P. MARSIELJE.

Boot and Shoe Tree.

No. 223,811. Patented Jan. 27, 1880.

Fig. 1.

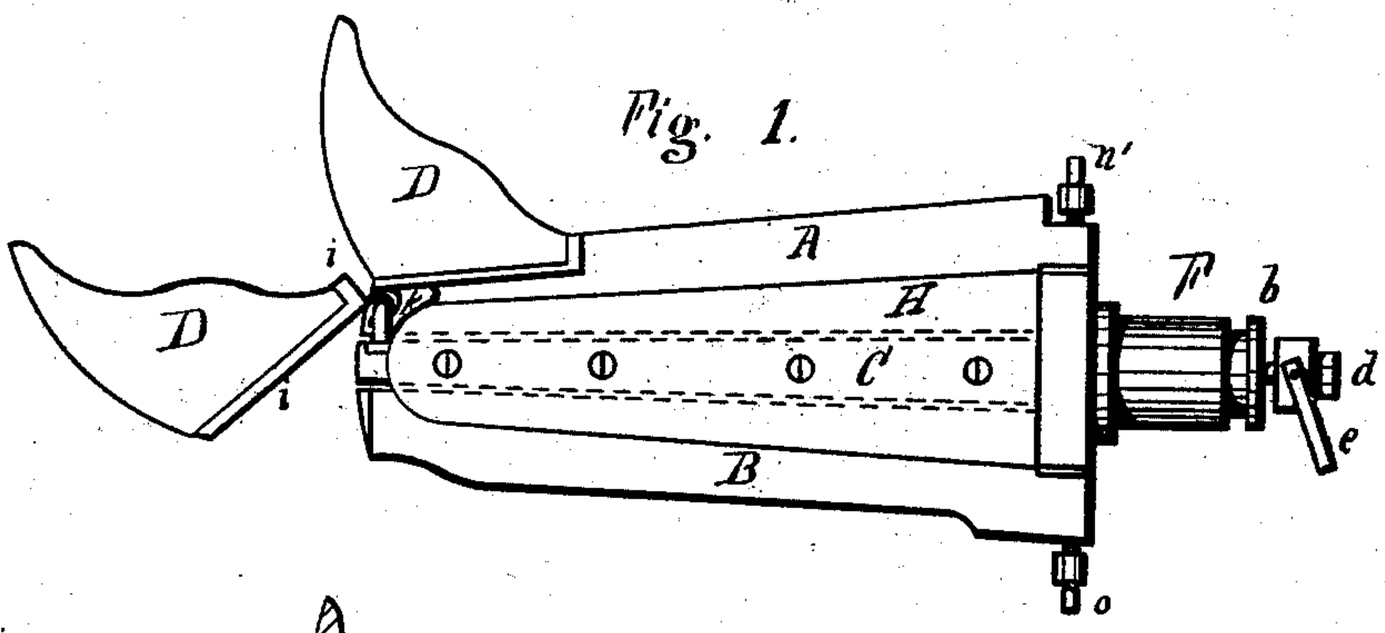


Fig. 2.

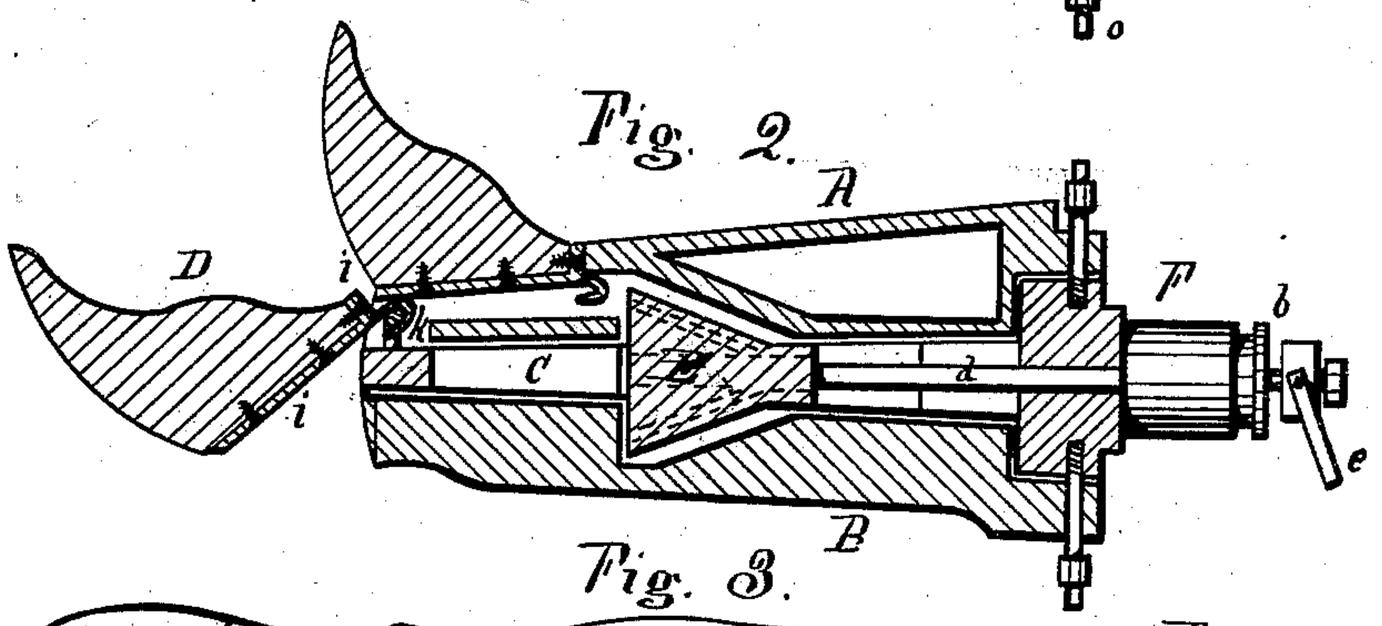


Fig. 3.

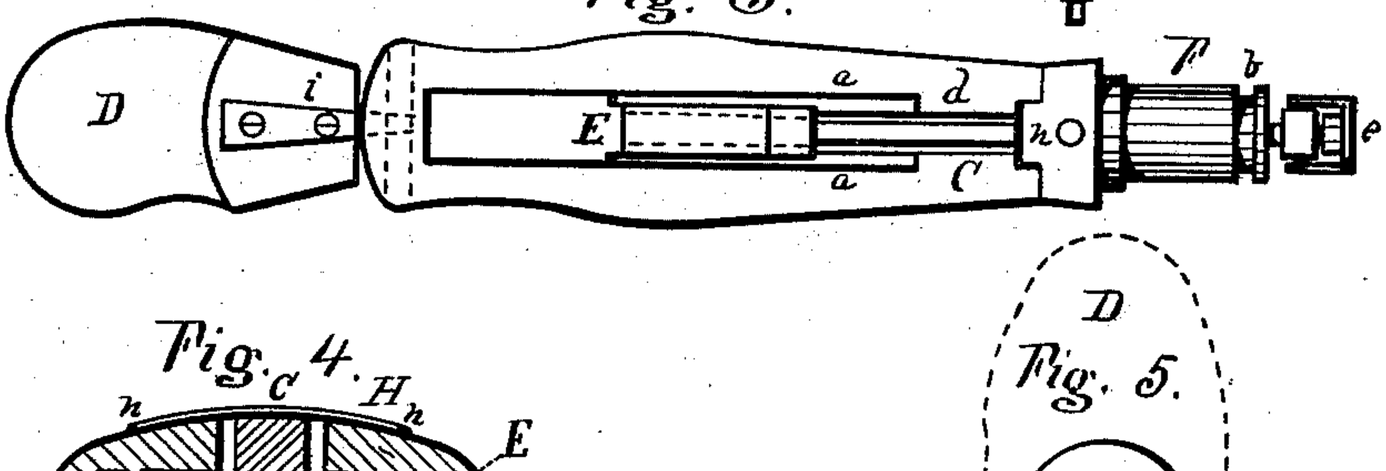


Fig. 4.

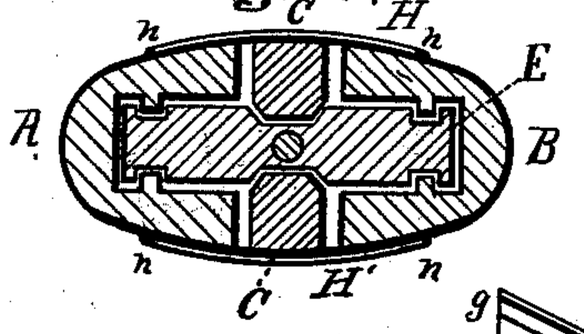


Fig. 5.

Fig. 6.

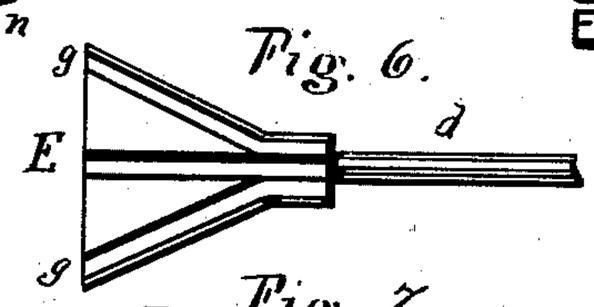
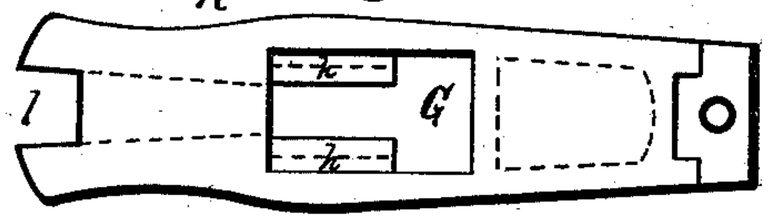


Fig. 7.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER MARSIELJE, OF ROCHESTER, NEW YORK.

BOOT AND SHOE TREE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 223,811, dated January 27, 1880.

Application filed March 10, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER MARSIELJE, of Rochester, Monroe county, New York, have invented certain Improvements in Boot and Shoe Trees, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved boot and shoe tree. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section. Fig. 3 represents the center-piece, the back being removed. Fig. 4 is a transverse section. Fig. 5 is an end view of the front. Fig. 6 is a side view of the slotted stretcher, and Fig. 7 is a rear view of the front.

My invention relates to a tree having front and back sections separated by means of an intermediate wedge, and having also a hanging foot connected with the central section of the tree; and the invention consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of the parts, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawings, A is the front of my improved boot-tree. B is the back, and C is the center-piece, located between the front and back. D is the hanging foot, and E the sliding stretcher for separating the back and front.

The center-piece C, Fig. 3, is a flat piece of metal of suitable form on its edges, and having a longitudinal opening through it, in which the wedge or stretcher E slides on ways *a a*, Fig. 3. The center-piece C is provided at its upper end with a journal, F, which, in practice, will be passed into a socket in a suitable standard, by which the tree will be supported in a convenient position for use. A groove, *b*, in the journal F receives a screw or catch, by which the tree will be secured in the socket without preventing the rotation thereof.

Through the journal F is passed a sliding rod, *d*, to which the stretcher E is attached, and by which it may be caused to slide backward and forward by a treadle and lever or other convenient device. The stretcher E is provided with inclined grooves *g* on each side thereof, into which are fitted corresponding inclined ribs *h h*, which project from the sides of angular recesses G, Fig. 7, in the front and back.

The grooves *g g* are wider than the tongues or ribs *h h*, so as to allow of a certain amount of rocking motion in the front and back as they are spread outward by the stretcher E, while at the same time the front and back are prevented from becoming disconnected with the center-piece. The front A is cast in one piece (being cored out to secure lightness) with the recess G in it; but I prefer to make the back of wood, in which case the recess in it will be a cast socket-piece, secured in the wood in any convenient manner.

In Figs. 1 and 2 the hanging foot D is shown as occupying two different positions. When connected to the front A it is secured thereto by the metallic slide *i*, fastened to the foot and fitted in the dovetailing groove *l* in the lower end of the front. The slide *i*, at its upper end, terminates in a hook, which engages with a staple, *k*, Fig. 5, when the hanging foot is attached to the center-piece C. The staple *k* is fastened to the center-piece by screws *m m*, Fig. 5, so that it may be readily detached therefrom. Into the upper end of the center-piece are screwed two rods, *n'* and *o*, passing through the front and back and provided with nuts. By screwing down the nut on the rod *n'* the toe of the tree may be thrown upward.

Metallic plates or covers H and H' are attached to each side of the center-piece C for the purpose of preventing the leather from being pressed into the open spaces between the center-piece and the front and back.

From the preceding description the operation of my improved boot-tree will be readily understood. The foot being in proper position and the boot placed on the tree, the stretching of the leg and foot of the boot is performed by sliding the stretcher by means of the treadle or other device connected with the rod *d* by link *e*. After the stretching and rubbing operations are completed the stretcher is returned to its former position, (by a spring on the rod or treadle, if preferred,) and the boot in being removed will bring the foot D with it until the hook at the instep engages with the staple *k* on the center-piece, and the foot will remain attached there until the next boot is placed on the tree. By means of the screw-rods *n'* and *o* the form of the boot-leg may be varied.

In order to adapt my improved tree for use

on shoes it is only necessary to shorten the front and back and center-piece, and to place the stretcher nearer the instep.

I am aware that a fixed center-piece combined with a movable front and back in a boot-tree is not new.

I am also aware that sectional expanding trees have been made in a variety of forms and actuated by means of links and levers and screws; and I am also aware that a hanging or falling foot has been connected with a tree by means of a loose sliding connection, and therefore I lay no claim to said features, or either of them, broadly considered.

I claim—

1. The combination of the fixed center-piece C, having stretcher E, provided with inclined grooves *g g* in each side thereof, and arranged to slide on ways within the center-piece, and the movable front and back A and B, having recesses G, containing ribs *h h*, loosely fitted to the grooves *g g*, to permit of a rocking motion of the front and back, substantially as set forth.

2. In combination with the movable front and back A and B, the stationary center-piece C and hanging foot D, attached to the center-piece by a hook arranged to engage with a staple, *k*, removably secured in a transverse recess by screws *m m*, substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

PETER MARSIELJE.

Witnesses:
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