

G. Munro, Boot Tree

N^o 79,850.

Patented July 14, 1868.

Fig: 1.

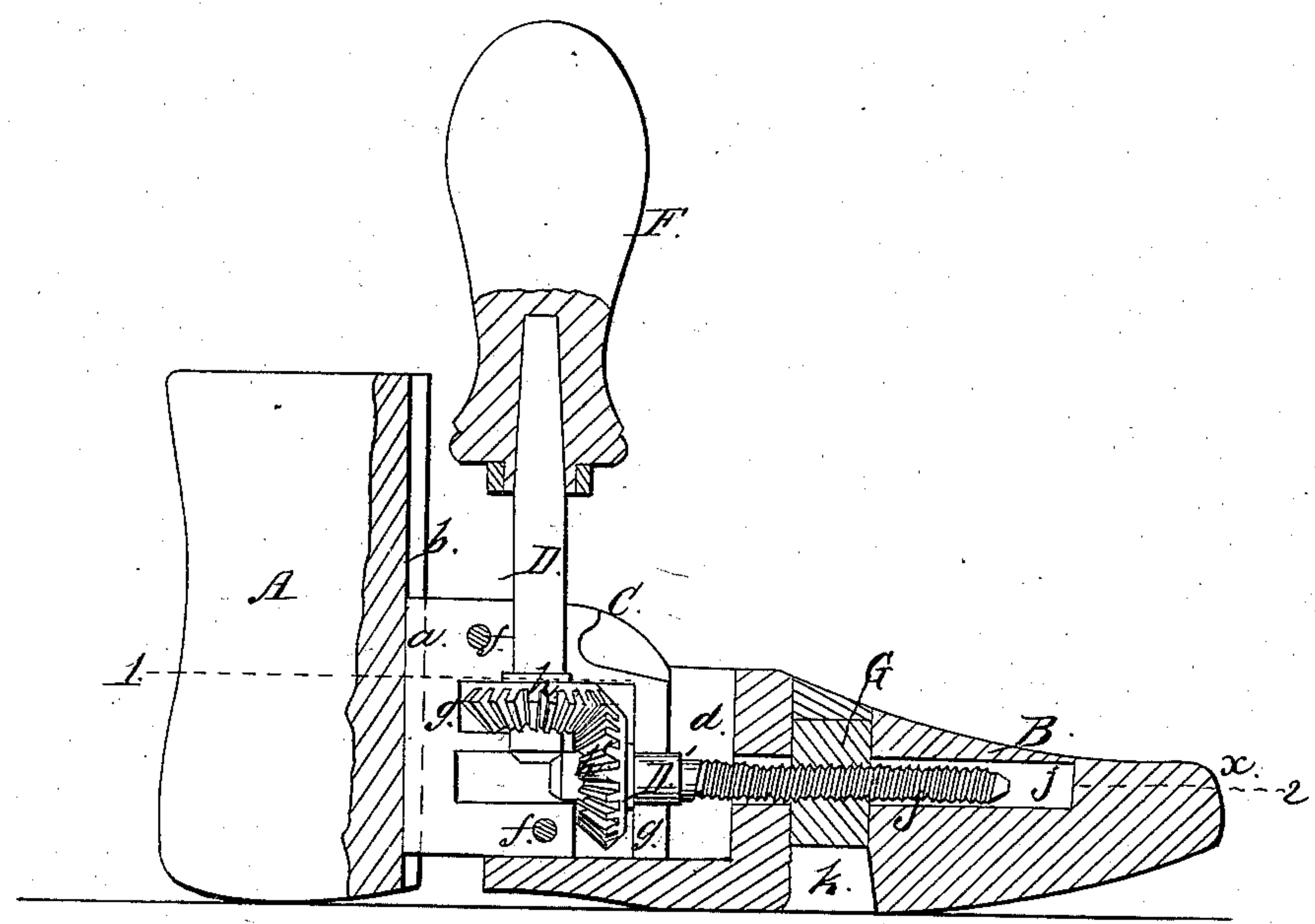
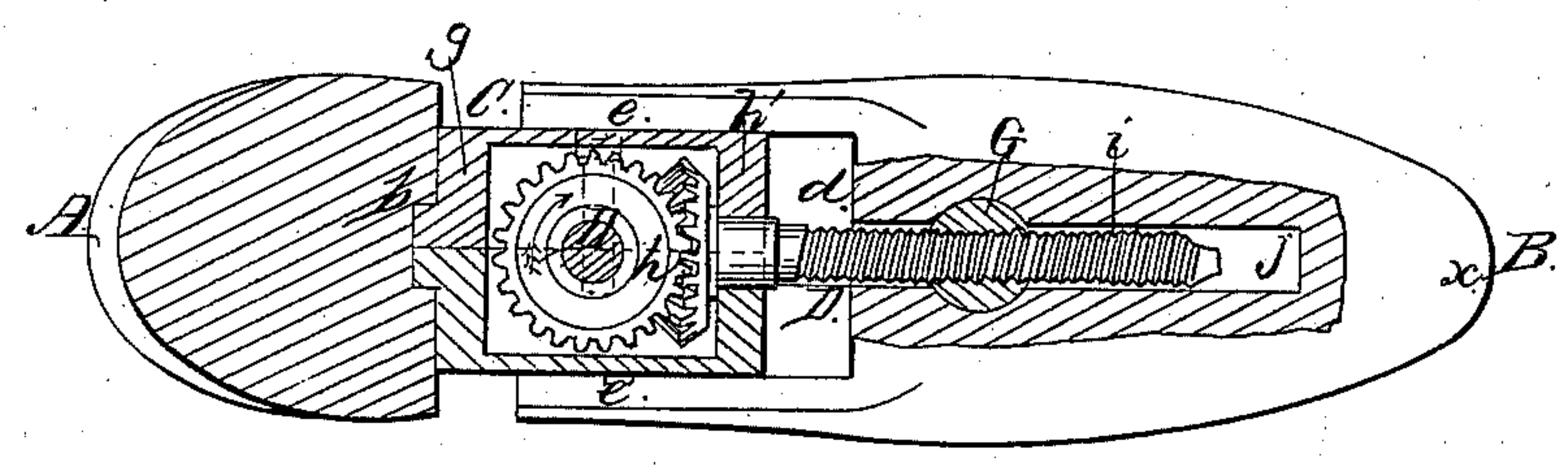


Fig: 2.



Witnesses;
Wm. Steele,
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By His Atty.
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United States Patent Office.

GEORGE MUNRO, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 79,850, dated July 14, 1868.

IMPROVED INSTRUMENT FOR STRETCHING BOOTS AND SHOES.

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, GEORGE MUNRO, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Instrument for Stretching Boots and Shoes; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention consists of a simple and effective instrument, fully described hereafter, for stretching the toes of boots and shoes, the instrument being such that it can be applied and operated without the tedious manipulation necessary in using the ordinary stretching-blocks and wedges.

In order to enable others to make and apply my invention, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of my improved instrument for stretching boots and shoes, and

Figure 2 a sectional plan view of the same on the line 1-2, fig. 1.

The instrument is made in the form of a last, of hard wood or cast iron, and consists of a heel-piece, A, and toe-piece, B, connected together by a metal block, C. At the rear end of the latter is a projection, *a*, which enters a vertical groove, *b*, in the heel-piece, and serves to attach the block to the same; and the front end of the block, upon which the toe-piece B is arranged to slide, enters a recess, *d*, formed for its reception in the said toe-piece.

The block C is divided longitudinally into two parts or sections, *e* and *e'*, secured together by screws *f*, and within the said block, and at right angles to each other, are formed two chambers, *g g*, for the reception of bevel-wheels, *h* and *h'*, whose spindles, D and D', turn in the block, and project from the same, as shown in fig. 1.

A detachable handle, F, is adapted to the upper squared end of the vertical spindle D, and the horizontal screw-spindle D', upon which is cut a left-handed screw-thread, *i*, enters an opening, *j*, of the toe-piece B. The screw-spindle D also passes through a nut, G, which is embedded in the toe-piece B, (see fig. 1.)

On turning the handle F to the right, as indicated by the arrow, fig. 2, the spindles D and D', connected, as they are, by the bevel-wheels, will also be turned, and, owing to the direction in which the thread *i* is cut, the latter will, through the medium of the stationary nut G, force the two sections A and B of the instrument apart from each other, the section B sliding upon the front portion of the block C, as before described.

By reversing the motion of the handle, that of the threaded spindle D' will also be reversed, and the two sections of the instrument thereby drawn toward each other.

In using the instrument, the sections are first drawn together, so that they may be readily introduced into the interior of the boot or shoe to be stretched. The toe of the latter is then moistened, in order to soften the leather, and the sections are forced apart, the portion A bearing against the heel of the boot or shoe and the pointed end, *x*, of the section B against the toe, which is stretched to a greater or less degree, according to the manipulation of the handle.

The block C and its spindles can easily be separated from the sections A and B, and applied to others of a different size, and in case of the breakage of any of the parts the sections *e* and *e'* of the block C can readily be taken apart after withdrawing the screws *f*, and the broken portions repaired or replaced by others.

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

1. The combination of the sections A B, block C, screw-spindle D', nut G, bevel-wheels *h* and *h'*, and spindle D, the whole being arranged and operating substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

2. The block C, consisting of two parts, *e* and *e'*, secured together by screws *f f*, and arranged for the reception of the bevel-wheels *h* and *h'* and spindles D and D', as described.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEO. MUNRO.

Witnesses:

JOHN WHITE,

C. B. PRICE.