





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## ICE-CREEPER.

No. 885,827.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN A. E. ANDERSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook, in the State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ice-Creepers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in ice-creepers.

The object of my present invention is to provide an improved ice-creeper or antislipping device of simple and economical construction, in which the usual spur plates, holding clips, clamping jaws, sliding bars, levers or sole engaging hooks are eliminated, and which is so arranged that it can readily and conveniently be placed in position or detached therefrom without the necessity of adjusting any movable parts, and is held in position by its frictional engagement with the shoe.

My invention is formed of the cooperative combination of a single piece of wire so bent as to form a shoe engaging portion, and a pair of terminal pendent spurs which loosely bear against the bottom of the heel in use, and a flexible retaining member mounted on the said shoe engaging portion, and adapted for a frictional engagement with the shoe.

The novel features of my present invention reside in the form and arrangement of the creeper body and its cooperative relation with the surmounted flexible retaining member.

Similar reference numerals indicate like parts throughout the several views in which

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention in position upon a shoe showing the relative arrangement of the operative parts in use. Fig. 2 is a bottom plan of Fig. 1 showing the arrangement of the holding spurs upon the lower face of the shoe-heel. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail view of my invention showing the manner of securing the flexible retaining member in position on the wire body. Fig. 4 is also a detail of the same showing a view of its inner face.

The body of my invention is formed of a single piece of strong spring wire which is so bent as to form a curved and approximately

semicircular portion 1 substantially midway of its ends, and adjacent right-angular downwardly bent portions 2, adapted to engage the sides of the shoe in front of the heel. The opposite ends of this wire body are of identical construction and are bent first inwardly at substantially a right angle to the respective portions 2, as shown at 3, and then downwardly into right angular relation to the respective portions 2, as shown at 4, after which the free ends of the wire-body are bent inwardly or rearwardly to a plane in substantially parallel relation with the semi-circular portion 1, as shown at 5, and are then provided with the terminal prongs or spurs 6.

On the semi-circular portion 1 of the spring-wire body is mounted the flexible retainer 7, preferably made of suitable leather, and in the form of a band. This retaining band 7 is provided with a pair of lateral openings at or near its ends and also approximately midway of its ends through which the wire body is passed as shown, and by means of which the retainer is secured in position. This band is preferably of a suitable length to have the right-angular bends 8 between the portion 1 and the respective portions 2 arranged between the openings of the respective pairs of openings at the ends of the retainer, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, whereby displacement or derangement thereof in use is impossible.

When my invention is placed in position the portion 1 and the surmounted retainer will snugly fit the rear portion of the shoe at or near the upper part of the counter 9, as shown in Fig. 1, and the pendent right-angular portion 2 is arranged at the forward part of the counter, whereby the portions 3 will rest against the face of the instep sole, and the portions 5 will rest firmly against the lower face of the heel 10, as the vertical portions 4 have a length equal to the height of the heel 10.

It is obvious that my invention thus described can readily be placed in position by slipping it over the counter of the shoe from the rear, and can as readily be detached by pushing the device downward and forward. It is also obvious that when in position my invention is securely held against displacement downwardly and rearwardly by means of the frictional contact of the retainer 7 and the arrangement of the vertical portions 4 in front of the heel 10 respectively, while up-



ward displacement is prevented by the engagement of the horizontal portions 5 with the lower face of the heel 10.

5 The prongs or spurs 6 are made suitably sharp to holdingly engage the icy surface by flattening the free ends of the wire body as shown.

10 The retainer 7 can, of course, be made of any color and of any size to fit ladies', men's or children's shoes.

Having thus described my invention and the manner of employing the same what I desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

15 An ice creeper consisting of a single piece of wire whose central portion is formed into a horizontal loop whose ends are then bent

downward into a substantially right angular relation therewith, then bent inwardly to embrace the shoe in front of the heel, then bent downwardly and then rearwardly to form unconnected tread portions which are provided with right angular terminal prongs, in combination with a flexible retainer mounted upon the said horizontal loop.

Signed by me at the city of Chicago, 25 county of Cook, in the State of Illinois, this 29th day of April, A. D. 1907.

JOHN A. E. ANDERSON.

Witnesses:

MANOR BACON,  
A. P. DOBSON.