

(No Model.)

A. W. EICHELBERGER.

ICE CREEPER.

No. 272,669.

Patented Feb. 20, 1883.

Fig. 1

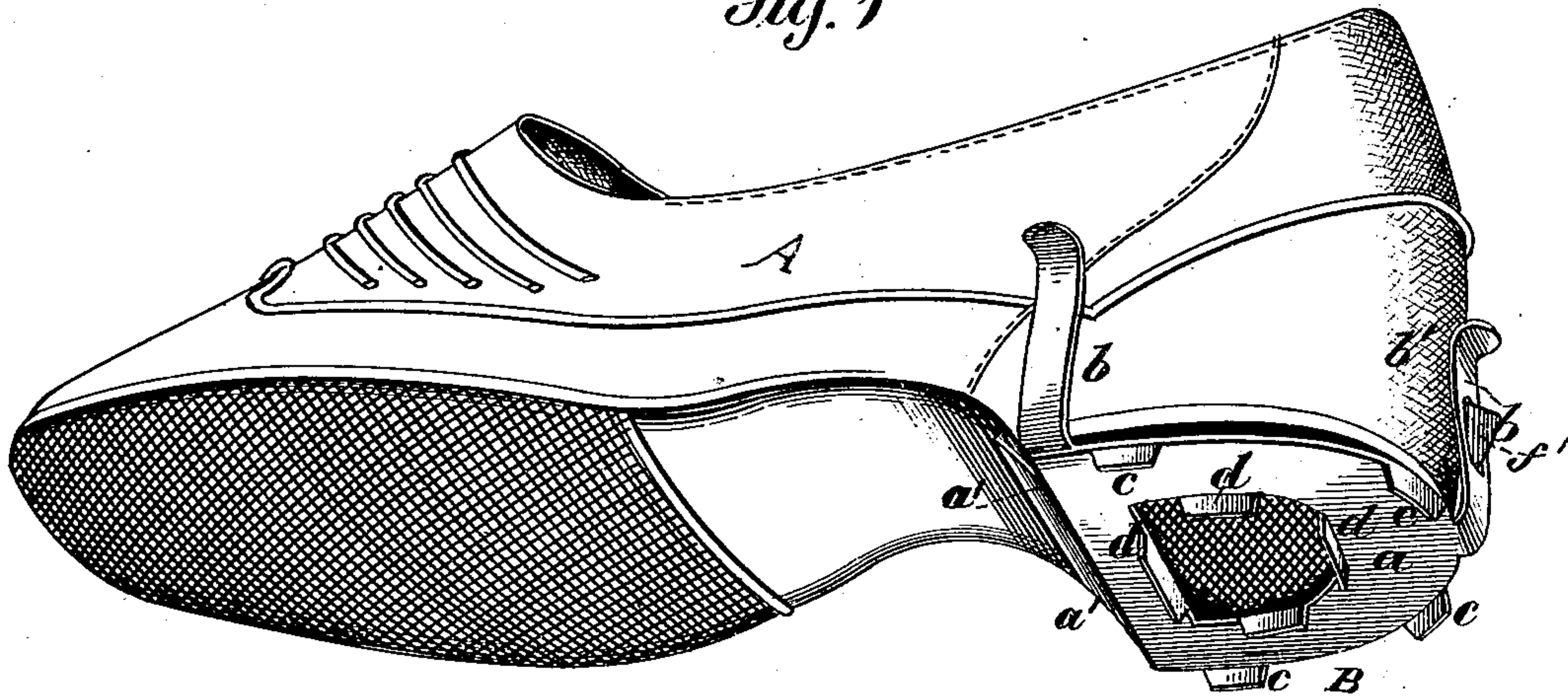
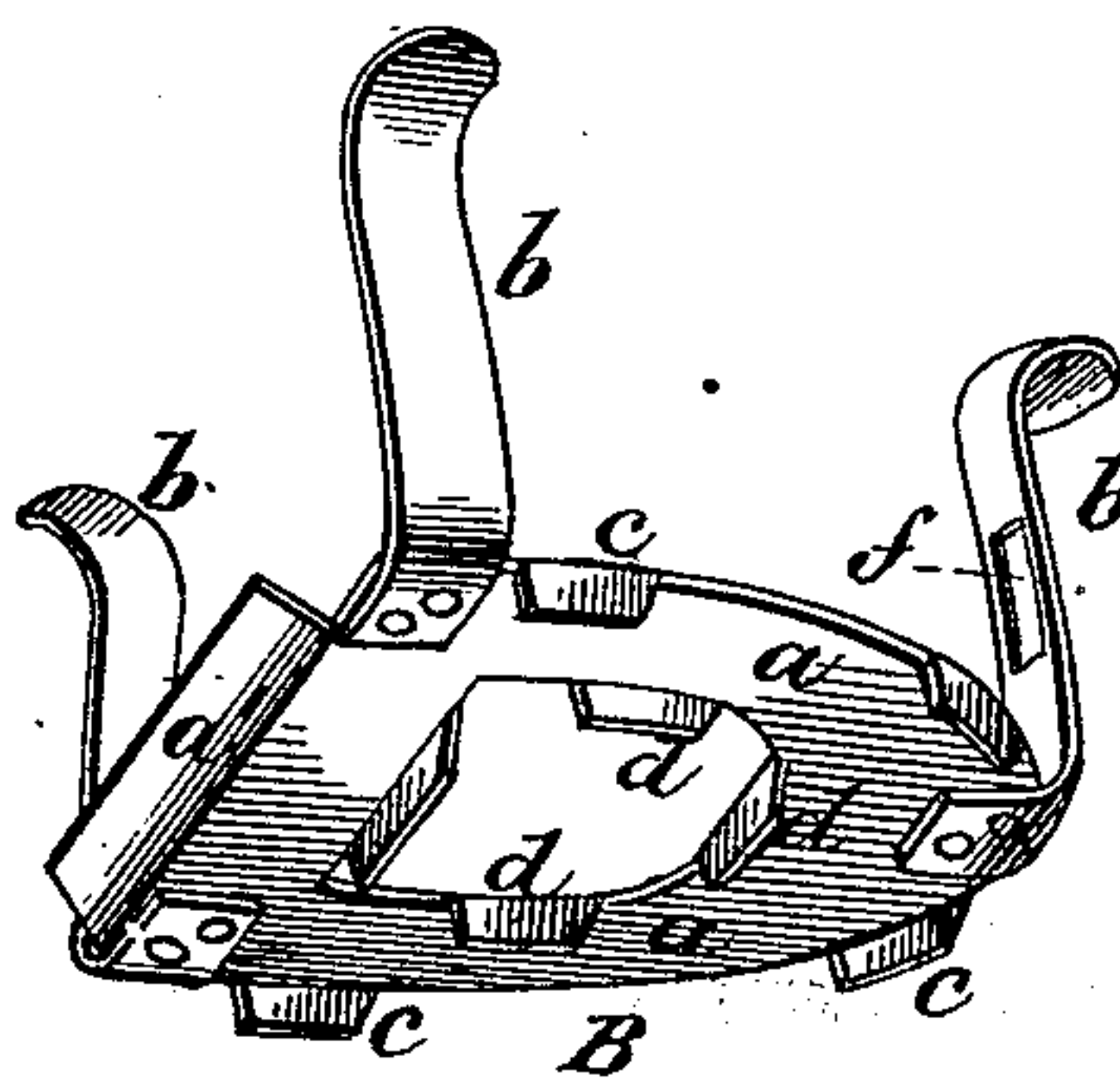


Fig. 2



Witnesses.
A. Ruppert.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ABDIEL W. EICHELBERGER, OF HANOVER, PENNSYLVANIA.

ICE-CREEPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 272,669, dated February 20, 1883.

Application filed December 4, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ABDIEL W. EICHELBERGER, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Hanover, in the county of York and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ice-Creepers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in ice-creepers, whereby the construction of the device is simplified and its effectiveness increased, and whereby also the creeper may be readily attached to and detached from the shoe or overshoe.

One of the objects of my invention is the construction of an ice-creeper which shall be well adapted for application to a rubber or gum overshoe, and at the same time be equally as well fitted for use with the ordinary walking shoe or boot. The construction is such as to enable the creeper to be readily applied to and taken from the heel of the overshoe without cutting, indenting, or otherwise damaging the rubber.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of an overshoe having the invention applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the creeper, showing a modification in its construction.

Similar letters of reference indicate similar parts in both figures.

A is a rubber or gum overshoe. B is the creeper, made of plate-steel, *a* showing the part which fits up against the under surface of the heel of the shoe, and *b* portions extending upward, constituting springs to fit against and around the counter or part *b'* of the shoe. The part *a* of the creeper is provided with downwardly-projecting points or spurs *c*, which may be suitably arranged to give the requisite roughened under surface. The forward end of the part *a* is inclined upward, as shown at *a'*, to fit or abut against the forward edge of the heel, against which it is drawn by the elasticity of the rear spring, *b*. The part *a'*, thus fitting against the forward edge or breast of the heel, assists in preserving the steadiness of the creeper upon the heel of the shoe. Each of the springs *b* is at its top curved outwardly,

so that the edge will not bind against or cut into the material of the shoe or overshoe as the heel is forced down into the creeper. The central portion of the flat surface *a* is preferably open or centrally perforated, as shown, in order to decrease the weight of the device, and also to afford a better bearing or hold in the ice, by reason of the formation of projections *d*, extending from the inner edge of said opening.

In manufacturing the creeper as shown in Fig. 1, the whole is stamped out of a blank of sheet-steel at one operation by suitable dies. In the modification shown in Fig. 2 the springs *b* are riveted to the lower or flat portion, *a*, which construction may be preferred by some manufacturers with a view to economy in material.

The rear spring, *b*, may, if preferred, be provided with a slot, *f*, to fit over the projection *f'*, of rubber, usually found at the counter of a rubber overshoe, to facilitate its removal from the foot. The slot fitting over said projection will assist in maintaining the creeper in place.

This invention, it will be seen, provides a cheap, simple, inexpensive, and effective safeguard against slipping on ice, and is readily applied to or removed from the shoe.

I claim as my invention—

1. In an ice-creeper, a centrally-perforated heel-plate having an inner and an outer series of spurs and a front or breast portion extending across the entire width of the plate, combined with front and back vertical springs adapted to fit around and embrace the counter of a shoe, both at the front and rear of the heel, substantially as set forth.

2. In an ice-creeper, the combination of a lower plate and a rear slotted spring adapted to fit over the projection at the rear of the counter portion of an overshoe, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature, in presence of two witnesses, this 29th day of November, 1882.

ABDIEL W. EICHELBERGER.

Witnesses:

GEORGE H. HOWARD,
W. T. COLE.