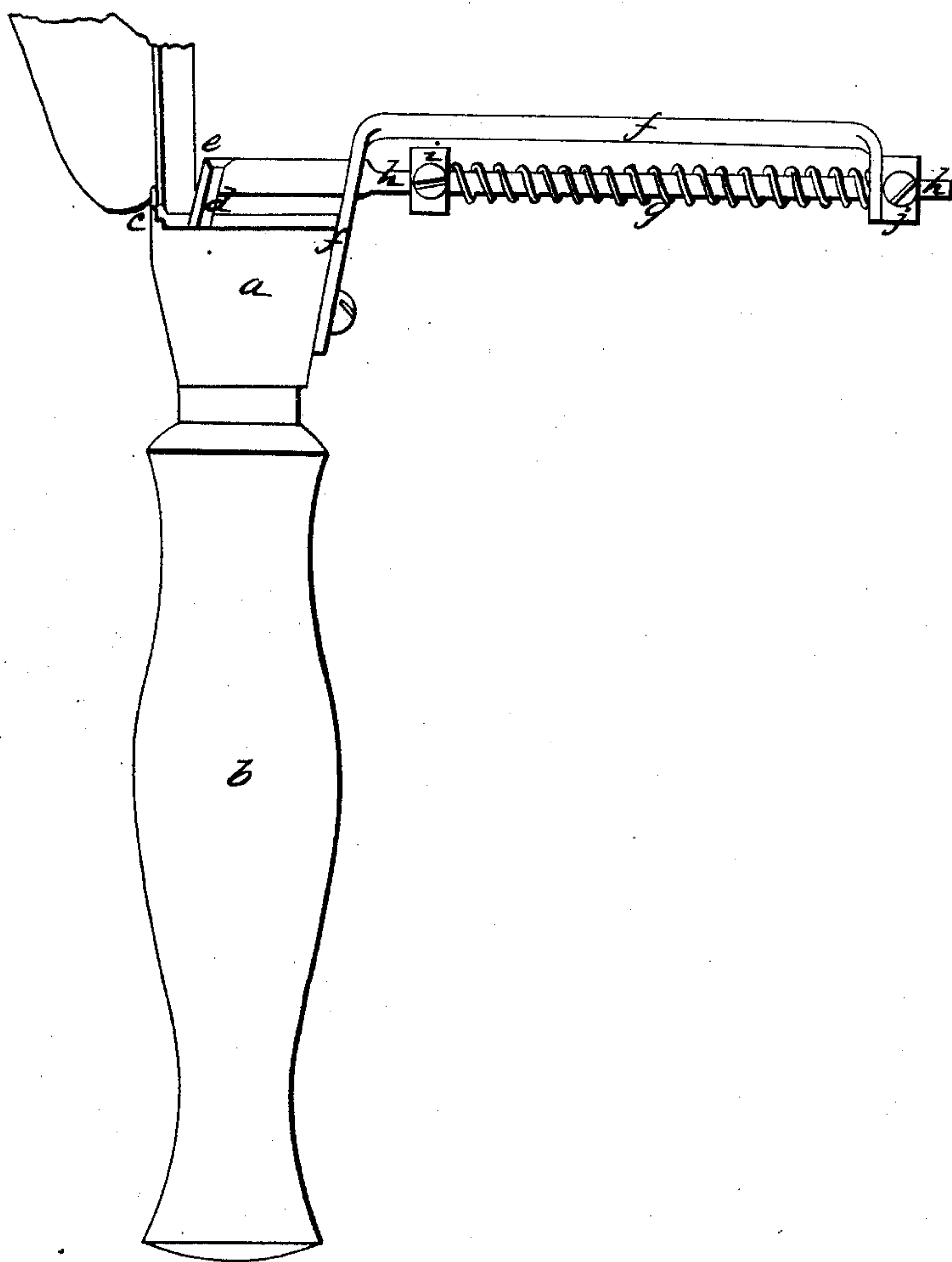


J. B. Blanchard,
Shoemakers' Tool,
No 76,391, Patented Apr. 7, 1868.



Witnesses:

J. B. Kidder.
M. W. Frothingham

Inventor:

J. B. Blanchard,
by his Atty
Cooley, Halstead & Gould

United States Patent Office.

JOHN B. BLANCHARD, OF MARLBORO, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 76,391, dated April 7, 1868.

IMPROVED EDGE-FINISHING TOOL.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN B. BLANCHARD, of Marlboro, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improved Edge-Tool for finishing boot and shoe-soles, &c.; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practise it.

This invention consists in adding to the ordinary hand edge-tool a gauge, which is so operated by a spring as to be pressed toward the bead or flange which is fixed to the body of the tool, and which forms the finish of the upper face of the sole, where it is seen between the sole-edge and the vamp, said gauge moving against the tread of the sole, and yielding as the edge-tool is worked, under pressure, back and forth on the sole-edge to any variations in the thickness of the sole, and acting with sufficient force to finish the upper surface of the sole, while the operator directs the pressure of the tool upon the edge-surface of the sole.

The drawing shows a side view of an edge-tool with my invention applied thereunto.

a is the body of the tool, which is confined to the handle *b* by a shank from the body inserted in the handle. On one corner of the body *a* is the flange *c*, which is intended to operate on the upper surface of the sole, or that surface which is exposed between the vamp and the edge of the sole, and there may be formed on the body *a*, parallel with flange *c*, fillets of any desired form and size, designed to work markings or lines on the sole-edge, parallel with the upper corner of the sole. The yielding spring-worked gauge is marked *d*, and fits the rounded surface of the body *a*, and has its own face, which operates on the tread of the sole, also rounded, so as to prevent marring or marking the sole-tread by any irregularity of movement by the operator. It will be seen also that the convex face of the gauge is set at an angle with the convex face of the body *a*, so as to prevent the corner *e* from making a line or crease on the sole-tread. The gauge *d* has a guide-spindle, *h*, supported in and working through the piece *f*, which is fastened to the body *a*. On this spindle is the helical spring *g*, which is compressed between the outer end of piece *f* and a collar, *i*, which is made adjustable on the spindle *h*, so that the action of spring *g* is always to press the gauge *d* toward the flange *c*, while on the outer end of spindle *h* is a collar, *j*, which keeps the gauge *d* from being forced into contact with the flange *c*.

Portions of a vamp and sole of a shoe are represented in red lines in their relation to the tool, and it will be seen that while a workman gives his attention to pressing the convex face of the body *a* directly upon the edge-surface of the sole, and to moving it thereupon, the spring-gauge acts to cause the flange *c* to press the upper surface of the sole, so as to finish the surface of the sole at its upper corner. The mode of applying the spring, and of guiding the gauge, may be varied without departing from my invention.

The improved tool described may be applied to finishing the edges of other objects besides boot and shoe-soles, as, for example, the edges of straps, &c.

I claim combining with the flanged body of an edge-finishing tool a spring-worked gauge, substantially as and for the purpose described.

JOHN B. BLANCHARD.

Witnesses:

S. N. ALDRICH,

JOHN RIVERS.