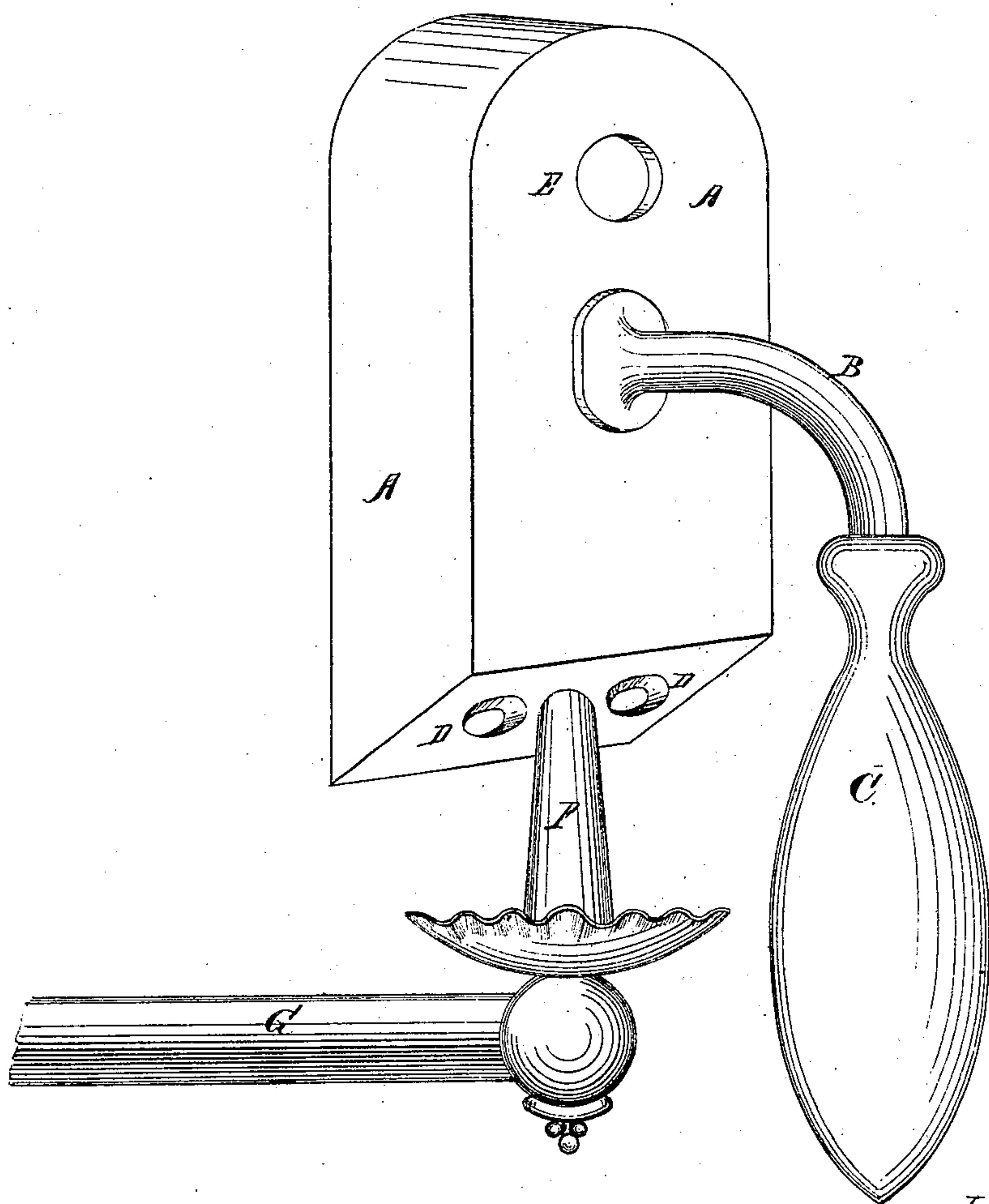


L. WILKINSON.  
Sod-Iron Heater.

No. 110,708.

Patented Jan. 3, 1871.

*Fig. 1.*



Witnesses.  
J. W. Taylor  
Wm. Pratt

Inventor.  
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# United States Patent Office.

LEWIS WILKINSON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 110,708, dated January 3, 1871.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SAD-IRON HEATERS:

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

I, LEWIS WILKINSON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful improvements in Smoothing-Irons; and in order that others may understand the nature of my invention, its uses, and method of construction, I give the following description of the same, illustrated by the accompanying drawing, which is referred to by letters and figures marked thereon, the same forming a part of this specification.

The object of my invention is to furnish a smoothing-iron for the use of those who, not always having a stove or other fire at command, can, by placing the iron upon an ordinary gas-burner, heat it thoroughly and sufficiently for all the purposes for which such a utensil is applicable, without the necessity of a coal or wood fire, or of the special and expensive gas-heating stove or apparatus such as is generally used.

### *Description of Drawing.*

Figure 1 represents, in perspective, (of full size,) one of my improved smoothing-irons, suitable for pressing hats, or small articles which are better smoothed by an iron of small dimensions.

A A is the body of the iron. This is made hollow by casting upon a core, having sufficient solid metal on all sides to retain the heat, say in a small iron about one-half an inch in thickness, the hollow in the iron conforming nearly to its external shape.

B is a handle, made either by casting a shank with the body of the iron, or by inserting a wrought-iron shank in the mold, and casting the body of the smoothing-iron upon it.

C is a tip of wood or other like non-conducting material, for the convenience of using without burning the hand, this latter being fastened to the iron shank.

In the rear part of the body of the iron is an opening, D, so formed that while the central portion of it will slip a little way onto an ordinary gas-burner, (sufficiently so as to permit its end or tip to be just within the hollow, and to support the iron in an upright position while being heated,) there will be left on each side of the burner an orifice of nearly the size of the central one, these two openings being for the purpose of a free admission of atmospheric air to the base of the gas flame, to support combustion within the hollow of the iron.

E is another orifice, placed just in front of the handle near the point or toe of the iron, communicating with the cored portion thereof, the object of which is to carry off the products of combustion within, acting as a chimney.

F is a gas-burner, shown as being thrust into and supporting the iron while heating.

G is a short portion of the bracket or gas-pipe, the object of these latter pieces in the drawing being to show the position of the iron on the burner.

I do not confine myself to the exact form of the smoothing-iron that is shown in the drawing, as the shape may be varied to suit the different kinds of work to which it is desirable to apply it. Neither do I confine myself to the exact form or positions of the several openings. For instance those each side of the burner may be oblong or oval, or they may be round and sit a little way from that which receives the burner, and the orifice near the toe of the iron may be of any other convenient or ornamental shape that is desired, or it may be placed immediately on the toe instead of the upper side of the iron; but those which I have given are such as I have found convenient and efficient in practice.

I am aware that gas has been used for heating smoothing-irons by means of apparatus specially constructed, upon which an ordinary iron is placed, and also that a gas-burner, attached to a flexible tube, has been used in connection with a smoothing-iron, the handle of the same being hollow and forming a chimney; but in this the contraction is very imperfect, the motion circumscribed by the tube, and the motion of the iron frequently extinguishing the flame, and the heat also constantly passing out of the iron, making it disagreeable in use.

My invention is free from these objections, and so simple that persons of the plainest capacity can use it, while the position in which the iron is placed upon the burner is the best for insuring perfect combustion and the efficient heating of the iron.

I do not claim, broadly, the heating of a smoothing-iron with a gas-flame, neither do I claim, broadly, a hollow smoothing-iron, nor anything shown in G. B. McClain's patent of April 21, 1857; but

I claim—

As an article of manufacture the small, light, hollow smoothing-iron, constructed as shown and described, and adapted to be sustained while being heated by the bracket of an ordinary gas-burner, all substantially as herein set forth.

LEWIS WILKINSON.

Witnesses:

J. W. TAYLOR,  
WM. PRATT.