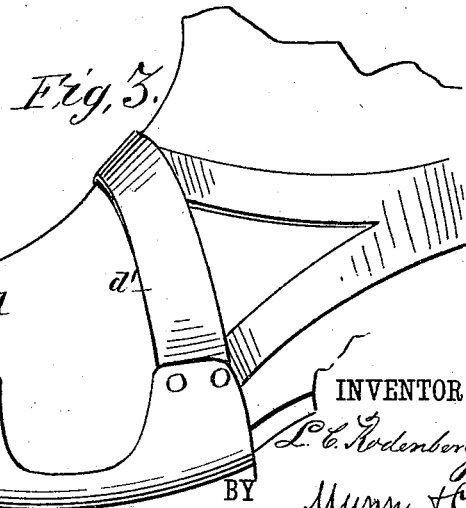
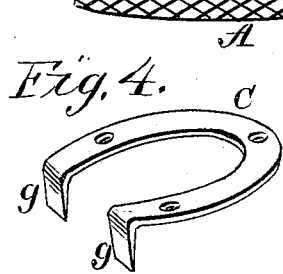
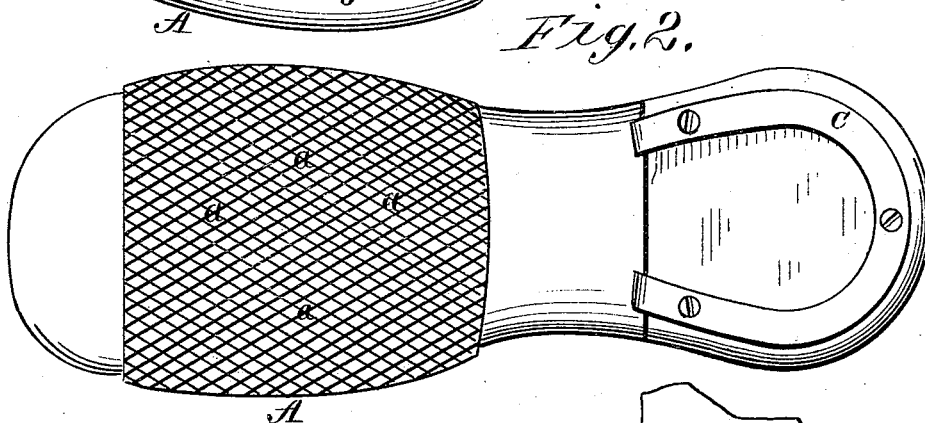
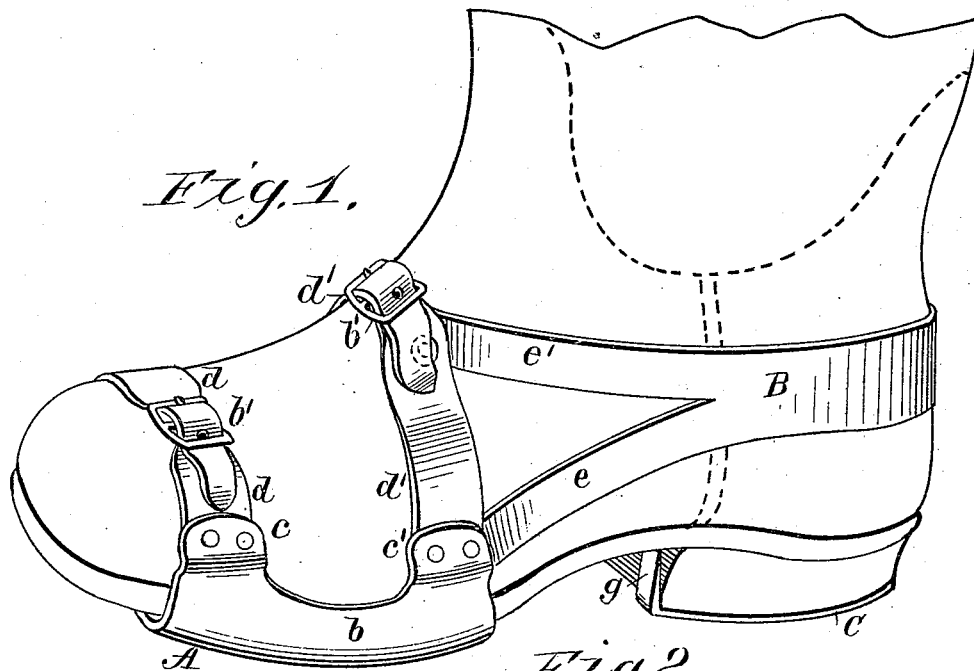


(No Model.)

L. C. RODENBERGER.  
PROTECTOR FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

No. 346,776.

Patented Aug. 3, 1886.



WITNESSES:

*J. D. Lafford*  
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INVENTOR:

*L. C. Rodenberger*  
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BY

ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI C. RODENBERGER, OF MEDFORD, OREGON.

## PROTECTOR FOR BOOTS OR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,776, dated August 3, 1886.

Application filed January 15, 1886. Serial No. 189,771. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEVI C. RODENBERGER, of Medford, in the county of Jackson and State of Oregon, have invented a new and Improved Protector for Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a boot with my improved protector applied. Fig. 2 is an inverted plan view. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the protector. Fig. 4 is a detail perspective view of the heel-protector.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

The object of my invention is to furnish a removable protector for the soles of rubber boots and shoes, to protect the soles against cutting and wearing, and also to prevent the person wearing the boot or shoe from slipping.

The invention consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claim.

The plate A, forming the body of the boot-protector, is provided on its under surface with series of diagonal grooves crossing each other and forming diamond-shaped projections *a*. The plate is shaped by the process of stamping, or in any other convenient way, to adapt it to the form of the sole of the boot, and the edges of the plate are turned upward, forming flanges *b*, which embrace the edges of the sole of the boot, and are provided at opposite ends with apertured ears *c c'*. To the ears *c c'* are secured straps *d d'* by means of rivets, one of the straps, *d*, being provided with a buckle, *b'*, and the other having holes formed therein to receive the tongue of the buckle. The straps *d'* are provided with a buckle in a similar way. The strap B, which passes around the heel of the boot, is split at its end, and the part *e* is secured to the ear *c'*. The part *e'* is secured to the strap *d'* near the buckle *b'*. The strap B prevents the metallic sole A from slipping forward on the boot, while

the straps *d d'* bind the plate A closely to the sole of the boot.

In Fig. 3 I have shown a form of sole-protector similar to that already described; but having in addition to the side flanges, *b*, a cap, *f*, formed on the toe thereof, for receiving the toe of the boot. The straps *d d'*, used in connection with a protector of this form, extend from the ears *c c'* on one side of the plate A to the ears on the opposite side, and are provided with buckles, as in the other case.

To protect the heel of the boot against wear, I apply to it a heel-plate, C, curved to conform to the shape of the heel, with its ends *g* bent upward along the inner vertical edge of the heel.

My improved boot and shoe protector is designed to be worn by miners in placer mining in connection with rubber boots. The rubber boots which are ordinarily worn to protect the feet from water are rapidly destroyed by the contact of the soles of the boot with sand and gravel displaced by the water in mining.

My improved protector provides an auxiliary sole for the boot, and thus prevents the wear of the boot.

My improvement may also be used with advantage in connection with boots worn by brakemen or others who require a boot that will not slip, the roughened surface of the protector preventing the wearer from slipping.

The plate or auxiliary sole may be made of metal, rubber, or any other suitable material.

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

In a boot and shoe protector, the plate A, roughened on its under surface and provided with side flanges, *b*, and ears *c c'*, the straps *d d'*, provided with buckles *b'*, and the split strap B, secured to the ears *c c'* and straps *d d'*, substantially as herein shown and described.

LEVI C. RODENBERGER.

Witnesses:

W. F. WILLIAMSON,  
R. T. LAWTON.