(No Model.)

H. E. VAN BENSCHOTEN.

HEEL PLATE.

No. 491,149. Patented Feb. 7, 1893.

Fig. 1.

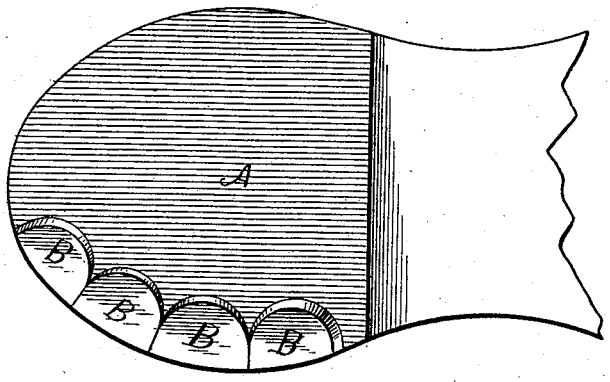


Fig. 2.

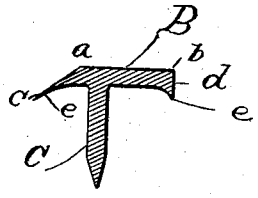
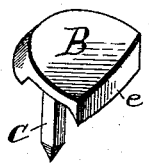


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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HENRY E. VAN BENSCHOTEN, OF HUDSON, NEW YORK.

HEEL-PLATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 491,149, dated February 7, 1893.

Application filed February 17, 1892. Serial No. 421,868. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY E. VAN BENSCHOTEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hudson, in the county of Columbia and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Heel-Protectors; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to heel protectors for boots and shoes.

It has for its object to provide a heel protector which will prevent the accumulation of mud and the like at its edges, and which may easily be applied and securely retained in place.

With these objects in view, my invention consists in certain features of construction and combination of parts which will be herein described and claimed.

In the drawings: Figure 1 is a plan view of a heel of a boot or shoe, with my invention applied. Fig. 2 is an edge view of the protector, and, Fig. 3 is perspective view of the same.

In the drawings, A denotes the boot or shoe heel having secured thereto one or more heel protectors. These protectors each consist of a plate, B, having a flat outer face from *a* to *b* and an inclined edge from *a* to *c*. The opposite edge, *d*, is in a vertical line. Integral with and projecting downward from the inner face of the plate is a prong, C. This prong is located under the thick portion of the plate, so that, in driving the prong into the leather, the liability of breaking the plate is greatly lessened. The outer edge of the plate is curved to conform to the curve of the heel and the inner edge is also curved so as not to present a sharp edge or angle which might trip or hook in the carpet or grass.

These protectors are designed mainly for the "building up" of heels which have become worn at their edges, and are applied in series, as shown in Fig. 1.

To prevent dirt working under the plates, which would eventually cause them to work loose and also to prevent them turning or twisting on their prongs, I provide the plate at the extreme inner and outer edges each, on its inner side, with a biting lip, *e*, which, when the prong is driven home, enters the heel.

I am aware that heel plates have been heretofore constructed with biting lips on their under sides at a distance from their edges, but such construction is objectionable, in that it allows the dirt to enter between them and the heel, which would in time cause the plate to pry loose. I am also aware that plates have been constructed at the inner and outer edges of their outer faces on a bevel. This construction is also objectionable for the reason that the heel is very apt to rock over and thereby twist the ankle of the wearer. By providing the vertical outer edge I overcome this objection.

Having thus described my invention I claim:

A heel protector, consisting of a plate and an integrally extending securing prong, the under side of said plate having at its extreme inner and outer edges each a biting lip, on its upper side, a flat portion from *a* to *b*, an inclined inner edge, and a vertical outer edge, curved to conform to the curvature of the heel, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY E. VAN BENSCHOTEN.

Witnesses:
HARRY W. ALDEN,
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