

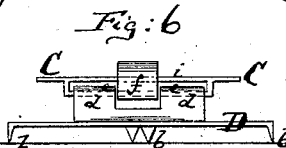
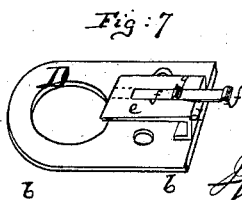
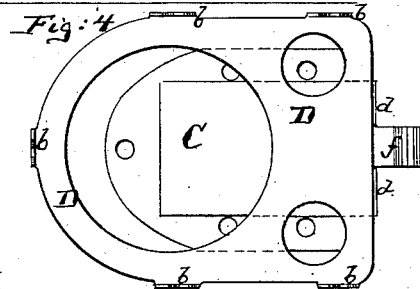
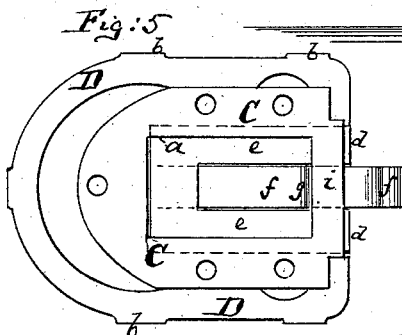
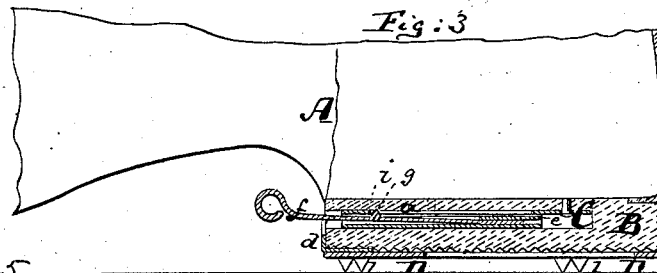
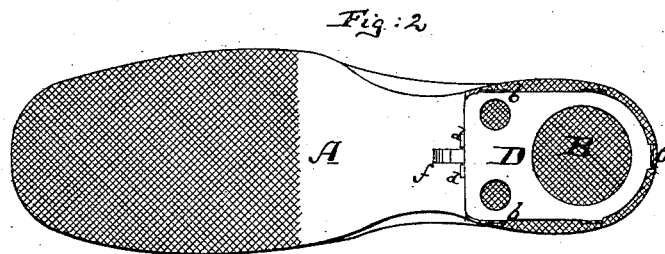
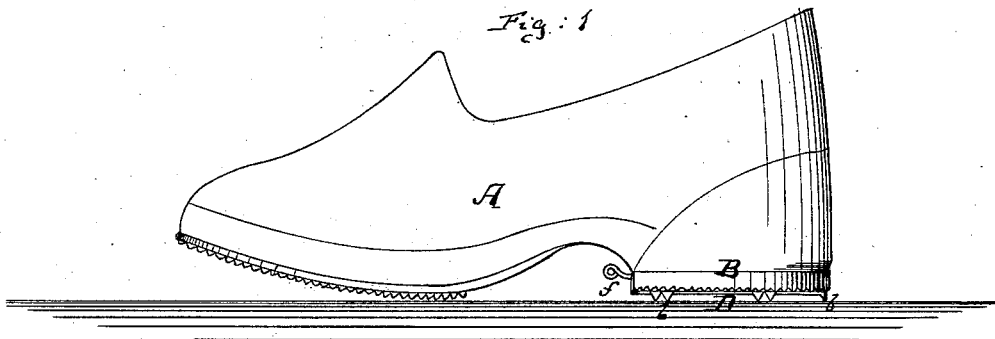
(Model.)

G. HANCOCK.

ICE CREEPER.

No. 266,032.

Patented Oct. 17, 1882.



Witnesses:  
John C. Sunbridge  
Wiley J. G. Schmitt

Inventor:  
George Hancock  
by his Attorneys  
Priesen & Betts

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE HANCOCK, OF NORTH ADAMS, MASSACHUSETTS.

## ICE-CREEPER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,032, dated October 17, 1882.

Application filed August 19, 1882. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE HANCOCK, of North Adams, in the county of Berkshire and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Ice-Creeper for Rubber Shoes and Boots, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to produce a detachable ice-creeper which can be placed on rubber boots and shoes, and also on other than rubber boots and shoes.

The invention consists in constructing the body of the creeper with an upwardly-projecting shank, and with a horizontal stem or plate on the latter, which plate carries a spring-fastener, and in combining the said structure with a box-like receptacle that is set into the heel and adapted to receive said horizontal plate and its spring-fastener, all as hereinafter more fully described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a side view of a shoe having my improved creeper. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged vertical longitudinal section of the heel and creeper attachment. Fig. 4 is a bottom view of the creeper attachment; Fig. 5, a top view of the same; Fig. 6, an end view thereof. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the creeper attachment.

The letter A in the drawings represents a rubber shoe, and B is its heel. This heel has set into it the creeper-receptacle C, which is a hollow box-like structure, open at its front end, and provided with a slot or aperture, *a*, in its upper side, so as to produce a front cross-piece or shoulder-piece, *i*. This box-like structure C is inserted in the heel so as to come pretty nearly flush with the front end thereof, and is held fast in the heel either by being stitched to the back portion of the sole, or by being riveted thereto, or cemented fast in the process of forming or molding the heel on the shoe, or in any other suitable manner. As already stated, although particularly intended for rubber boots and shoes, the invention is also applicable to ordinary leather boots and shoes, in which case a skilled mechanic will find no difficulty in properly securing the box-like structure C, which is open in front and has the shoulder-piece *i* in the top, within the heel.

D is the creeper-body, which is a plate of sheet metal or other substance, having at proper intervals downwardly-projecting spurs or prongs *b*, and which at its front end has an upwardly-projecting shank, *d*, that serves to

carry a backwardly-projecting horizontal plate, *e*. This plate *e* is slotted or recessed, and has in the slot or recess a spring-fastener, *f*, that extends forwardly through an opening in the shank *d*, the rear end of said spring-fastener being secured to the rear portion of the plate *e*. The spring-fastener *f* has an upwardly-projecting rib, *g*. In order to secure this creeper D to the shoe having the box C it is only necessary to insert the plate *e* into the open front end of that box and push it back until the shank *d* comes in contact with the front of the heel, or nearly so. This will bring the body of the creeper D directly beneath the heel, resting flush against the under side of it, and at the same time the spring *f* will be inserted far enough into the box to bring its projection *g* into the aperture *a*, directly behind the cross-bar *i*, that terminates the aperture *a* in front. If the cross-bar *i* is made to extend downward, so as to form a shoulder to engage with the spring-catch, the aperture *a* may be dispensed with. In fact, a shoulder on the box C to engage an aperture in the spring *f* would be in every way equivalent to the rib *g* and aperture *a*. The force of the spring *f* will be sufficient to hold the rib *g* against the back edge of the cross-bar *i*, and to prevent the spontaneous withdrawal of the creeper; yet, whenever desired, it is easy to detach the creeper from the shoe by simply depressing the spring *f* slightly, so as to carry the projection *g* clear off the cross-bar *i*, and then pulling the entire creeper attachment forward until it is altogether disengaged from the box C.

I claim—

1. The detachable ice-creeper D, having shank *d*, horizontal plate *e*, and spring attachment *f*, in combination with the box C, which is open in front and has shoulder *i* to engage with said spring attachment, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. A boot or shoe having a box with closed bottom and open at the end inserted in its heel, leaving the substance of the heel entirely beneath it, combined with a detachable ice-creeper placed underneath said heel and carrying a spring-fastener by which it can be held and locked to said box and entirely removed therefrom, substantially as specified.

GEORGE HANCOCK.

Witnesses:

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