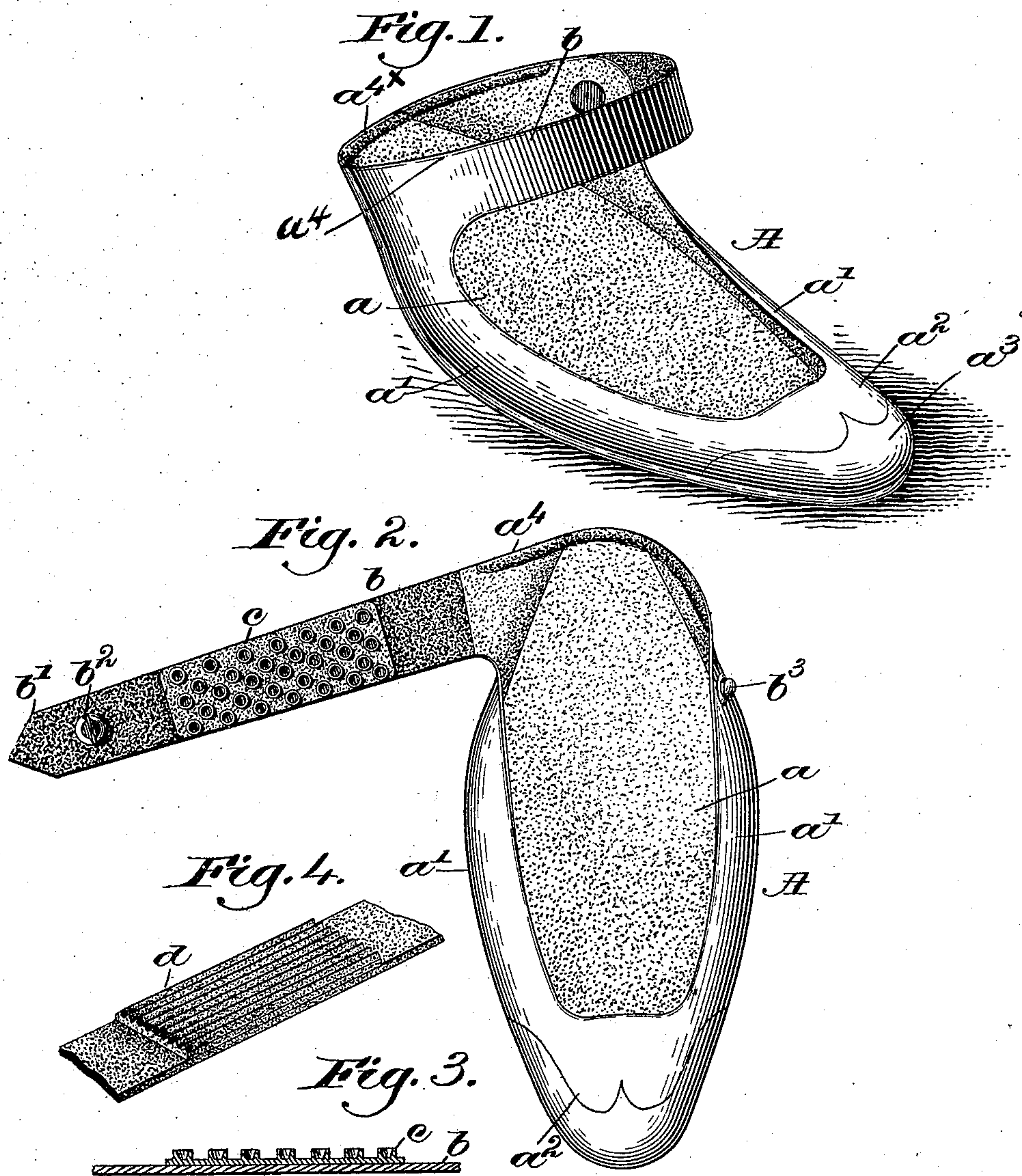


(No Model.)

C. J. BAILEY.
OVERSHOE.

No. 574,372.

Patented Jan. 5, 1897.



Witnesses:

A. C. Harmon.
Thomas J. Drummond.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES J. BAILEY, OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

OVERSHOE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 574,372, dated January 5, 1897.

Application filed April 28, 1896. Serial No. 589,359. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES J. BAILEY, of Newton, county of Middlesex, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Foot-holds, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

This invention has for its object the production of a novel overshoe which I have designated as a "foothold" or "fore-part" india-rubber.

Prior to my invention it has been customary to provide india-rubber sandals with a strap to surround the heel or counter of the shoe to keep the sandal on the foot, as in United States Patent No. 432,967, dated July 29, 1890.

The inner end of my foothold terminates in the shank of the shoe to be protected, the foothold being retained upon the shoe by the fastening of a top strap extended from the inner end or terminal point of the foothold over the top of the shoe in front of its ankle portion, the strain of said strap when fastened fitting the foothold firmly to the shoe and keeping it in place thereon, the fit of the terminal end of the foothold to the shoe being dust and water tight. In this way I am enabled to dispense with the back strap used in my said patent, it extending backwardly about the back end of the heel of the shoe and resting on the said heel above the counter, the strain of the back strap holding the foothold on the shoe.

In the use of the back strap I have found that it soon broke down the back of the heel of the shoe and wore the same objectionably, and that it would catch and hold water at its upper side, which would soak into the thin part of the back of the upper.

Figure 1 shows in perspective a foothold embodying my invention. Fig. 2 shows the same with the top strap opened. Fig. 3 shows the top strap of Figs. 1 and 2 in longitudinal section and enlarged, and Fig. 4 shows a modified form of top strap.

The fore part A of the foothold is composed of a short sole a to fit under the ball of the foot from the toe of the shoe back into the shank or instep, and rising from this sole are narrow sides a' and a toe part a^2 , the ends of said sides presenting a forwardly and up-

wardly projecting edge a^4 , the said edge a^4 being continued at one side of the foothold with a free-ended top strap b , which is adapted to cross the top of the shoe to be protected, diagonally in front of the ankle, said strap having at one end a suitable fastening device, as b^2 , which, coöperating with a stud b^3 , fastens the strap.

The top strap is unfastened when the foothold is to be put on and removed, and when fastened it draws the terminal end of the rubber at or near the inner end of the inner sole and the ends of the sides firmly about and fits the terminal end of said foothold snugly and closely about the shank and instep of the shoe to be protected, leaving the back of said shoe entirely unobstructed. This top strap will preferably be so made as to present a limited amount of elasticity, so that when passed and stretched about the top of the shoe it will thereafter contract to maintain a firm hold and draw the wale or rib a^{4x} closely to the sole and upper in the instep, so as to exclude the mud, water, dirt, and dust, and at the same time prevent the foothold from slipping forward on the foot. This top strap for the best results will be made detachable at one end, as at the end b' , where it may be provided with a suitable fastening device b^2 , preferably of the ball-and-socket variety, the coöperating member being marked b^3 and attached to the part a' .

To add further to the holding efficiency of the top strap, I provide it at its under side with a series of projections c , which may be either round, as in Figs. 2 and 3, or elongated, as in Fig. 4.

The strain exerted by the top strap in keeping the foothold on the foot is in the direction of the length of the wale or rib a^{4x} , and said rib, inclined diagonally forward, is consequently drawn very snugly against the foot, and the strap b cannot slip down and thus lessen the closeness of the contact of the said rib with the shoe.

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

1. As an article of manufacture, a foothold composed of a short sole to extend under the toe of the sole of the shoe to be protected back into the shank thereof, a toe part and

sides having their ends inclined forwardly and upwardly, the ends of said sides terminating the foothold, the edge of one of said ends being prolonged by a strap which is adapted to be extended diagonally across the shoe in front of the ankle of the wearer thereof, said strap being connected to the end of the side of the foothold at the opposite side of the sole thereof, substantially as described.

2. As an article of manufacture, a foothold composed of a short sole to extend under the toe of the sole of the shoe to be protected back into the shank thereof where the sole of the foothold is contracted; and a toe part and sides having ends inclined forwardly and upwardly, the ends of said sides terminating the inner end of the foothold, the edge of one of said ends being continued to present a free-ended strap adapted to extend diagonally for-

ward over the top of the shoe to be protected, said strap being provided with a fastening device whereby when said foothold has been put onto the shoe to be protected, and said strap has been drawn snugly over the top of the shoe in front of the ankle thereof it may be connected to a cooperating fastening member attached to the end of the side at the opposite side of the sole, the said foothold being thus secured to the shoe by means wholly in front of the ankle or instep covering portion thereof, substantially as described.

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

CHARLES J. BAILEY.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. GREGORY,
ADDIE FARNUM DANIELS.