

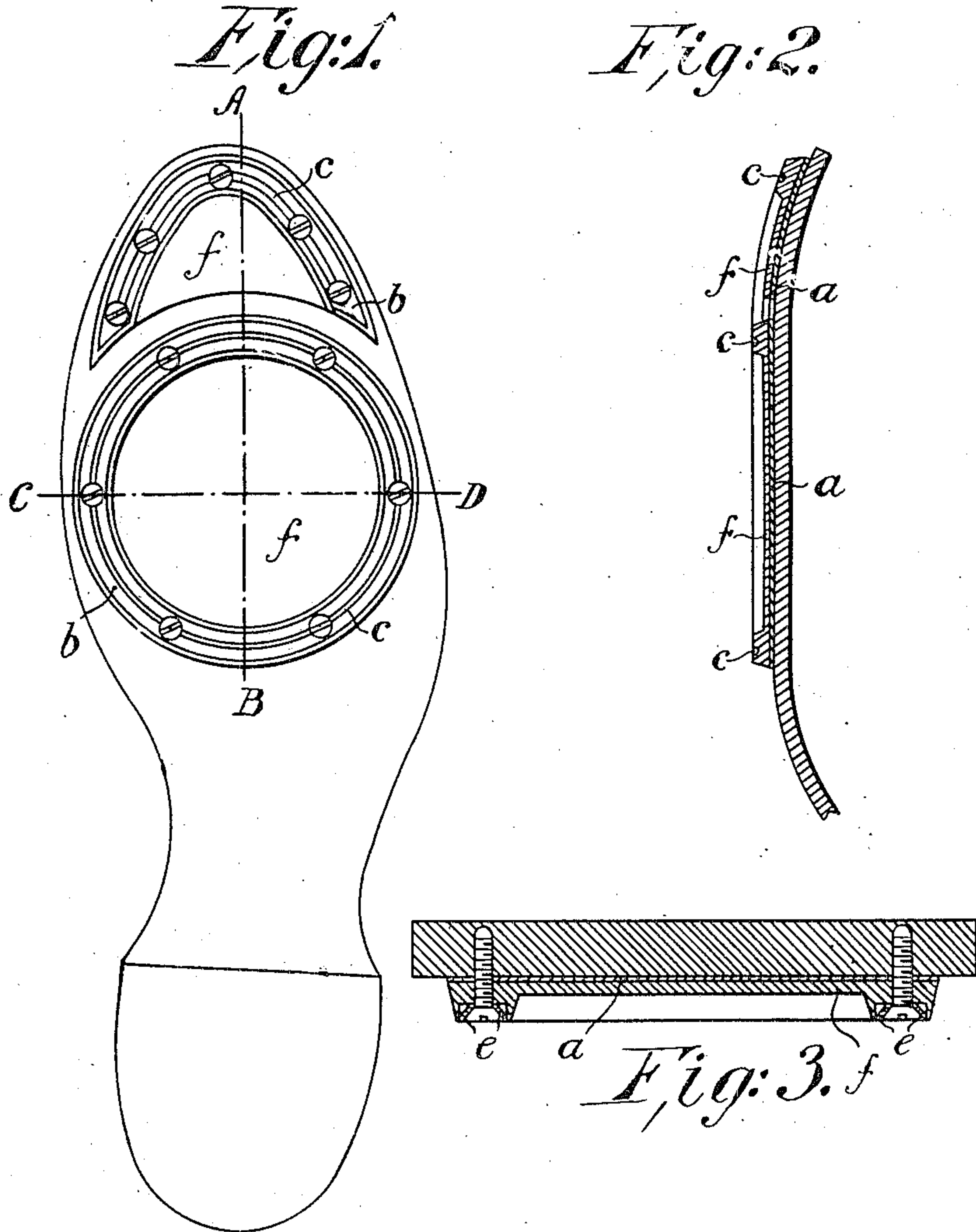
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PATENTED JULY 10, 1906.

H. SANDEMAN.

ATTACHMENT FOR GOLF OR TENNIS BOOTS OR SHOES.

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Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HARRY SANDEMAN, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

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No. 825,869.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 10, 1906.

Application filed January 19, 1905. Serial No. 241,740.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HARRY SANDEMAN, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at 10 Throgmorton avenue, in the city of London, England, have invented a new and useful Improved Attachment for Golf or Tennis Boots or Shoes, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in attachments for boots and shoes to be worn by the players of certain games, more especially golf, tennis, and the like. Boots or shoes for these purposes have often been constructed with ribs or bars across the sole and also with studs of rubber or other elastic material distributed over the sole for the purpose of giving a better grip of the ground and enabling the player to stand more firmly when striking the ball.

My present invention relates to the construction of an attachment for a boot or shoe in some respects similar to the foregoing, inasmuch as it gives the user a satisfactory and reliable grip of the ground, but differing essentially from previous devices in its purpose and in the means whereby the said purpose is attained.

In playing the game of golf it is necessary for the foot to turn upon the ball as upon a pivot in order that the full swing may be given to the golf-club and an effective blow be struck. This involves the turning of the foot through the greater part of a semicircle without raising the ball or toe of the foot from the ground, and it is consequently desirable that the ball of the sole of the boot or shoe or the toe, or both, should have some appliance which will securely hold upon the ground not only without hindering, but to facilitate as much as possible this pivotal motion and still preserve or not diminish the grip. To secure this, I attach a flexible or elastic device, preferably in form of a ring made of rubber, leather, or other suitable material or a combination of the same to the sole of the boot under the broadest part or ball of the foot and a flexible semicircular piece made of rubber, leather, or other suitable material or a combination of the same to the sole of the boot at the toe. The ring on the sole of the boot under the ball of the foot is of sufficient diameter according to the size of the boot or shoe to properly hold upon the ground—in fact, within reasonable limits the larger its diameter the more effective will be its hold upon the ground. This ring by itself con-

stitutes an effective attachment for a golf or tennis boot or shoe, and in many instances this device alone is employed. The semicircular toe attachment is of sufficient size to practically cover the sole of the boot at the toe. In striking the blow the swing of the body causes the palm of the foot of the player to rotate, as upon a pivot, the said pivot being represented by the above-described ring or when the player turns upon his toe, as is the present style of many of the champion and similar standard of golfers, the semicircular attachment on the sole of the toe will represent the pivot upon which the player turns when striking the blow. In addition to securing in the best manner possible and with the least resistance to the motion of the foot the position of the player on the ground there is the further advantage that the attachment, being in the form of a circle or at the toe in a semicircle, will do no injury to the grass or surface of the ground which in golf-links much played over or on polished or other floors is a matter of considerable importance. Further, the ring and semicircular toe attachment, owing to their hollow form, act upon wet or slippery ground by creating a partial vacuum, and thus aid in preventing slipping.

In order to more clearly set forth my invention, I have illustrated the same in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows the ring and semicircular toe-piece attached to the sole of a boot. Fig. 2 is a section on the line A B of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a section, on an enlarged scale, on the line C D of Fig. 1.

The surface *a* next to the boot or shoe is preferably composed of fabric, such as canvas, vulcanized into a solid piece with the rubber *b*, of which the rest of the attachment is composed. The configuration of the rubber part of the apparatus is well illustrated in the drawings, the raised circumference or annulus surrounding the central cavity being provided with a groove *c* and a series of stud or screw holes. These screw-holes are best constructed with a brass eyelet *e*, counter-sunk in the rubber, and are not made to penetrate through the whole depth of the rubber, as shown in Fig. 3, until the attachment is actually fastened to the sole of the boot or shoe.

In order to fasten the attachments to the sole of the boot or shoe, the said attachments are placed in position on the sole, and a hole is then pierced through the perforated por-

tion of the rubber beyond the countersunk eyelets into the sole of the boot and screws or the like are inserted therein and screwed tight. In this manner the head of the screw has a firm grip of the brass eyelet and holds firmly the ring or semicircular toe attachment in position. When screws are inserted in all the screw-holes, the attachments will be held firmly in position upon soles of very moderate thickness.

As shown clearly in Figs. 2 and 3, the circumference of the attachments are raised considerably above the central part *f*, and the hollow thus formed additionally acts upon dry as well as wet or slippery ground by creating a partial vacuum, and thus aids in preventing slipping.

In order to allow the player to either turn on the ball of the sole or the toe, as convenient, I make the toe attachment slightly thinner than the ring, so as to be on a lower level than the latter. Further, the toe turns up sufficiently to escape contact with the ground when the player is turning on the ring.

What I claim is—

1. In combination with a golf or tennis boot or shoe an attachment secured to the forward part of the sole and covering practically the whole width of same and consisting of an elastic circular plate, a stiffening layer of heavy fabric on its inner surface, a raised circumference on said elastic plate, and a central portion completely dished out whereby it is rendered possible to turn on the forward part of the ball of the foot as upon a pivot.

2. In combination with a golf or tennis boot or shoe an attachment secured to the forward part of the sole and covering practically the whole width of same and consisting of an elastic circular plate, a stiffening layer of heavy fabric on its inner surface, a raised circumference on said elastic plate, an

annular groove, therein, and a central portion completely dished out whereby it is rendered possible to turn on the forward part of the foot as upon a pivot.

3. In combination with a golf or tennis boot or shoe an attachment secured to the sole under the ball of the foot and consisting of an elastic circular plate having a circular plate of canvas on the inner surface vulcanized into said elastic plate, a raised circumference on said elastic plate, an annular groove therein and a central portion completely dished out; and an elastic semicircular toe-piece having a semicircular piece of canvas on its inner surface vulcanized into said toe-piece, a raised edge portion on said elastic toe-piece, a groove therein and a dished-out central portion.

4. In combination with a golf or tennis boot or shoe an attachment secured to the sole under the ball of the foot and consisting of an elastic circular plate having a circular plate of canvas on the inner surface vulcanized into said elastic plate, a raised circumference on said elastic plate, an annular groove therein, screw-holes with countersunk brass eyelets in said groove and a central portion completely dished out; and an elastic semicircular toe-piece having a semicircular piece of canvas on said inner surface vulcanized into said toe-piece, a raised edge portion on said elastic toe-piece, a groove therein, screw-holes with countersunk brass eyelets in said groove, and a dished central portion.

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

HARRY SANDEMAN.

Witnesses:

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