No. 757,365. PATENTED APR. 12, 1904.

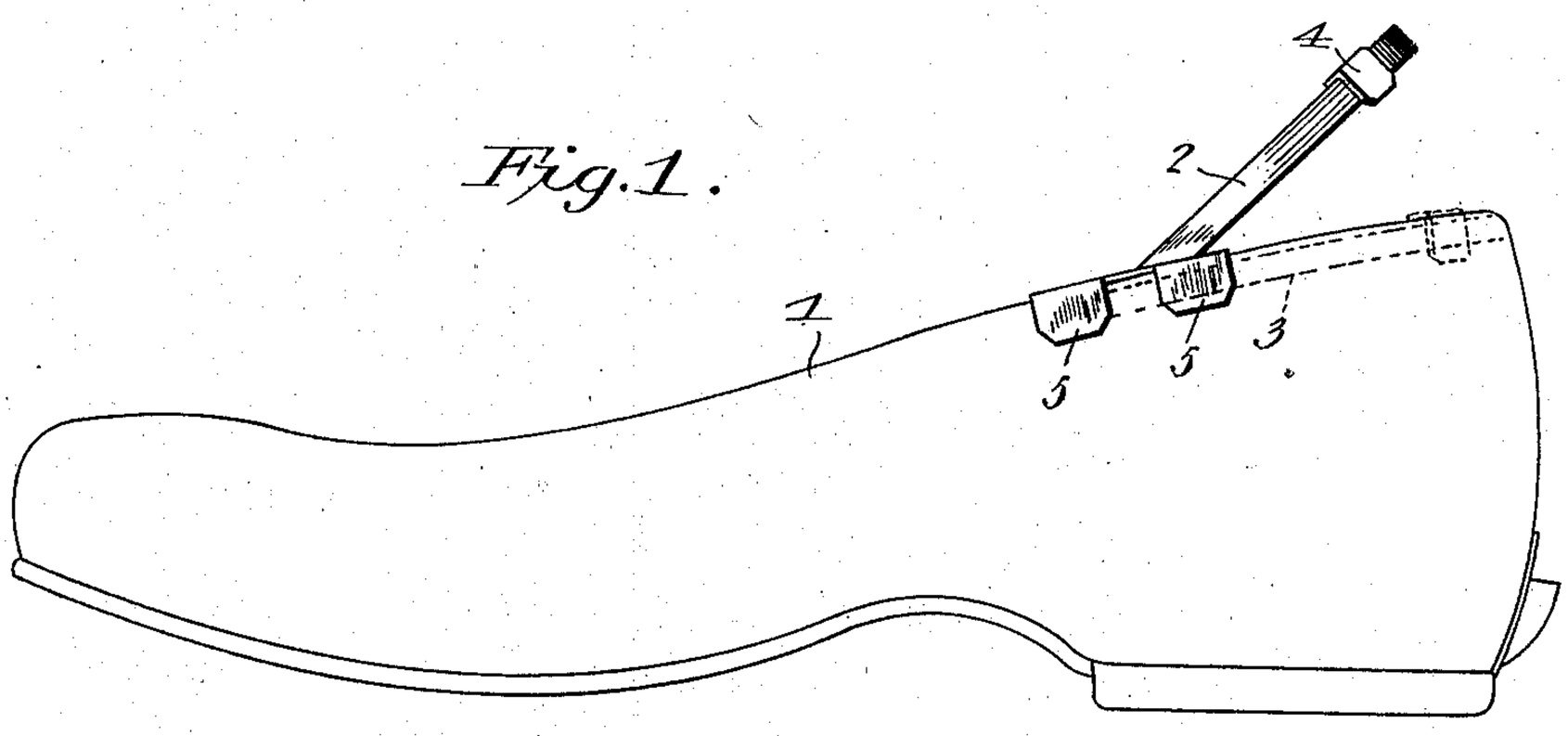
W. H. TILLSON.

ATTACHMENT FOR OVERSHOES.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 15, 1903.

NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

Fig. 1.



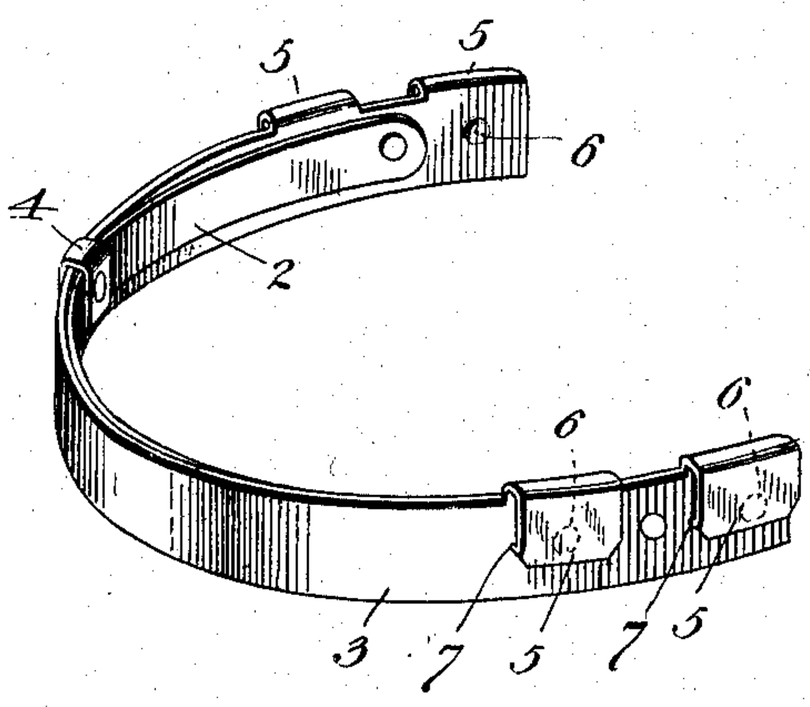


Fig. 2.

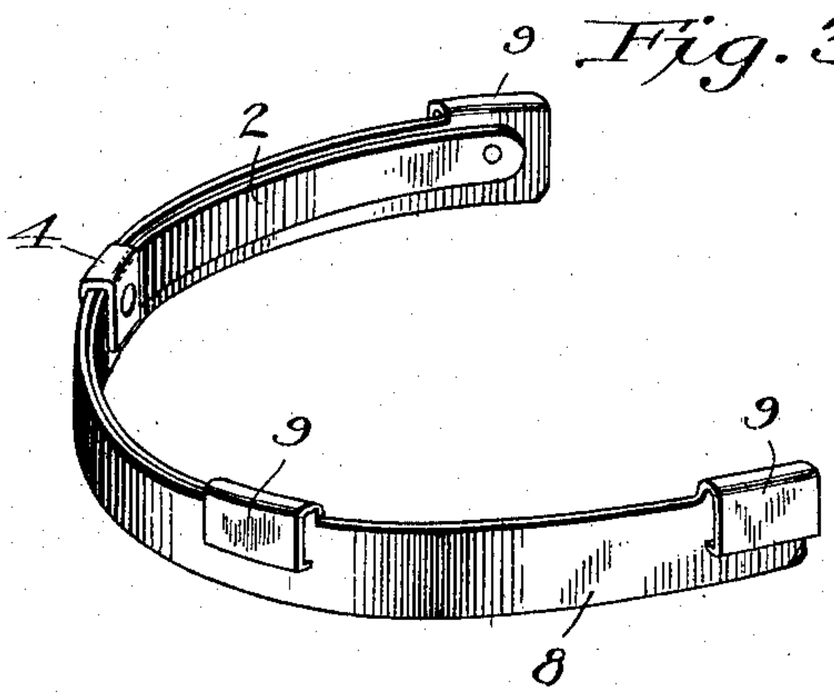


Fig. 3.

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NO MODEL. 2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

Fig. 4.

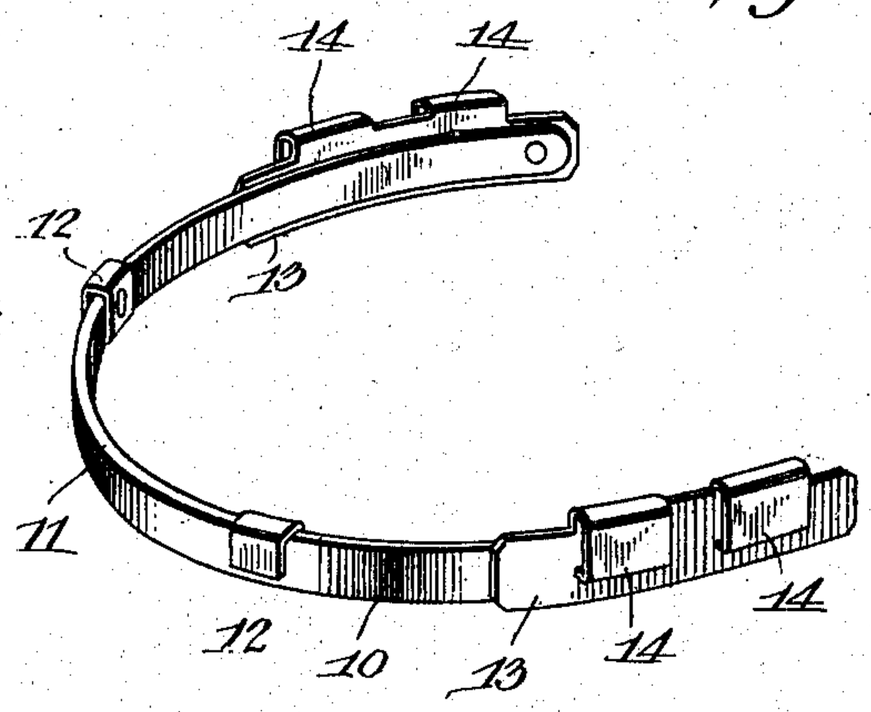
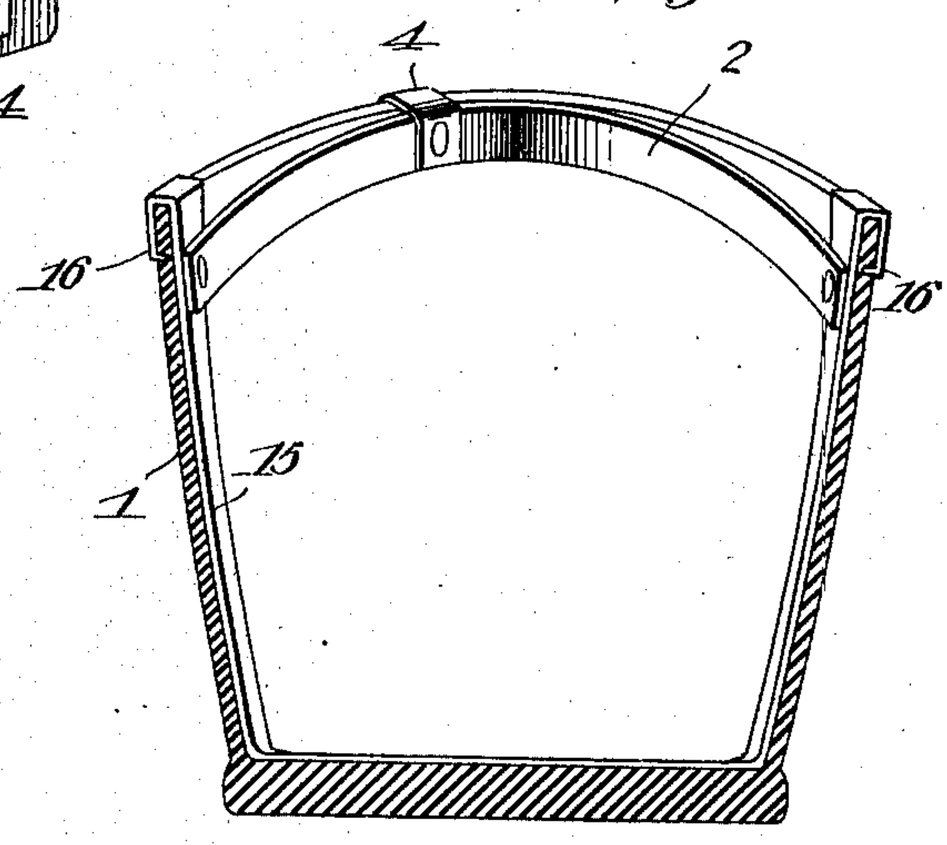


Fig. 5.



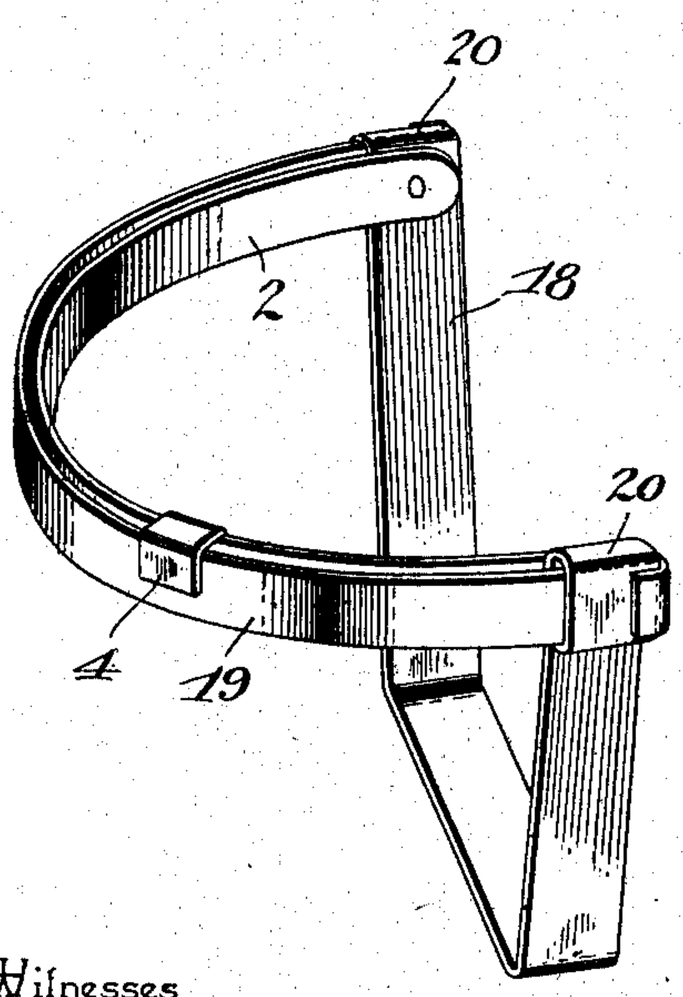


Fig. 6.

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No. 757,365. Patented April 12, 1904.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. TILLSON, OF QUINCY, ILLINOIS.

ATTACHMENT FOR OVERSHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 757,365, dated April 12, 1904.

Application filed August 15, 1903. Serial No. 169,637. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. TILLSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Quincy, in the county of Adams and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Attachment for Overshoes, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to attachments for overshoes.

The primary object of the invention is to provide a neat, durable, and thoroughly-effective attachment for overshoes which in use will operate positively and without discomfort to the wearer of the overshoes to prevent the overshoes from working off.

A further object of the invention is to provide a holder of such construction that when applied to an overshoe it will not present on the inside of the overshoe any obstruction which would interfere with the wear of the shoe or which would be objectionable on account of marring the leather of the shoe proper.

A further object of the invention is to provide a novel form of means for attaching the holder of the overshoe by which accidental separation of the holder and the overshoe will be positively prevented.

A further and special object of the invention is to provide means for attaching the holder to the overshoe which will also serve to hold the back part of the overshoe in proper shape and prevent the collapse of the back portion when the overshoe is being put on.

With the objects above stated in view the nature of the invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts of an attachment for overshoes hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this invention, there are illustrated several different forms of embodiment of the invention, differing chiefly in the character of the means employed for attaching the holding member to an overshoe, it being understood that changes in the exact shape, proportions, and mode of assemblage of the elements exhibited may be made without departing from the spirit of the invention.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in side elevation of an overshoe with an attachment embodying one form of my invention secured thereon, the attachment being shown in operative position by full lines and in inoperative position by dotted lines. Fig. 2 is a view in perspective of the attachment shown in Fig. 1 detached from the overshoe. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a modified form of the attachment detached from an overshoe. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of another modified form of the invention. Fig. 5 is a view in vertical section through an overshoe looking toward the heel and showing another modified form of the invention in position thereon. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of still another modification of the invention.

Referring to the drawings, in which corresponding parts are designated by the same characters of reference, 1 designates an ordinary overshoe, 2 a holder, and 3 a fastening device.

The overshoe 1 may be of any ordinary form, having a low back portion, as shown.

The holder 2 is preferably made of a flat strip of suitable material—such, for example, as rubber, whalebone, or sheet metal—and is preferably bent to the form shown, so that it may lie close against the inner side of the back portion of the overshoe when not in operation, thereby avoiding the presentation of an obstruction that would be objectionable, partly because of its tendency to cut the leather in the shoe proper and partly because it would interfere with putting the overshoe on. Ordinarily the holder 2 is a bail of sheet metal which may preferably be sheathed in suitable webbing to shield it from the action of moisture and to prevent injury to the shoe proper from contact with the edges thereof. The holder 2 is provided intermediate of its ends with a hook or loop 4, which is preferably placed a little to one side of the middle of the holder to prevent engagement with the back of the overshoe at the middle point, where a rib is usually formed. The hook or loop 4 is provided to engage with the upper margin of the back of the overshoe, as shown in Fig. 1, and so to prevent the bail 2 from being depressed below the top of the back

portion of the overshoe, where it could not be conveniently reached after the shoe had been put on.

The attaching device 3 consists of a thin strip of material, preferably metal, which is bent to conform to the proper outline of the back part of the overshoe and is provided with a plurality of hooks 5, which are bent over the top of the sides of the overshoe and are pressed into firm engagement therewith. In order to prevent disengagement of the attaching device 3 from the overshoe, small outward projections are formed at 6 by stamping and the corners of the hooks 5 are bent inward, as shown at 7. When the hooks 5 are pressed firmly against the outside of the overshoe and the ends of the strip of metal of which the attaching device is formed are pressed outward against the inside of the overshoe, the small projections 6 and the inwardly-bent corners 7 will be brought into positive engagement with the side of the overshoe and will hold the attaching device 3 firmly in position.

In the form of the invention described and in all the forms hereinafter to be described the holder is pivotally attached to the attaching device at the forward ends of the attaching device, so as to swing upward over the heel of the wearer.

In Fig. 3 is shown a modified form of the invention, in which a holder 2 of the form already described is attached to a fastening device 8, consisting of a strip of thin metal having three loops or hooks 9 associated therewith, each of the hooks having at its free margin an inwardly-disposed flange which is adapted to be forced into the material of which the overshoe is composed to hold the strip of metal in rigid association with the shoe.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Fig. 4 the holder 10 is thickened midway between its ends at 11 and is provided with two hooks 12, arranged at the ends of the thickened portion. The attaching devices 13 consist of plates of thin slightly-flexible metal having at the upper margins thereof two hooks 14, spaced somewhat apart and provided at their free edges with inwardly-bent flanges for engagement with the outside of the overshoe. The plates of metal forming the attaching devices 13 are of sufficient length to be bent to conform to the normal curve of the overshoe and when placed in position thereon will serve to hold the sides of the overshoe in proper position and to prevent collapse thereof.

In the form of the invention illustrated in Fig. 5 a bail 2 is pivoted to a fastening device, consisting of a thin strip of metal 15, extending vertically downward at each side of the overshoe, on the inside thereof, and extending horizontally across the bottom of the shoe. The upper ends of the strip 15 are bent over the top of the sides of the overshoe to form hooks 16 and may be provided with flanges at the free margins thereof, as shown, or with inwardly-bent corners similar to those described in connection with another form of the invention. In order to protect the strip 15 and prevent injury to the shoes therefrom, it will preferably be covered over with a coating of fabric. (Not shown.)

In the form of the invention shown in Fig. 6 the device consists of a bail 2, pivoted at its ends to the upper ends of a strip 18, and a horizontally-arranged strip 19, having the ends thereof extended through the loops or hooks 20 at the upper ends of the strip 18 and bent around the edges of said hooks to hold the strip 19 in proper association therewith.

From the foregoing descriptive paragraphs and the figures illustrative thereof it will be seen that the means for attaching the bail or holder in all the forms of the invention will serve more or less completely to retain the back of the overshoe in shape, so that it will not collapse when an attempt is made to put the overshoe on by introducing the toe of the shoe proper into the overshoe and then forcing the heel of the shoe proper downward into the overshoe.

While specific reference to that fact that parts of the attachment may be sheathed in cloth have been made in describing only a few of the various forms of the invention, it will of course be obvious that such a sheath may be applied to all the different forms, if desired.

It is to be understood that in the construction of the various forms of the invention the proportions of the parts may be varied not only to adapt the attachment to overshoes of different sizes, but the length and width of the material used in forming the stiffener-strips and the bails may be varied within tolerably wide limits. The stiffener-strips may vary in width up to one and one-half inches or, if desired, may be extended to the bottom of the overshoe. The bails may be made from three-sixteenths of an inch to three-eighths of an inch in width, and the hooks mounted thereon for engagement with the upper margin of the overshoe-wall may be formed integral with the bail instead of being attached thereto by rivets, as illustrated. The length of the strips employed as stiffeners or as bails may also be varied somewhat in the production of attachments for overshoes of a given size; but the variation will be less marked than the variations in width, and no definite statement thereof need be given, owing to the fact that the lengths of the strips will necessarily vary for overshoes of different sizes, and in order to make such a statement of dimensions useful it would be necessary to specify the size of the overshoe for which strips of a given length were intended.

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

1. An attachment for overshoes comprising a stiffener for the overshoe-wall consisting of a strip of sheet metal, means for positively attaching the stiffener to the overshoe-wall on the inside thereof, a bail pivotally mounted on the stiffener and a catch on the bail to engage with the upper margin of the wall of the overshoe to limit the downward movement of the bail.

2. An attachment for overshoes comprising a stiffener disposed on the inside of the overshoe along the upper margin of the wall thereof, a bail pivotally mounted upon the stiffener and depressible within the overshoe, means for positively attaching the stiffener to an overshoe, and a hook carried by the bail for engagement with the upper margin of the overshoe-wall to limit the downward movement of the bail.

3. An attachment for overshoes comprising a stiffener for overshoes adapted to lie in contact with the inside of an overshoe, hooks provided on the stiffener for engagement with the upper edge of the overshoe-wall and having bent portions at the ends thereof to engage the outer surface of the overshoe-wall, and a bail pivotally connected at its terminals with the stiffener and provided with a catch to limit the downward movement of the bail.

4. An attachment for overshoes comprising a stiffener consisting of a strip disposed horizontally along the inside of the upper margin of the overshoe, a second strip rigidly connected with the first strip and extending downward inside the overshoe and across the bottom thereof, and a bail pivotally attached to the stiffener on the inside thereof.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM H. TILLSON.

Witnesses:
CHARLES A. JAMES,
J. I. FOREMAN.