

(No Model.)

W. H. MELANEY.

BOOT OR SHOE HEEL.

No. 430,586.

Patented June 17, 1890.

Fig. 1.

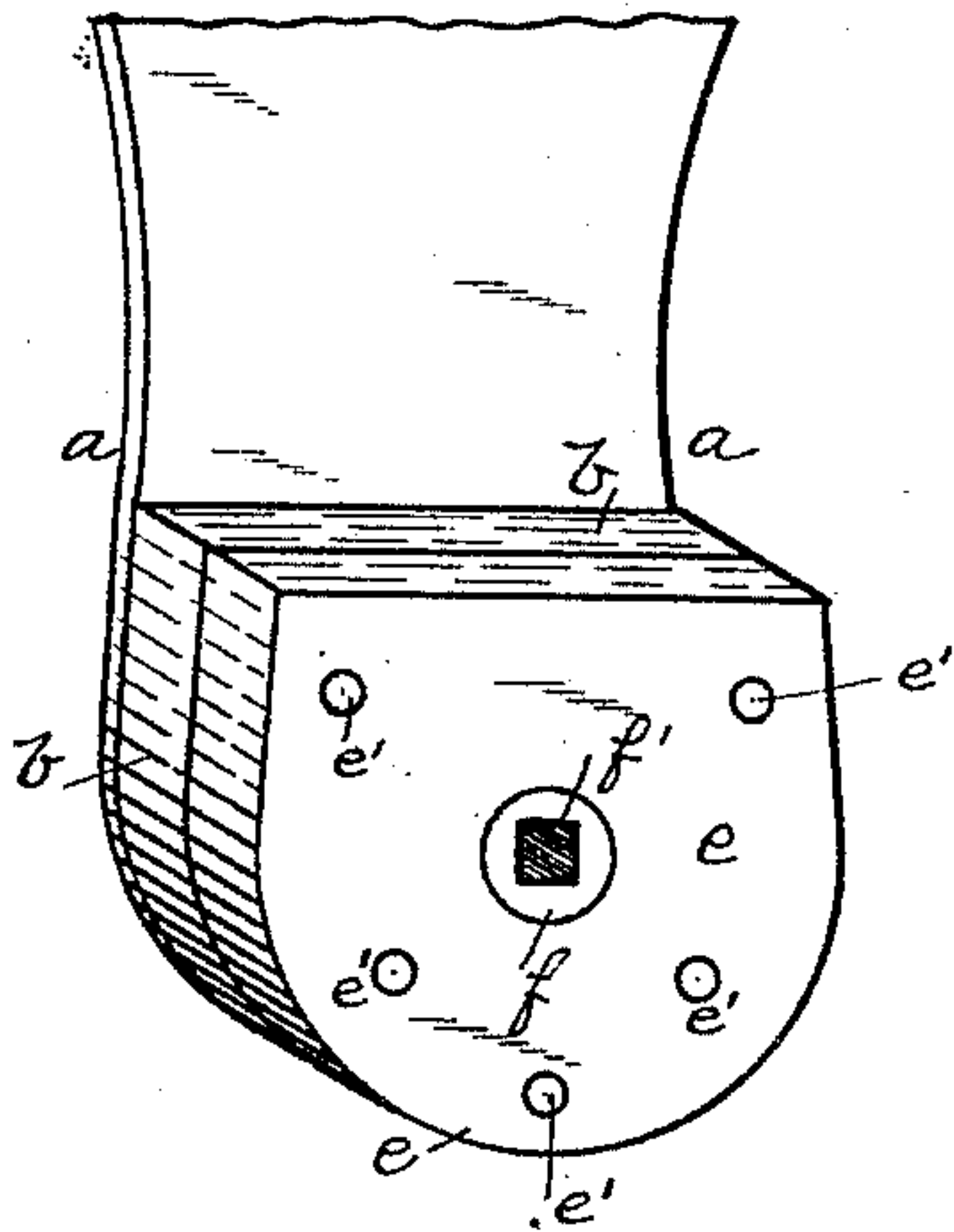


Fig. 2.

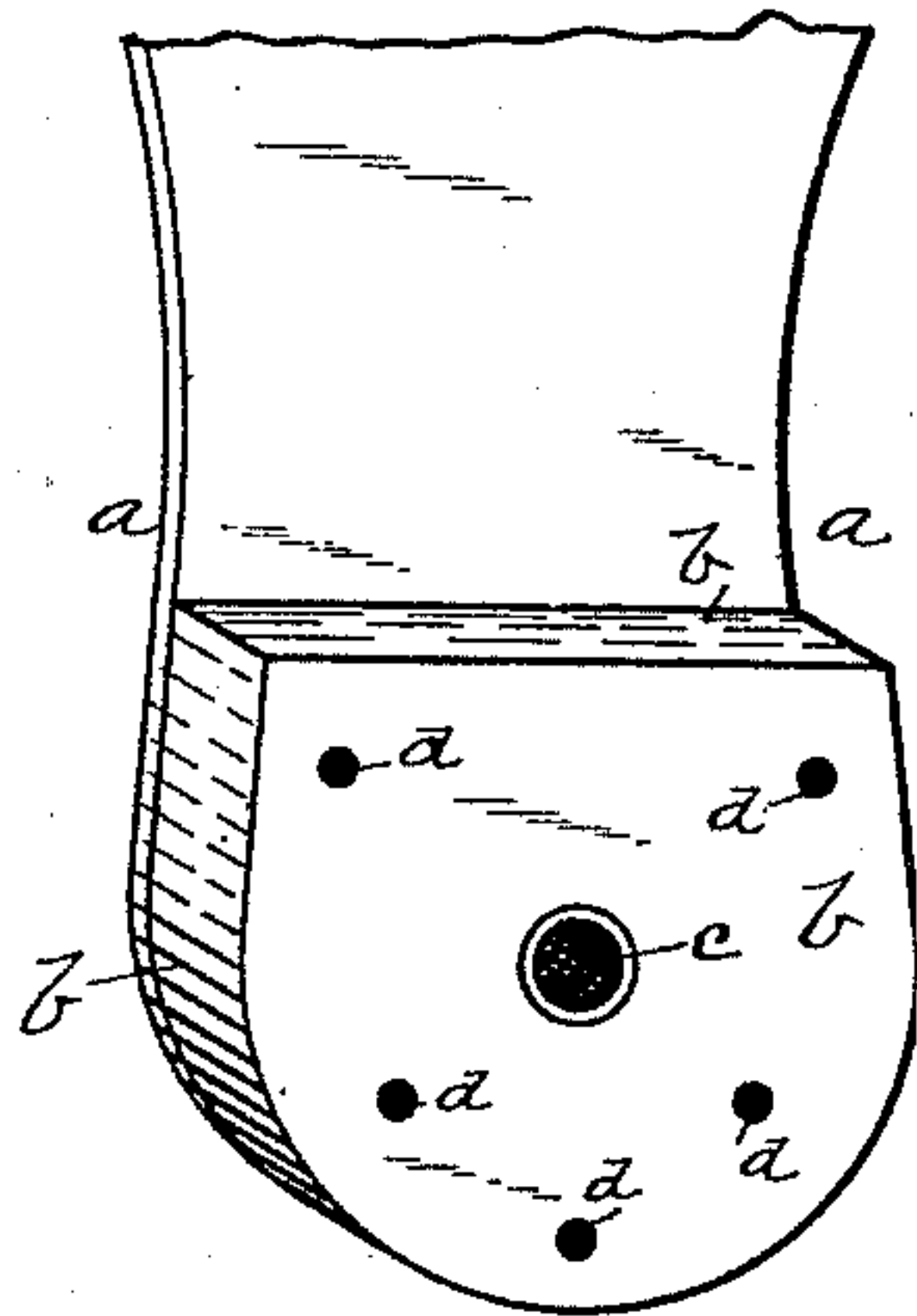


Fig. 3.

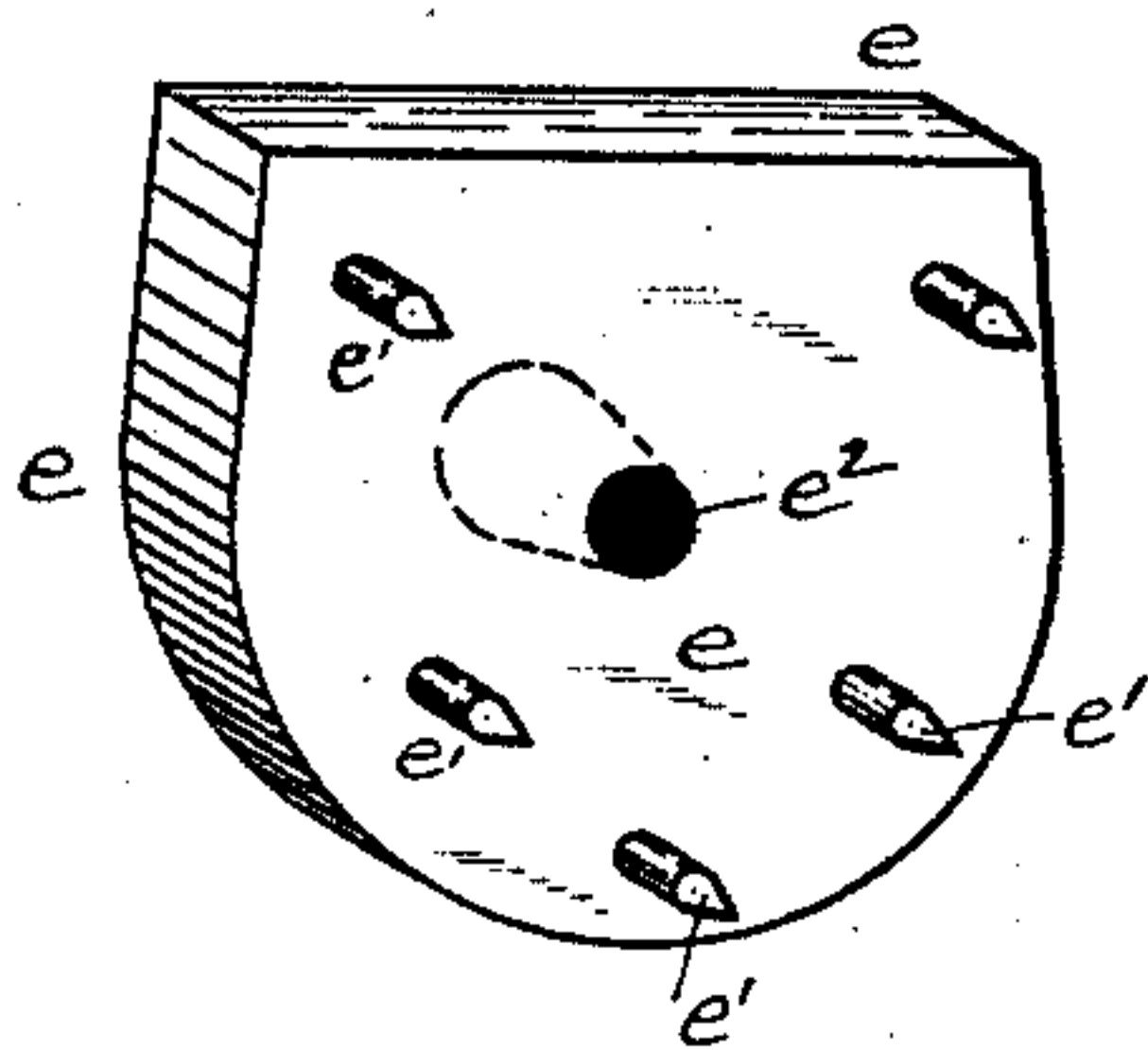
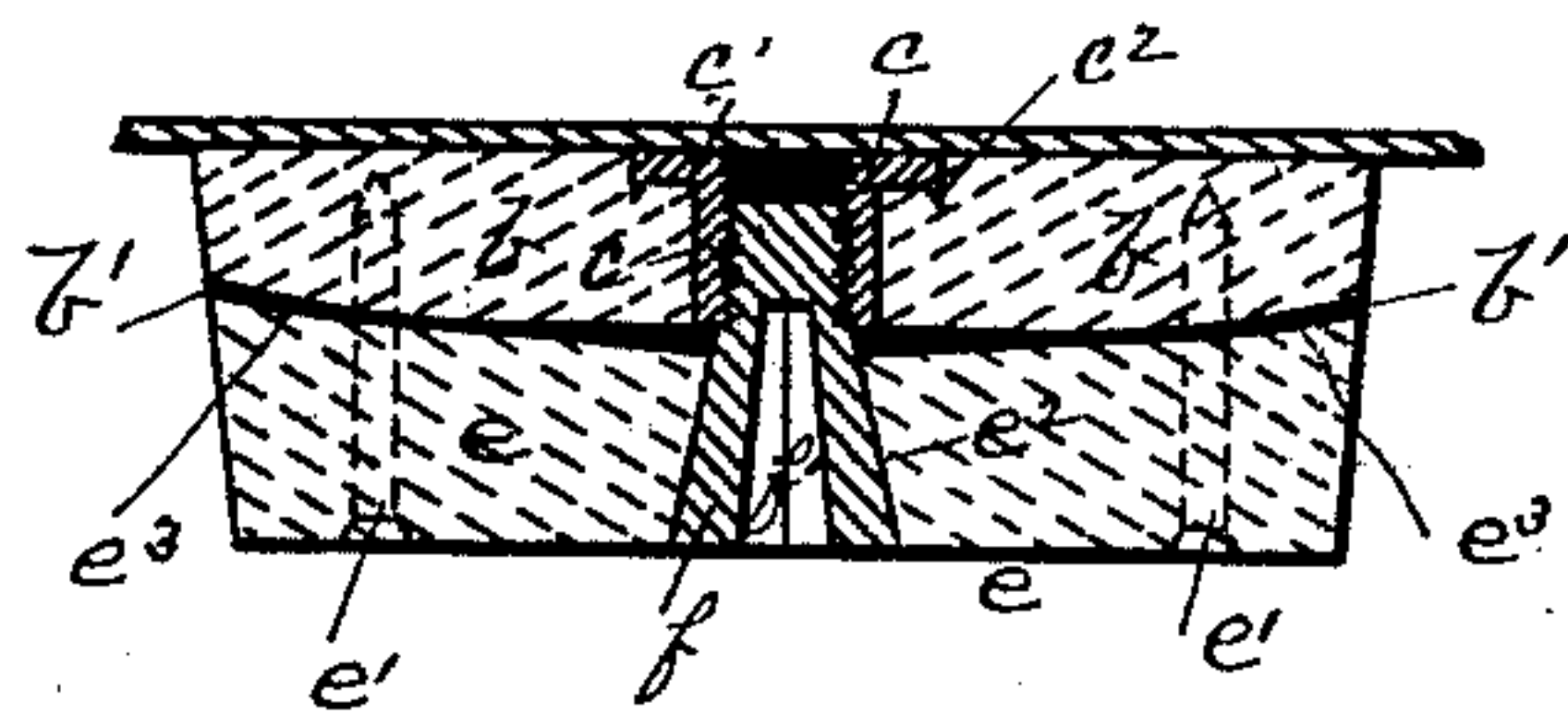


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. MELANEY, OF PITTSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO J. KAUFMANN & BROTHERS, OF SAME PLACE.

## BOOT OR SHOE HEEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 430,586, dated June 17, 1890.

Original application filed August 5, 1889, Serial No. 319,710. Divided and this application filed January 17, 1890. Serial No. 337,193. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. MELANEY, a resident of Pittsburg, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention relates to an improvement in shoes, its object being to provide a shoe with a removable heel which is adapted to be neatly secured to the heel proper of the shoe in such a way as to form a very close connection between the said removable heel and heel proper, and yet provide for its ready removal therefrom.

The present application is a division of an application filed by me the 5th day of August, 1889, Serial No. 319,710, for improvement in boots and shoes, and comprises certain means of securing the removable heels in place, all of which will be more fully hereinafter set forth and claimed.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe the same more fully, referring to the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a perspective view of the rear portion of a boot or shoe with my improved heel secured thereto. Fig. 2 is a like view with tap-heel removed. Fig. 3 is a view of the inner face of the tap-heel, and Fig. 4 is an enlarged cross-section thereof.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts.

In the drawings, *a* represents the rear portion of any boot or shoe, and although my invention is preferably used in connection with the application hereinbefore mentioned, yet it is a distinct invention.

The heel proper *b* of the boot or shoe constitutes about one-third of the entire heel, and is secured to the upper in the ordinary manner. This heel proper *b* is composed of layers of leather secured together in the ordinary way; but instead of said heel presenting a flat face, the layers of leather are so arranged that the said heel *b* when complete presents a slightly convex surface, as at *b'*. A nut *c* is secured within a suitable seat formed for it

in the center of the heel *b*. One or more of these nuts may be employed, as may be found necessary; but one in the center appears to be sufficient for all ordinary purposes. The nut *c*, which I prefer, has the flange *c'*, said flange being supplied with the teeth *c<sup>2</sup>*, and is to be inserted from within, so that the said flange *c'* will rest upon the upper surface of the heel *b*, and the teeth *c<sup>2</sup>* be forced therein to prevent said nut from turning when the screw is inserted. Seats *d* are arranged at intervals around the rim of the heel *b* to receive corresponding nails or pins *e'*, secured in the tap-heel *e*, to further strengthen the connection between said tap-heel *e* and the heel proper *b*. This tap-heel *e* may be constructed of any suitable material, and at a point therein corresponding to the position of the nut *c* in the heel proper *b* is the tapering counter-sunk hole *e<sup>2</sup>*, adapted to receive the screw *f*. The screw *f* has the seat *f'* formed therein, and is adapted to be operated by a key such as shown in the hereinbefore-mentioned application. The tap-heel *e* is constructed with its inner face *e<sup>3</sup>* concave, and slightly more concave than necessary, to make it coincide exactly with the convex face *b'* of the heel proper *b*, so that when the two faces *e<sup>3</sup>* and *b'* are brought into contact with each other the outer rim of the concave face *e<sup>3</sup>* will first come in contact with the outer rim of the convex face *b'*. In this way, as the screw *f* at the center is tightened, a very close union is formed between the said heels.

To secure the tap-heel in position upon the heel proper, the convex face *b'* of the heel proper *b* and the concave face *e<sup>3</sup>* of the tap-heel *e* are brought into contact with each other, the nails *e'* of said tap-heel entering the seats *d* prepared for them in the heel proper *b*. The screw-hole *e<sup>2</sup>* in the center of the tap-heel will coincide with the nut *c* of the heel proper *b*, when the screw *f* may be inserted therein and tightened up by means of the key. As stated, owing to the convex face *b'* and the concave face *e<sup>3</sup>* a very close connection is formed between the heel proper and tap-heel, so that no appearance of connection between the two



can be detected. It is readily apparent that any inexperienced person can remove the heel and substitute a new one without delay.

What I claim as my invention, and desire  
5 to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A boot or shoe having the heel proper *b* provided with the convex face *b'*, seats *d*, and nut *c*, in combination with a tap-heel *e*, having the concave face *e*<sup>3</sup>, countersunk hole *e*<sup>2</sup>,

screw *f*, and nails or pins *e'*, adapted to enter the seats *d* of the heel proper *b*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony whereof I, the said WILLIAM H. MELANEY, have hereunto set my hand.

WILLIAM H. MELANEY.

Witnesses:

J. N. COOKE,  
M. C. WARNER.