

J. OLIVER.  
SHOE GUARD.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 15, 1908.

911,673.

Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

FIG. 1

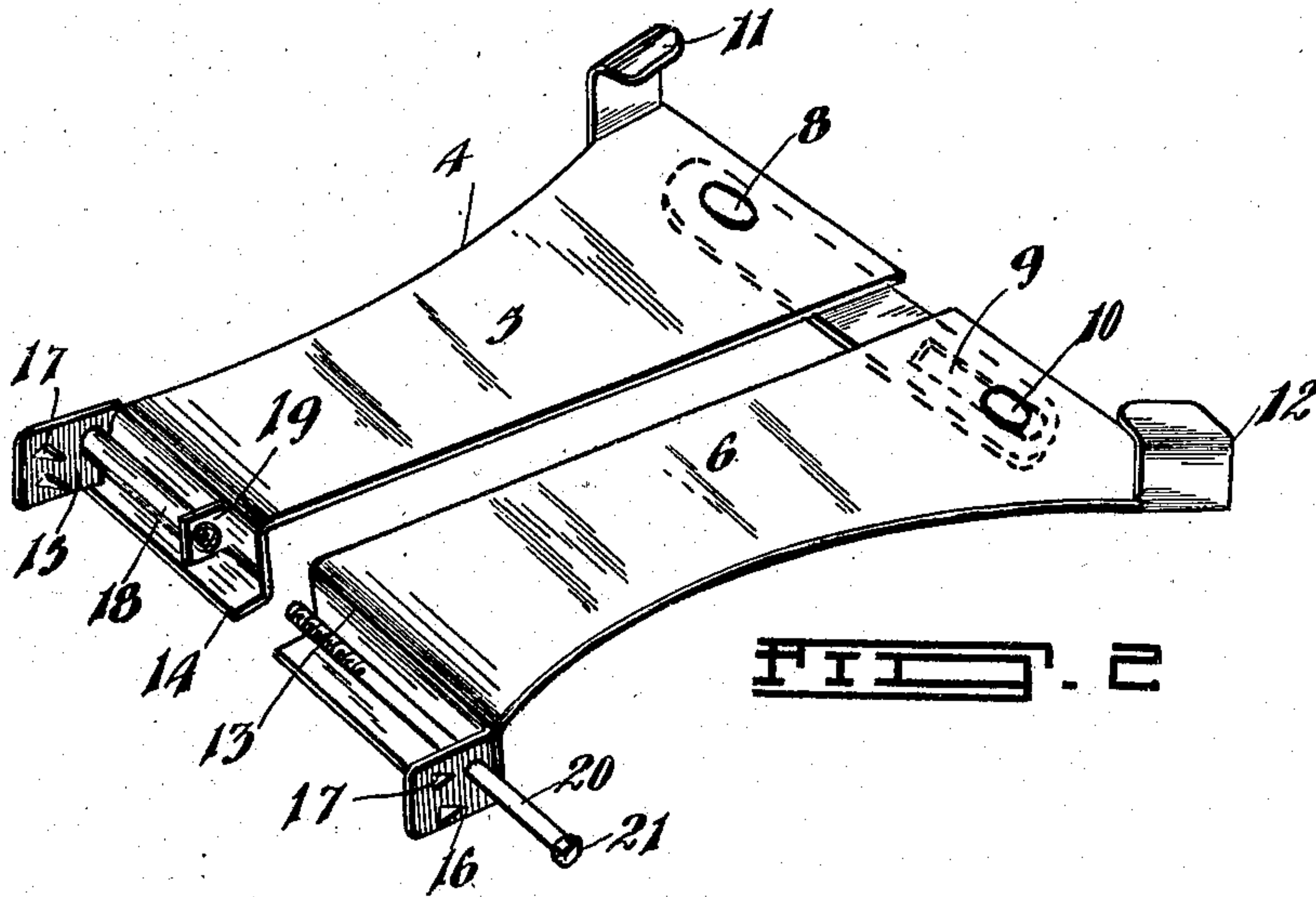
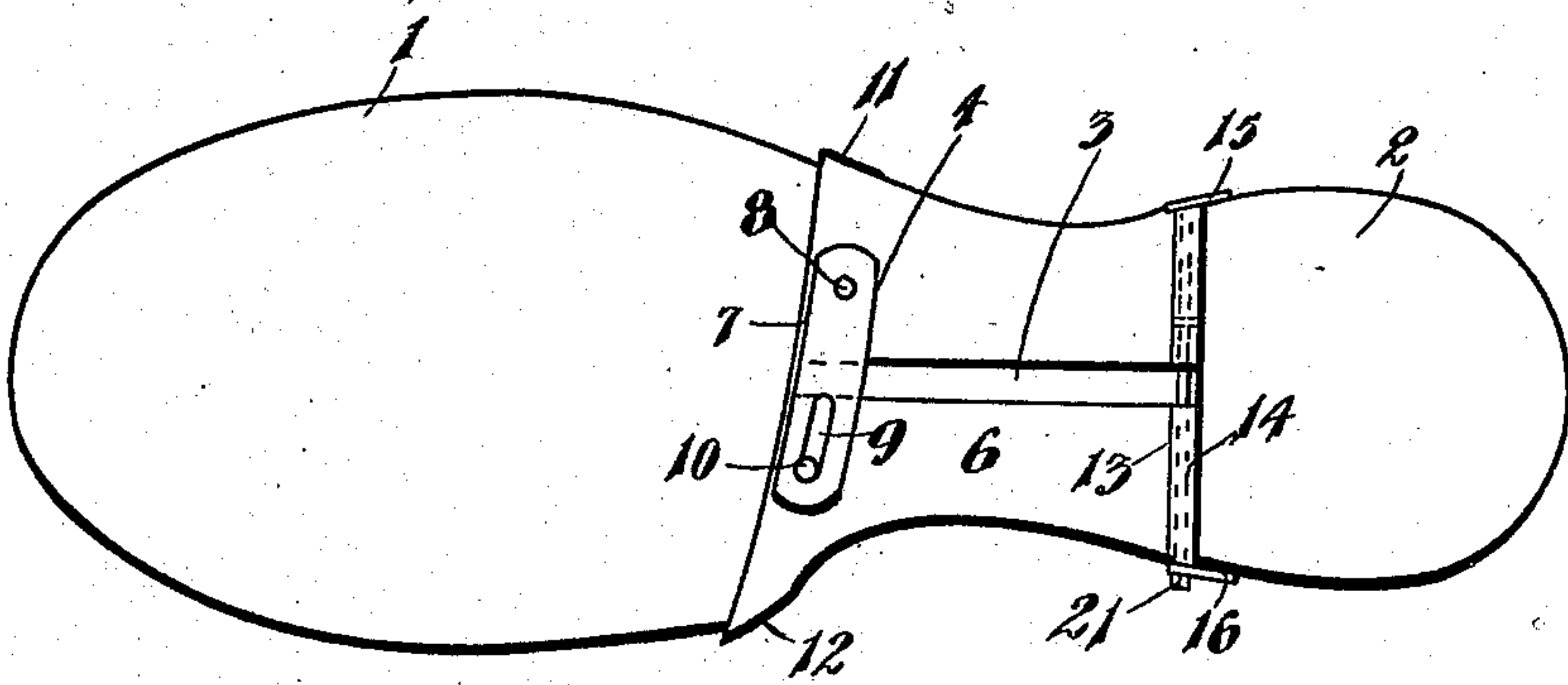


FIG. 2

WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN OLIVER, OF WESTBOURNE, MANITOBA, CANADA.

## SHOE-GUARD.

No. 911,673.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 9, 1909.

Application filed February 15, 1908. Serial No. 416,112.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN OLIVER, of the village of Westbourne, in the Province of Manitoba, Canada, a carpenter, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Guards, of which the following is the specification.

My invention relates to shoe guards, more particularly to those of that class which are applied to the sole of a shoe at the instep for preventing wear of the sole, and injury to the foot in using a shovel or other such like article.

The object of the invention is to provide a guard which can be readily secured on a shoe and as readily removed, and which is self adjustable to the size of the shoe.

A further object is to construct the whole device in a compact form so that no parts are extending which might tear, catch, or otherwise be of inconvenience when using.

The invention consists in the features of construction and combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and particularly set forth in the claim.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which,—

Figure 1 is an invert plan view of a shoe showing my guard applied. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detailed perspective view of the guard itself.

In the drawings like characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each figure.

1 represents the sole of a shoe, 2 the heel, and 3 the portion of the shoe which is termed the instep.

4 represents my guard which is formed from two similar plates 5 and 6, which are shaped to fit the instep.

7 is a cross plate riveted at 8 to the plate 5 and having a slot 9 therein, through which passes a rivet 10, carried by the plate 6. The plates 5 and 6 have each an upwardly extending clip, 11 and 12 respectively, at the forward and outside corner, the clip in each case being formed to grasp the sole of the shoe at the forward part of the instep. These clips hold to the sole in practically the same form as the ordinary spring skate is held. Rearwardly the plates are bent downwardly at 13 and backwardly at 14, the downwardly bent portion being somewhat less in width than the depth of the heel

at the instep. On account of this, when the guard is placed on the shoe, the rearwardly extending portion 14 rests against the inside edge of the heel and leaves an open space between the heel and the downwardly extending portion 13.

15 and 16 are rearwardly extending grips or wings, passing one from each plate at the rear outside corner and they have pointed lips 17 extending inwardly from their face which when the guard is in position pierce the heel.

18 is an internally threaded tube or rod which is fastened at one end in the grip 15 and at the other end in the lip 19 formed by piercing the plate 5, as shown.

20 is a threaded rod having a squared end 21 which passes through the opposite grip 16 directly in a line with the tube 17, its thread corresponding with the threaded tube.

When it is desired to place the guard on the boot the plates are moved apart till the clips 11 and 12 are sufficiently far apart to allow the insertion of the sole. This adjustment is permissible on account of the slot 9 and rivet 10. The grips 15 and 16 are then brought into contact with the sides of the heel; the rearwardly extending portions 14 of the plates resting against the inside edge of the heel. The bolt 21 is then inserted in the tube and screwed in tightly until the grips are tight on the heel. It will be seen that the tube allows the head 21 of the bolt to always be against the side of the grip 16, as the difference which there may be in the width of the various heels to which the grip may be applied is taken up by the tube.

I wish to call attention to the manner in which the clips 11 and 12 adjust themselves to the sole in any case. As the grips 15 and 16 pass rearwardly substantially at right angles to the downwardly turned portions 13, when they are primarily brought into contact with the sides of the heel there is an opening between the grip and the heel. The sides of the ordinary heel are not parallel but curve slightly inwardly and consequently the rear edge of the grips engage the heel first. This accounts for the opening already mentioned. As the bolt 20 is tightened when applying the guard there is a considerable amount of spring on account of the



opening, and this causes the clips 11 and 12 always to grip the sole tightly, regardless of the width of the boot.

What I claim as my invention is:

- 5 A shoe guard comprising a set of plates connected together, one laterally movable in respect to the other, a set of upwardly extending clips at the forward end of said plates, and the rear end of said plates being  
10 bent downwardly at right angles to the main portion and then bent again at right angles rearwardly so as to form a recess, rearwardly extending lugs on the plate closing the ends of said recess and having pro-

jections thereon adapted to engage with the heel, an internally threaded tube at one end of said recess in one plate and a threaded rod carried by the other plate and passing through one of the rearwardly extending lugs into the recess and adapted to engage the tube. 15 20

Signed at Gladstone, in the Province of Manitoba, this 27th day of January, 1908.

JOHN OLIVER.

Witnesses:

A. E. JACOB,

A. E. MOORE.