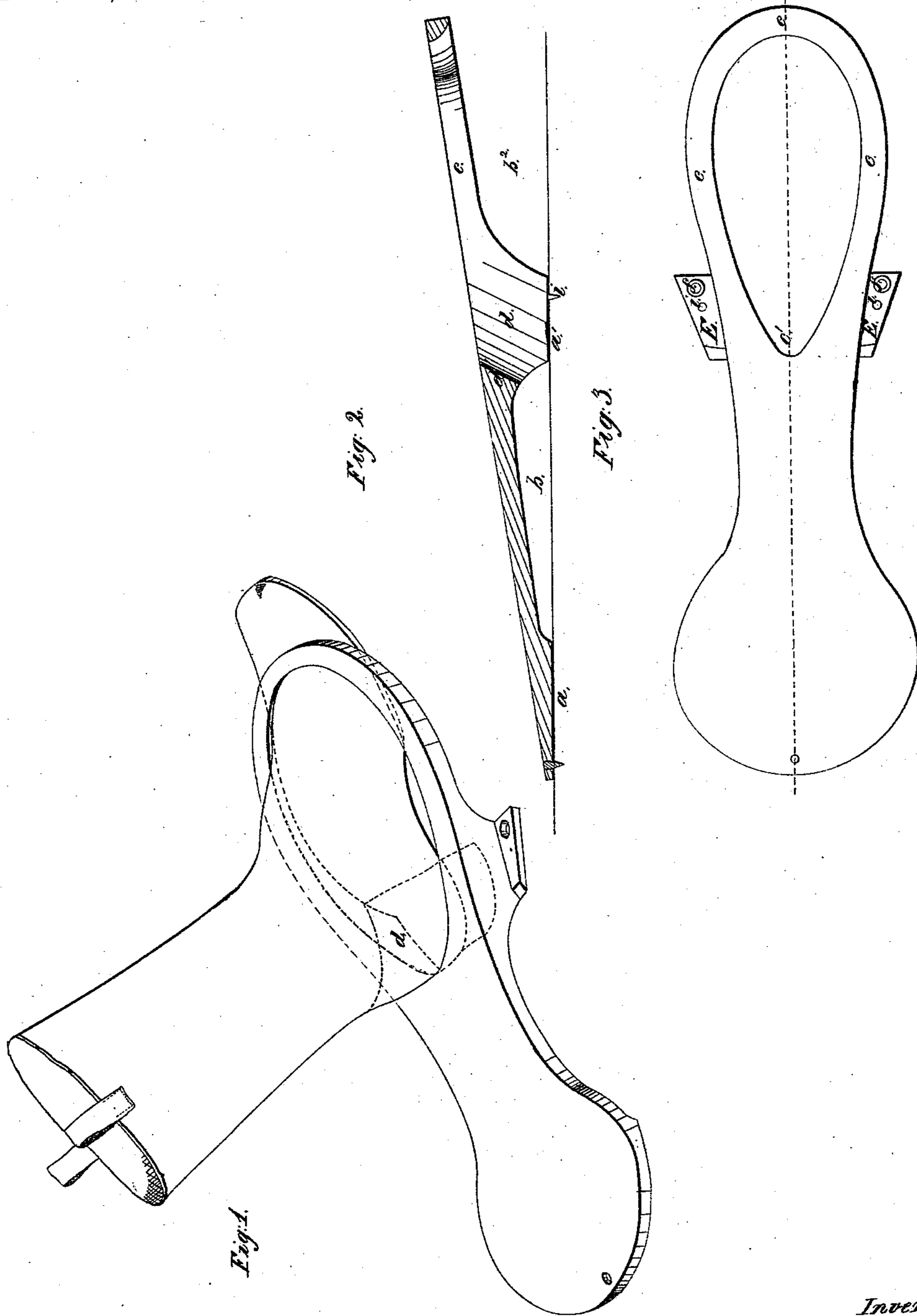


*J. Darden,  
Boot Jack,*

*N<sup>o</sup> 84,862.*

*Patented Dec. 15, 1868.*



*Witnesses:*

*R. T. Campbell  
Julius Knoch*

*Inventor:*

*Joseph Darden  
by  
Mason, Fennick & Lawrence*



JOSEPH DARDEN, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

*Letters Patent No. 84,862, dated December 15, 1868.*

**IMPROVED BOOT-JACK**

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, JOSEPH DARDEN, of the city of Washington, District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot-Jacks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view,

Figure 2, a longitudinal central section, and

Figure 3, a plan view of my improved boot-jack.

The object of my invention is to provide a boot-jack which may be used, at will, as a portable device, or stationary, as may be desired.

The nature of my invention consists in making the body of the jack of one homogeneous piece, while the same is provided with appliances whereby it may be conveniently used as a portable article, or be fixed permanently in any given desired locality.

To this end, I cast the boot-jack of metal, in one entire piece, as indicated in fig. 1 of the drawings, the rear portion thereof being constructed, as well as its midway portion, plane-faced in that part of its surface, as at *a a'*, which rests upon the floor, indicated by red line in fig. 2.

In general form it is in the similitude of a wedge, when looked at in side view, or as represented in last-named figure, with portions cut away between the red line and its under surface, as at *b b'*, thus, in its manufacture, not only economizing metal, but rendering the article light and convenient for transportation, as one of the articles necessary to a "gentleman's belongings," to be carried in his trunk.

The forward portion of the jack is made in loop-form, signified at *c c c*, the under surface of which, at its toe-portion, is rounded, in order, in a measure, to conform to the outline of a boot, when inserted therein, while the heel-portion is bevelled outwardly in such manner, at *d d'*, as to cause the rear upper surface of the

loop, at *c'*, to gripe the heel of the boot in the act of drawing the boot off.

Midway, or thereabout, of the jack, I provide side-supports or extensions, *E*, as shown in the figures, which serve the purpose of giving it a steady support in the act of use, and through which screw-holes, *f*, are made for the insertion of screws, when it is desired to fasten it permanently to the floor.

These side-supports *E E* are also provided with pintles, *i*, which, when the jack is not permanently fastened in position, serve the purpose of engaging with the floor, thus preventing longitudinal as well as lateral displacement of the jack while a boot is in the act of being drawn.

It will be seen that the loop *c c c*, in its rear portion, terminates in a sufficient depth of the metal which in part composes the jack, to allow of the proper insertion of the heel of a boot, as seen in red in fig. 1, while its forward or toe-portion is sufficiently elevated from the floor, (indicated by red line, fig. 2,) to readily admit the insertion of the toe-portion of the boot within the loop.

I thus have a light, cheap, metallic boot-jack, the body of which is cast in a single homogeneous piece of metal, and which, as circumstances may dictate, can be readily used either as a "portable" or "fixed" jack.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

Combining, with a boot-jack, the body of which is cast in one homogeneous piece, the side-supports *E E*, provided with pintles *i*, the whole being constructed substantially in the manner and for the purpose described.

JOSEPH DARDEN.

Witnesses:

R. T. CAMPBELL,  
EDM. F. BROWN.