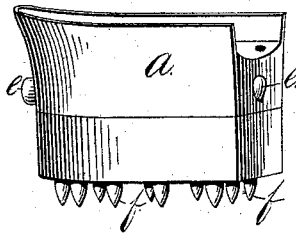
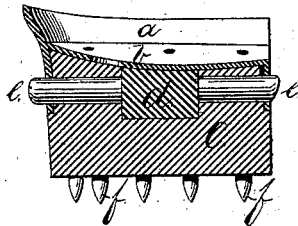


Fig. 2.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. WHITING, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO THOMAS C. HENNESSEY, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN HEELS FOR BOOTS AND SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,309**, dated July 8, 1879; application filed May 17, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. WHITING, of the city and county of Providence, and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boot and Shoe Heels; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention has reference to improvements in boot and shoe heels, in which a metal shell is secured to the boot or shoe and the wearing-tap is secured to the metal shell; and consists in the peculiar construction of the tap and the manner of securing the same, as will be more fully set forth hereinafter, and pointed out in the claims.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved boot and shoe heel. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same, showing the manner of securing the tap within the metal shell.

In the drawings, *a* is the metal shell, provided with the plate *b*, perforated with holes, through which it is secured by nails to the boot or shoe. *c* is the tap, made preferably of hard vulcanized or partly-vulcanized rubber. *d* is an elastic rubber or other spring, bearing against the pins *e e*. The shell *a* is provided with holes, into which the pins *e e* enter.

When the tap is to be inserted, one of the pins *e* is passed into its corresponding hole. The other pin is now pressed against the spring, and as soon as the pin is opposite the corresponding hole in the shell *a*, the spring *d* forces the pin into the hole and the tap is firmly secured. By pushing the pin at either end or at both ends within the shell the tap may be read-

ily removed, and if the taps wear unequally they can be exchanged or new ones inserted.

The tap can be cheaply made, and gives a firm bearing to the heel, while the material is sufficiently elastic to give some spring to the heel.

When walking is dangerous on account of ice, the ice-pad is provided with the pointed steel spikes *f*, secured within the tap *c* when the same is pressed in the mold. It can be readily substituted for the plain tap, and all danger from slipping avoided.

These heels can be cheaply made, firmly secured, new taps readily substituted for worn taps, or ice-creeping taps for plain taps, and the taps of opposite boots or shoes can be readily exchanged. They are simple in construction, can be put on without tools, are noiseless, and agreeable in walking.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The combination, with the shell *a*, provided with the perforated plate *b*, of the tap *c*, provided with the pins *e e*, passing through the holes in the shell, and the spring *d*, arranged substantially as described.

2. The combination, with the shell *a*, provided with the plate *b*, arranged to secure the shell to the boot or shoe, of the tap *c*, having the spring *d*, secured to the shell by the pins *e e*, and provided with the pointed spikes *f f*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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