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CHARLES W. BAILEY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 61,502, dated January 29, 1867.

IMPROVEMENTS IN BOOTS AND SHOES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL PERSONS TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Be it known that I, CHARLES W. BAILEY, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk, and State of Massachusetts, have made a new and useful invention having reference to Boots and Shoes, and more especially to the heels thereof; and I do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification, and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of a heel and sole as provided with the said invention.

Figure 2 is a top view of the heel-connecting latch and its spring, the arrangement of the two with respect to the heel being also exhibited in this figure.

Figure 3 is an underside view; and

Figure 4 is a side elevation of the catch-plate and catches affixed to the sole.

Figure 5 is a top view of the heel and its cap-plate.

The purpose of my invention is to enable a heel to be readily attached to, as well as detached from, a sole, as occasion may require. It is often that a heel becomes worn unevenly or "run down" on one side, in which case it is desirable to remove it from the shoe and apply it to the other or mate thereof. So it frequently happens that a new heel is required to a shoe to supply the place of a worn-out one, all of which may be accomplished through my invention.

In the drawings, A denotes the rear portion of a sole of a boot or shoe, B being the heel. For convenience of applying my improvement to the heel, I make the main body *a* of such heel of wood, and I fix to its bottom a leather lift, *b*. The said heel, at its top, I chamber or recess, so as to receive a latch, C, and its actuating spring D, which are formed and arranged within the heel in manner as represented in the drawings, and particularly in figs. 1 and 2 thereof. A metallic cap-plate, E, is screwed to the heel, and is provided with a series of holes, *d d d*, each of which goes through the said plate, and is for reception of one of a series of catches, *e e e*, projecting from a metallic plate, F, which is screwed or fastened to the lower surface of the sole. Each arm of the latch, as well as the rear end of such latch, is bevelled so as to co-operate with the catch *e*, with which it is to act in holding the heel to the sole. There is a small arm, *f*, extended down from the front end of the latch and into a recess, *g'*, formed in the front edge of the heel. By means of the latch C, the cap-plate E, and the catch-plate F, and the catches *e e e*, arranged as set forth, the heel may be easily connected to, or disconnected from, the sole; for, to connect the two, we have only to press the heel up to the sole so as to cause the catches to enter the holes of the cap-plate and be fixed against the bevelled parts of the latch C, in which case the latch will be forced forward until the bevelled parts of the catches may have passed by the latch. The spring of the latch will then be free to push the latch endwise, so as to lock it upon the catches. By seizing hold of the arm *f*, and pulling the latch forward, we can easily draw the heel away from the sole.

I do not claim securing the soles and heel pieces to the soles and upper leather of boots or shoes, by the use of dove-tailed T-shaped projections and grooves, nor do I claim the simple application of a heel to a sole by means which will admit the detachment of the two, as circumstances may require.

What I claim as my invention or improvement is as follows, that is to say:

I claim the heel-latch C, made as described and represented.

I also claim the arrangement of the latch, its spring, the cap and catch-plates, their catch-holes and catches, with each other; and a heel and sole, as specified.

CHARLES WARREN BAILEY.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,

F. P. HALE, Jr.