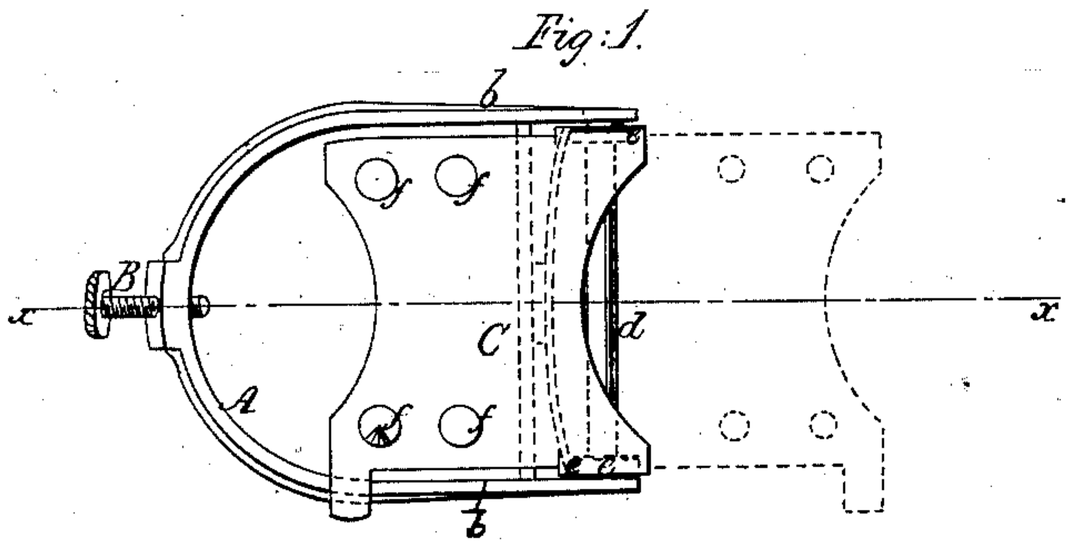
D. Krauser,

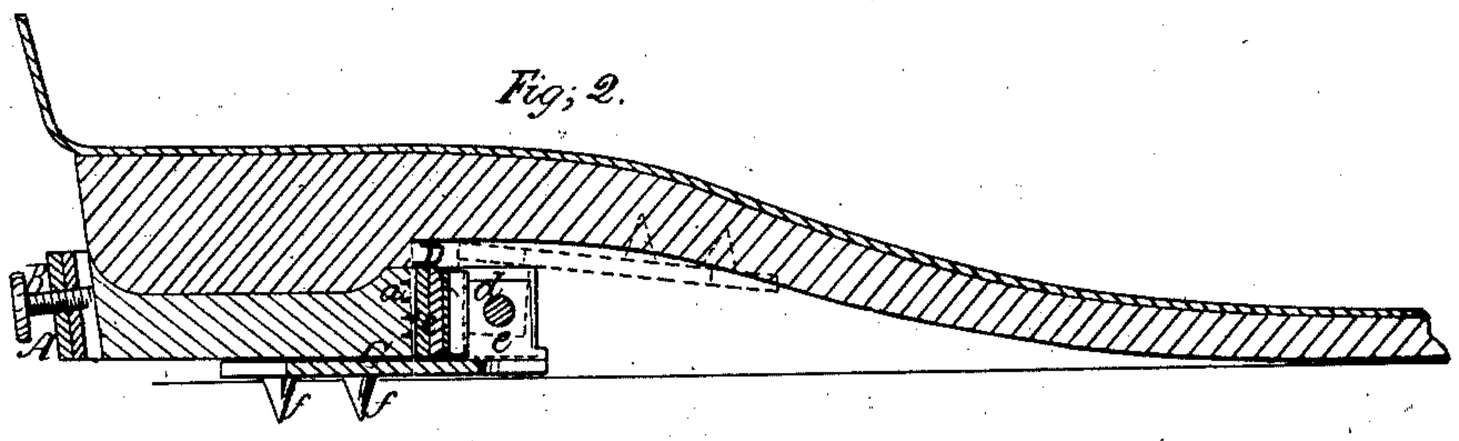
Ice Creeper.

No. 37,788. Patented Feb. 24, 1863.

Fig: 1.



Fig; 2.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL KRAUSER, OF POTTSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, HENRY P. STICHTER, AND LEWIS C. THOMPSON, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVED ICE-CALK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **37,788**, dated February 24, 1863.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL KRAUSER, of Pottsville, in the county of Schuylkill and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and improved calk or creeper to be attached to boots and shoes to prevent persons slipping on ice; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a detached face view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a side sectional view of the same applied to a boot or shoe, *x x*, Fig. 1, indicating the line of section.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the two figures.

This invention consists in having a series of spurs attached to a plate, which is connected by a joint to a frame or clamp so constructed that it may be readily attached to the heel of a boot or shoe, said frame or clamp having a spring attached to it, and all so arranged that the plate which is provided with the spurs will be capable of being turned over on the heel and the spurs serve as foot-holds, and the plate, when the spurs are not required to serve the above office, be capable of being turned over in the hollow of the sole, so that the spurs will be entirely out of the way.

To enable those skilled in the art to fully understand and construct my invention, I will proceed to describe it.

A represents a frame, constructed of metal and in the form of a heel of a boot or shoe, so that it may be fitted thereon, and secured in proper position by a screw, B, which passes through the back of the frame and bears against the back of the heel so as to draw the front part of the frame in close contact with the front of the heel. The inner side of the front part of the frame is provided with points or spurs *a* to insure the firm connection of the frame to the heel. (See Fig. 2.) The sides *b b* of the frame A project some distance in front of the front bar, *c*, of the same, and through the sides *b b*, near their ends, a rod, *d*, passes. On this rod *d* two square lugs or ears, *e e*, of a plate, C, are fitted loosely. The lugs or ears *e e* project at right angles from the plate C—one at each side—and against said lugs or ears a spring, D, bears, which is attached to the outer side of the bar *c* of the frame A. This spring D may be formed of a flat metal plate, of a proper thickness to have the requisite elasticity. The plate C is nearly equal in width to the frame A, and to one side of it there are attached a series of spurs or points, *f*. The lugs or ears *e e*, in consequence of being fitted loosely on the rod *d*, form a joint for said plate, and admit of it being turned over on the heel of the boot or shoe, as shown in Fig. 2, or being turned over in the hollow of the sole, as shown in red in the same figure, the heel and sole being also shown in red. The spring D, in consequence of bearing against the lugs or ears *e e* of the plate, retain the same in either of the two positions mentioned. When the implement is in use, the plate C is turned over on the heel of the boot or shoe, the spurs or points *f* projecting down from the plate and serving as an efficient foothold, as shown in Fig. 1, and when not required for use the plate is turned over into the hollow of the shoe.

The advantage of this invention over others of the same class is that the spurs or points *f* are not at all in the way nor allowed to serve as an incumbrance when not required for use, as a simple adjustment of the plate C removes them from the heel.

I am aware that an adjustable serrated bow has been previously devised to effect this result, but in that arrangement the bow when in use was in the hollow of the sole, and consequently could not operate perfectly—especially if applied to high-heeled boots or shoes; besides, the hollow of the sole is not the proper place for the spurs or points. They cannot in that place effectually prevent slipping, for the reason that in walking the heel at each step touches the ground first; and in case low-heeled boots or shoes are used, the serrated plate will project too low and give a rocking motion to the foot, which is very unpleasant to the wearer. I am also aware that another form of device has been used, in which the spurs are concealed beneath the hollow of the foot when not in use, and are placed behind or around the heel when in use.

I do not claim any device in which the spurs, when in use, are outside the area of the heel, one object of my invention being to give the heel a direct bearing upon the spurs.

I do not claim, broadly and irrespective of

the construction and arrangement herein shown and described, an adjustable plate provided with spurs or projections to serve as a foothold for a boot or shoe; but

I do claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The heel-frame A, in combination with the flat plate C, when the latter is so attached to the former and arranged in such relation therewith as to admit of being placed directly beneath the heel when the spurs or points *f* are required for use, and admit of being turned over into the hollow of the sole when not required for use, substantially as shown and described.

DANIEL KRAUSER.

Witnesses:
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