

Hook & Darlington,
Skaters' Appliance,
No. 46,563, Patented Feb. 28, 1865.

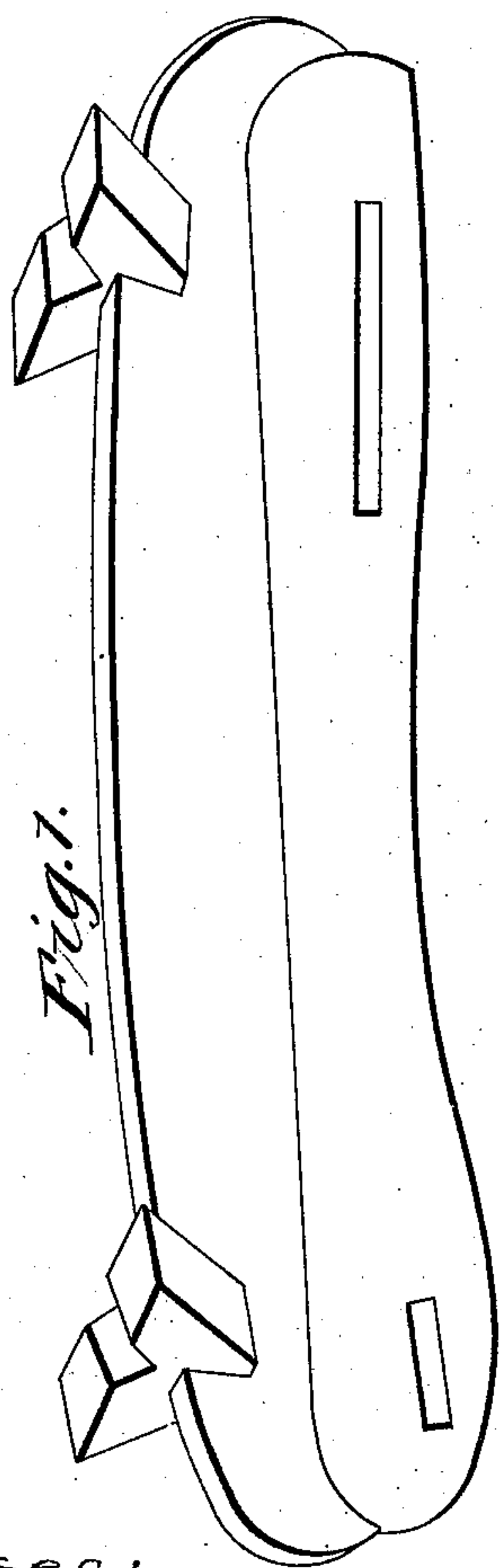
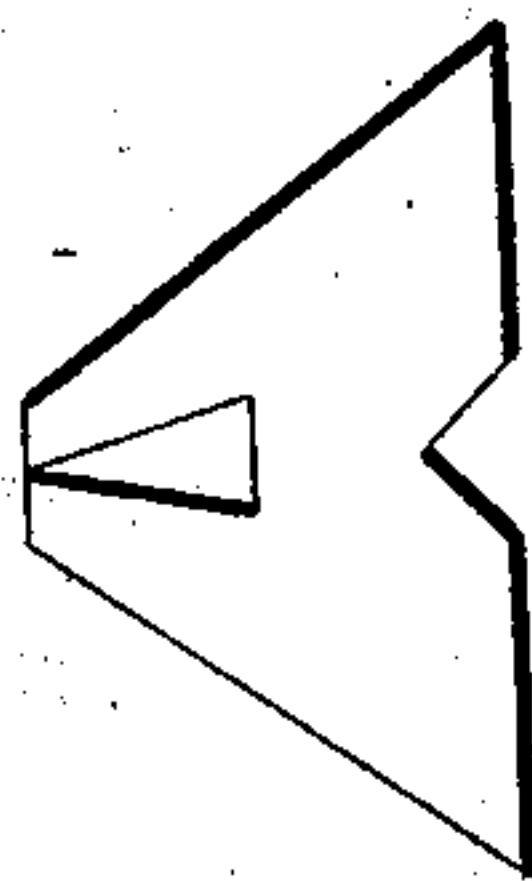


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT H. HOOK AND JOHN H. DARLINGTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVED SKATE-FOOT.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 46,563, dated February 28, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, ALBERT H. HOOK and JOHN H. DARLINGTON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement to be used with Skates; and we do hereby declare and ascertain our said invention, referring to the accompanying drawings, which form a part hereof, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a skate with the invention attached to the runner thereof; Fig. 2, one of the feet detached.

Our improvement consists in the peculiar devices, which we denominate "skate-feet," and their mode of attachment to the skate-runner, by which we obtain a cheap, portable, and convenient shield for the skate-runner that enables the wearer to walk either on the ice or elsewhere without slipping, or to stand firmly when resting from skating on the ice. It is readily attached or detached, and the set necessary for a pair of skates can be carried in the pocket, at all times ready for use, they being very small and portable. Many devices for this purpose have been essayed, such as the old Holland sabot strapped on to the foot, and other similar fixtures have been employed, all requiring straps, band, screws, or pins to hold them on, while our device is a simple block of elastic rubber so formed as to cling tightly to the skate-runner without other fastening and be sprung on or off at any time by simply compressing the base between the thumb and fingers.

The construction of our invention and its application is as follows: We mold or cut out a block of vulcanized india-rubber, such as is

shown at *a*, Figs. 1 and 2. Two of the sides of this block are inclined, forming a broad base, and slanting up toward the top in which is cut a deep groove, *c*, shaped like the section of skate-runner to which it is to be affixed, and its upper edges should very nearly meet to produce the necessary compression to adhere well to the sides of the runner. If there is a small channel cut along the center of the sole or tread *b*, directly under the groove *c*, it will facilitate the opening of the upper lips of the groove by the compression of the base between the thumb and fingers.

It is obvious that while we have shown a plain figure of a given form for the skate-foot it can be molded into various other configurations with or without ornament, so that it has the broad base to rest on with the elastic-spring groove to cling to the skate-runner, and thus hold it without other fastening.

Two or more of these feet can be attached to each skate-runner, as seen in the drawings, which will form a base for walking without slipping on the ice and a shield to the skate-runner on the ground or elsewhere.

Having thus fully described our improved skate-feet, what we claim as new, and for which we desire Letters Patent, is—

A skate-foot made of a block of elastic material, so formed as to be attached to and detached from a skate-runner, in the manner and for the purposes herein set forth.

ALBERT H. HOOK.

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Witnesses:

J. J. GREENOUGH,
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