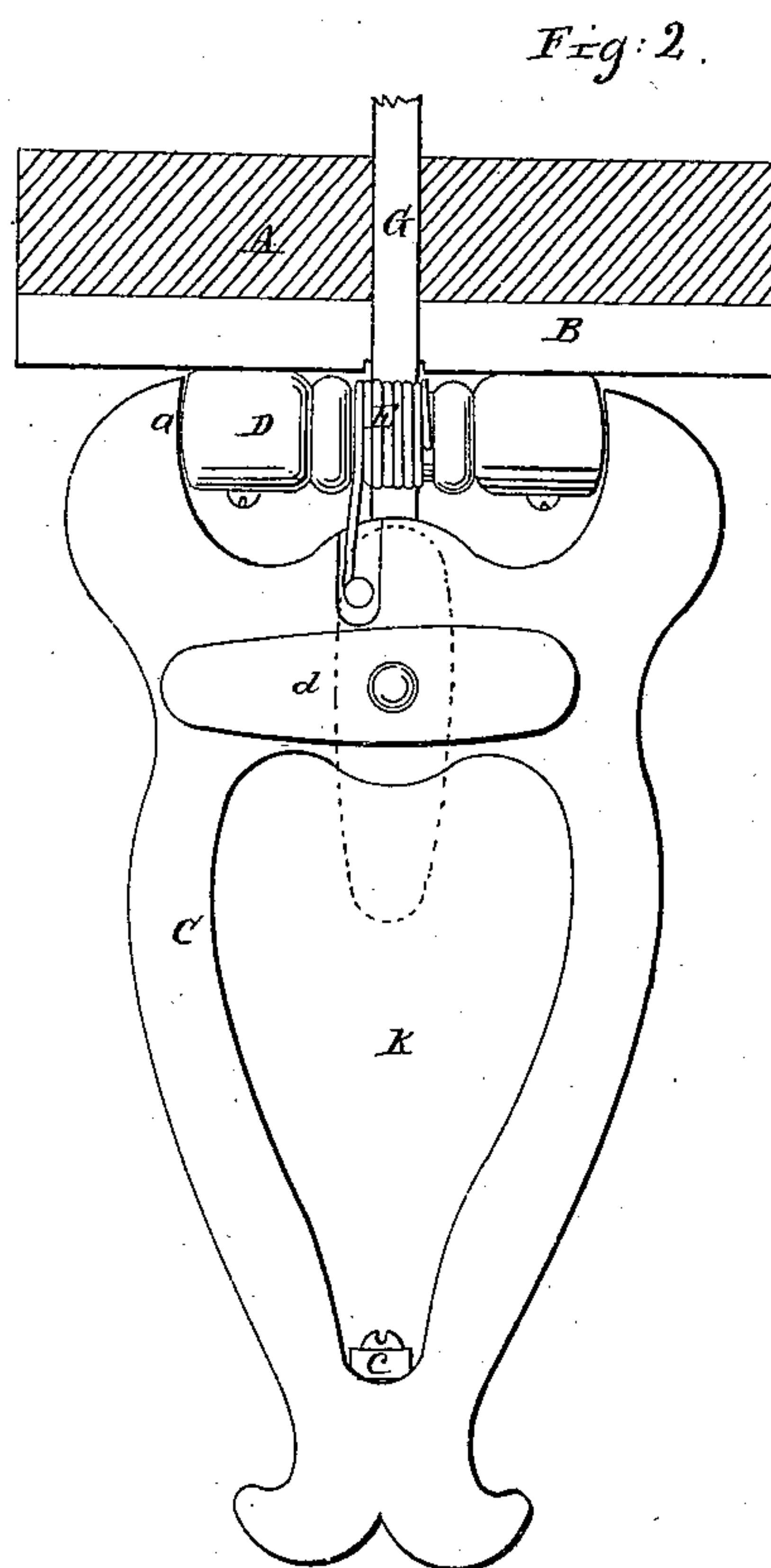
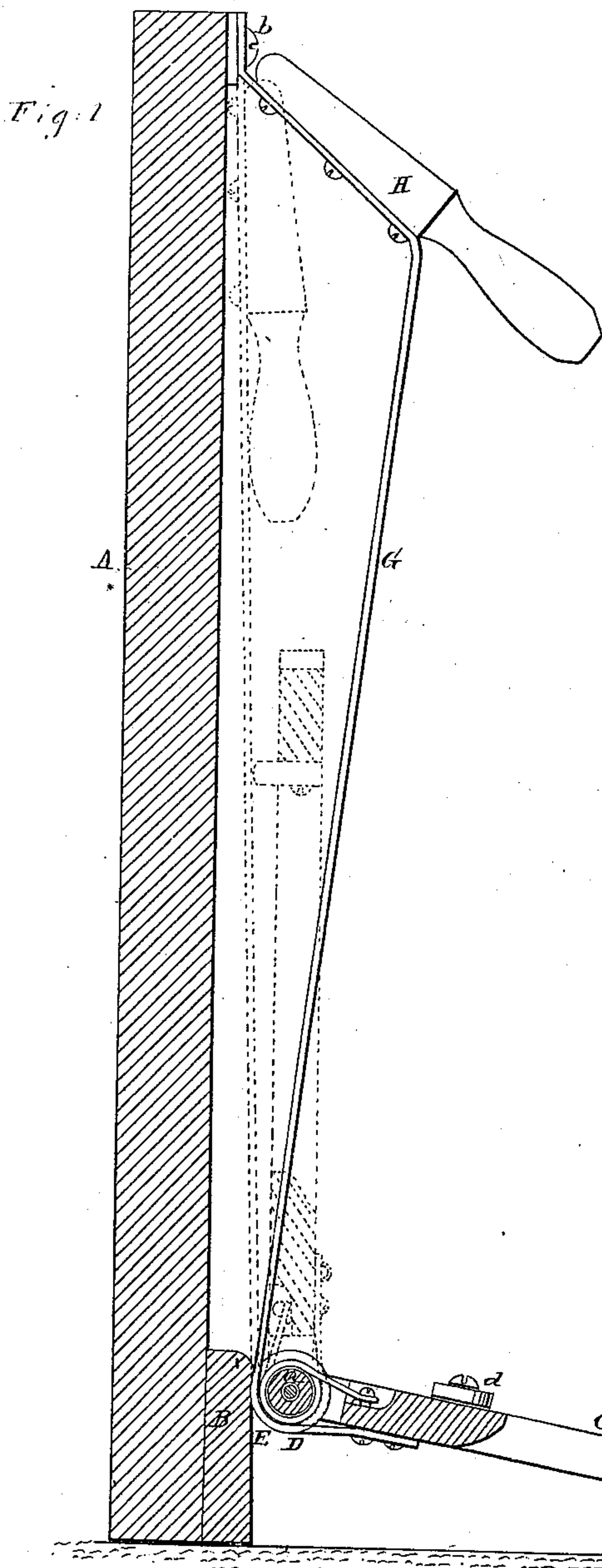


M. A. Richardson,

*Boot Jack,*

N<sup>o</sup> 43,626.

*Patented July 19, 1864.*



Witnesses:

Inventor:

A. Ferriss  
Ray Hyatt

MA. Richardson,  
By J. Fraser & Co.  
Attys.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

M. A. RICHARDSON, OF SHERMAN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF  
AND WILLIAM. H. KEELER, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVED BOOT-JACK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 43,626, dated July 19, 1864.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, M. A. RICHARDSON, of Sherman, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot-Jacks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification.

Figure 1 is a vertical section of the wall of a room, showing my improved boot-jack applied thereto, and lowered in the position for use; Fig. 2, a plan of the boot-jack in the same position.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both figures.

My improved boot-jack is intended to be jointed or hinged to the wall of a room, and held in an upright position by a suitable spring, but connected with a handle, by means of a strap or cord, in such a manner that when the handle is drawn out from the wall it will throw the boot-jack down in such a position that the foot may be inserted in it for the purpose of removing the boot.

As represented in the drawings, A is the wall of a room, and B the wash or base board of the same. To the base-board, a little distance above the floor, is jointed or hinged an ordinary boot-jack, C, by any suitable means, that represented in the drawings being a shaft, *a*, secured to the opposite sides of the boot-jack, and passing through a bearing, D, secured rigidly in place. Thus arranged it will be perceived that the boot-jack may be turned up against the wall out of the way, as indicated by the red lines in Fig. 1. The boot-jack is held up in this its normal position by means of a suitable spring that exerts a constant drawing force upon it upward. The spring may be arranged in any desired manner to produce this result; but I prefer a wire spring, E, coiled around the bearing D, as shown, with one end secured to the boot-jack and the other to the bearing.

To the under or outer side of the boot-jack, at a suitable position, is attached the end of a strap or cord, G, the same passing around the bearing, and thence upward a suitable distance, where it is secured, as represented, to the side of a lever or handle, H, and its upper extremity attached to the wall at *b*, in

such a manner as to form a hinge. Instead of a hinge formed in this manner, one may be secured directly to the end of the lever itself.

By jointing or securing the boot-jack to the wall, as described, the advantage of stability or fixedness is attained, for when one foot is inserted in the opening K of the jack it is only necessary just to apply the toe of the other foot to the outer extremity of the jack merely to hold it down. The jack cannot move laterally or become displaced in any way, and the great weight of the operator does not have to be applied to keep it in place, and thus the operation of removing the boot is easier, not only from the fact that the jack is fixed in position, but because the body can assume a natural and convenient position in drawing the boot, which cannot be the case when the person has to stand with his weight on the instrument to keep it down. In its normal position, when the boot-jack is drawn or turned up against the wall by the action of the spring E, the strap or cord G will be drawn up around the bearing D, thus lessening its length between the jack and the lever H, and consequently also drawing the said lever down flat against the wall, as indicated by red lines, Fig. 1; but by merely seizing the lever and moving it out in the position of black lines, the boot-jack will be correspondingly turned down, so as to be in the position for use. This arrangement is of great advantage, for when not in use it turns or adjusts itself against the wall out of the way, so that there will be no projecting parts to become broken or disarranged, or to interfere with ordinary work in a room.

In the outer angle of the opening K of the boot-jack, or in some other suitable position, is secured a rubber block, *c*, or equivalent, which projects a little above the face of the jack, in such a manner that when the latter is turned up the block will strike above and prevent the bruising of the wall.

In order to adapt the boot-jack to feet of different sizes in removing boots, I secure to the inner or toe end of the jack a button, *d*, which turns on a pivot in such a manner as to shut and project over the said opening K. If the foot is large, the button is not employed, but rests in the position indicated by the black lines in Fig. 2; but if the foot is small, so that

it will not hold in so large an opening, the button is turned over the opening, as indicated by the red lines in the same figure, and the toe rests under it. By this means I am enabled to adapt the same instrument to men's or boy's use, thus saving the expense of a double arrangement. I prefer to pivot the button on one side of the center, or nearer one end thereof than the other, by which means the opposite ends have different degrees of projection over the opening K by turning in opposite directions.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. Hinging the boot-jack C to the wall by means of a suitable joint, a, and retaining it in a raised position against the wall by a reacting spring, E, the whole combined and

operated substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. In combination with the hinged boot-jack C and reacting spring E, the strap or cord G, and lever H, so arranged that said lever and boot-jack will open and close automatically and correspondingly, substantially as herein specified.

3. In combination with the opening K of the boot-jack C, the button d, arranged and operating substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

M. A. RICHARDSON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM H. KEELER,  
CHARLES C. PALMER.