J. PIENOVI.
Rubber-Clog.

No. 202,462. Patented April 16, 1878.

Fig. 1.

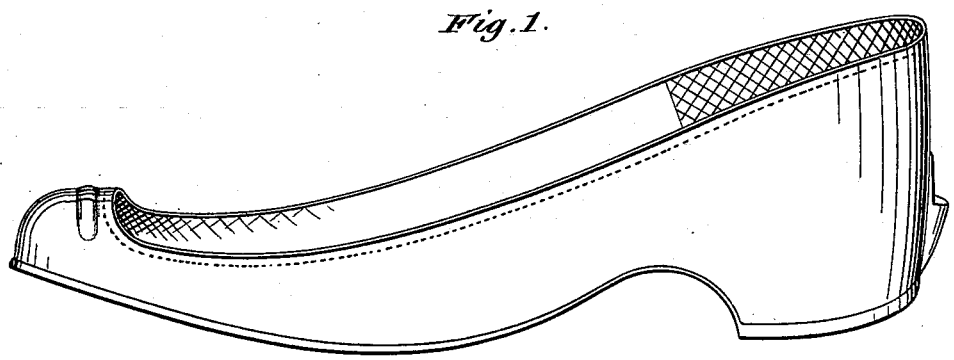
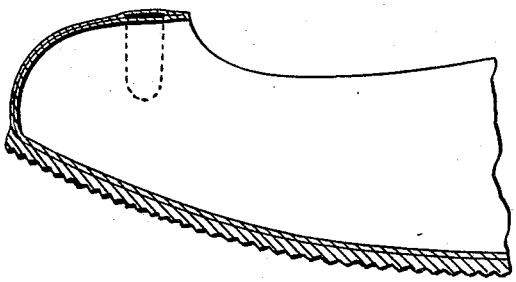


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
E. E. Masson
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH PIENOVI, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN RUBBER CLOGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **202,462**, dated April 16, 1878; application filed March 25, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH PIENOVI, of Newark, in the county of Essex and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Rubber Clogs, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification.

Great trouble and inconvenience have heretofore been experienced in the use of vulcanized india-rubber overshoes from two causes, namely: first, tendency, by continued wear of such rubber shoes, to press, irritate, and prevent surface-evaporation from the joints of the toes and other tender parts of the foot, and causing inflammation, and eventually induration, of the skin, more or less painful, and other ill effects; second, tendency of the upper or toe portion of the shoe, unless made very stiff and heavy, (which is an objection,) to close or drop, necessitating, for the purpose of putting on the shoe, that the wearer should stoop down and handle it.

The object of my present invention is to obviate these tendencies, and to construct an overshoe which will not press upon the joints of the toes, neither close in front when off the wearer's foot, but which, while affording all the protection needed against dampness, mud, snow, or cold, &c., shall neither press upon and inflame the joints, nor require manual assistance to be removed from or put onto the foot.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my said invention, I shall now proceed to describe the same with reference to the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved rubber overshoe or clog, and Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of the toe part of the same on an enlarged scale.

The shoe is or may be composed of the same material, and is or may be made in the same manner, as rubber shoes are generally made. It is therefore unnecessary here to describe in particular the *modus operandi*. It will suffice to say that so far as the sole, shank, and heel are concerned, they do not differ in any way from those of ordinary shoes, and may be made more or less heavy, according to the taste of the wearer or uses which they are put to. They differ, however, from shoes as heretofore made in this, that the upper does not extend over the joints, but is shaped so as only to lap over the part of the foot, or of the boot or shoe inclosing the foot, which corresponds to the last extreme member of the toes. The upper, however, is so shaped as to not only allow the joints to remain uncovered by rubber, but also in such manner as to afford a perfect hold on the foot. The edge may also, for this purpose, be suitably re-enforced, as an additional security against the clog or shoe falling off the foot.

Owing to the small size of the upper, I call it the "toe-cap." The sides are made to gradually increase in height until they reach the rear or heel portion, which I prefer to make stiff and comparatively high, and with a stud in the rear.

In the upper part of the toe-cap I insert, during the manufacture of the shoe or clog, between the lining and the outer coating, a spring or light curved blade, (seen in cross-section in Fig. 2,) the object of which is to prevent the cap, which it is preferred to make thin and light, from dropping or closing down, and which it would be necessary to lift before the shod or booted foot could be inserted. This spring, without sensibly adding to the weight of the cap, will hold it open or distended, always ready to receive the foot.

The clog, being constructed as described, will present a sufficiently large opening to receive the foot, which will naturally drop into the clog without any considerable forward and sliding or pushing and crowding action, as this is generally necessary with ordinary shoes, and the clog will be held securely by the extended area around the heel part, which is made stiff and narrowing in the upper part to adapt itself to the contracted part of the heel toward the ankle.

To remove or liberate its hold on the foot, it is only necessary, with the other foot, to press in the rear upon the stud, and it will drop.

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

1. A rubber shoe or clog having, in contradistinction to an upper extending over the

joints, a toe-cap, narrow sides, but gradually increasing in height from the toe toward the heel, substantially as shown and set forth.

2. The combination, in a rubber shoe, with a toe-cap, and toward the front decreasing sides, of a stiff and comparatively high heel, substantially as herein shown and set forth.

3. The combination, in a rubber shoe, with a toe-cap and narrow sides, of a stiff and comparatively high and studded heel, as set forth.

4. The combination, in a rubber shoe or clog, with a toe-cap, of a thin curved metal spring or blade of other suitable elastic material, as set forth.

5. A rubber clog having a narrow toe-cap, held in shape by a metal spring, sides gradually widening from the toe to the heel, a stiff studded heel, with sole-shank and heel of otherwise ordinary or suitable construction.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH PIENOVI.

Witnesses:
W. G. VERMILYE,
CHAS. STOUT.