(No Model.)

J. H. FOTENS.

DEVICE FOR MARKING THE LOCATION OF BUTTONS FOR SHOES.

No. 279,735. Patented June 19, 1883.

Fig. 1.

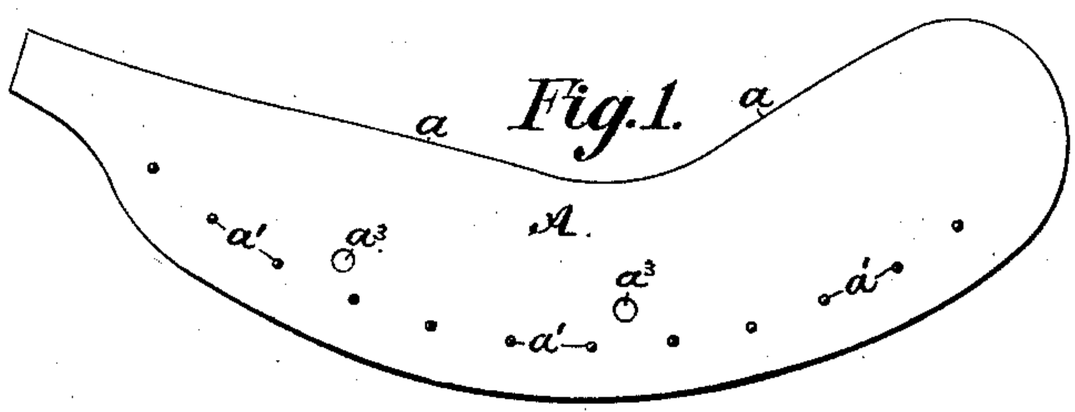


Fig. 2

Fig. 3.

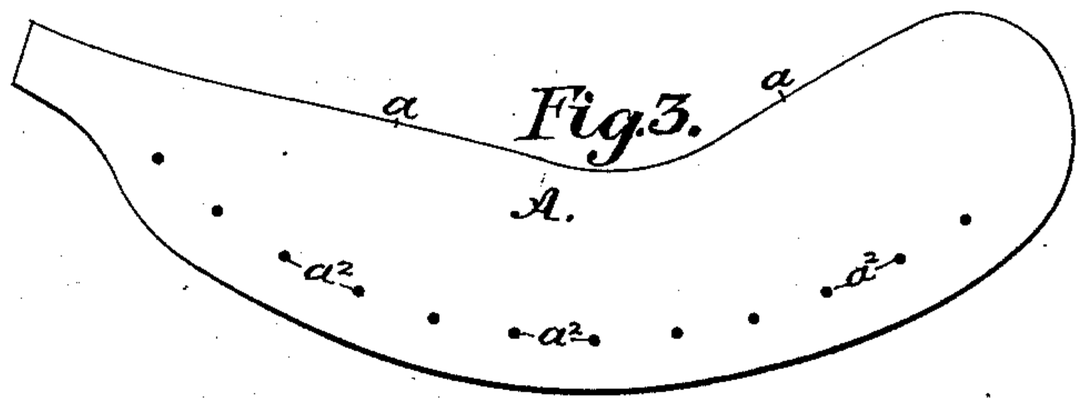
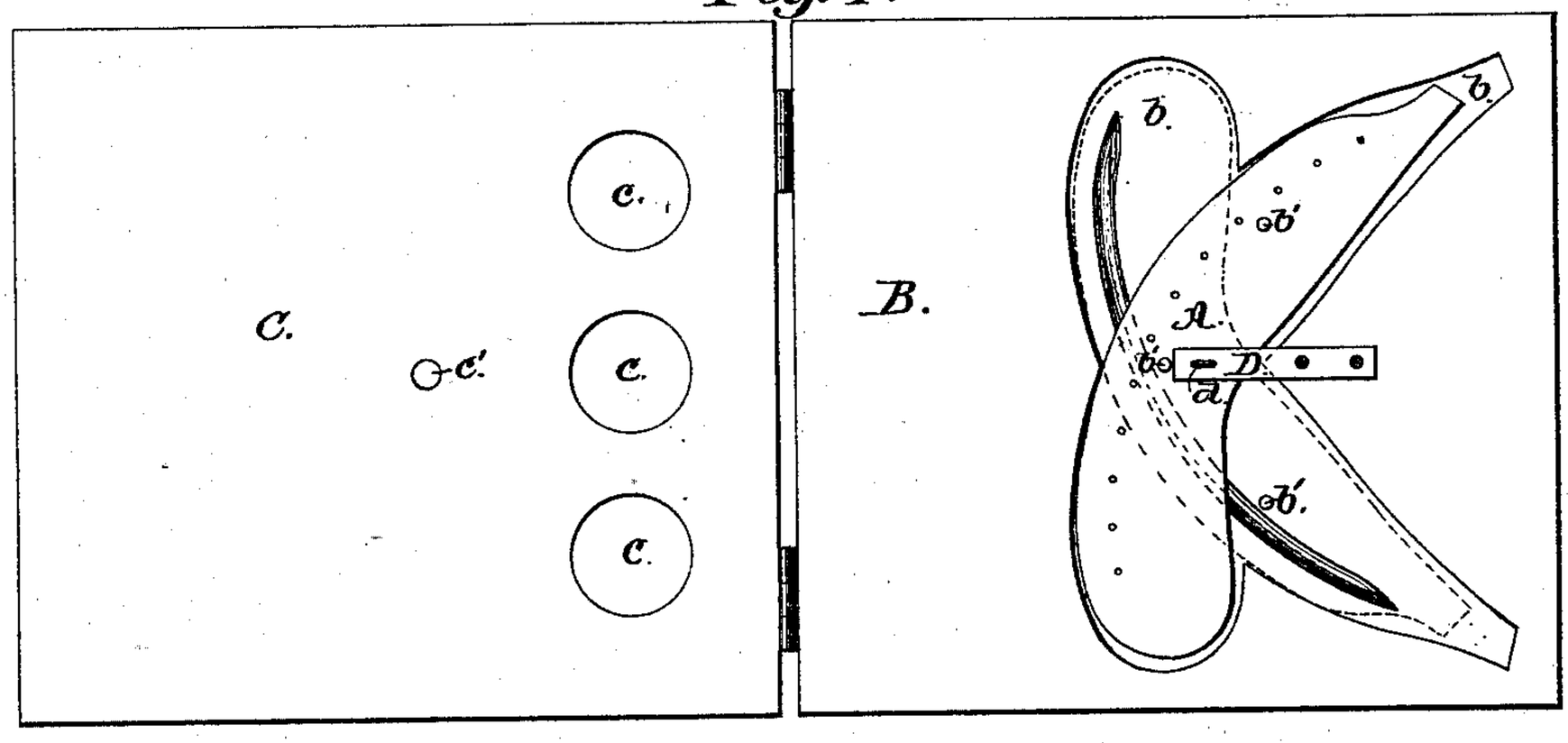


Fig. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR MARKING THE LOCATION OF BUTTONS FOR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 279,735, dated June 19, 1883.

Application filed February 24, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. FOTENS, of the city and county of Albany, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Device for Marking the Location of Buttons on Buttoned Boots and Shoes, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

As heretofore practiced in the manufacture of buttoned boots and shoes, the location of the buttons has been determined, after the parts composing the uppers have been secured together, by holding down the button-hole piece and then passing an instrument through each button-hole successively, so as to make a visible mark on the button side of the quarter to correspond to the location of each button-hole; but that operation, while it is of necessity a very slow one, is, by reason of the liability of the parts to slip out of place before the marking is completed, attended with such uncertainty that frequently many of the buttons require to be moved in order to correct the defects of the work.

The object of my invention is to remedy the defects of the present system; and to that end my invention consists of a gage having one of its edges made to conform to the shape of one of the edges of the quarter, and provided with means, as hereinafter explained, whereby visible marks for the location of all the buttons may be made, at one time and operation, on the button side of the quarter before the several parts of the upper are secured together.

In the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification, and to which reference is made herein, Figure 1 is a plan view of one of my gage-plates provided with puncturing-points; Fig. 2, an edge view of the same; Fig. 3, a plan view of a modification of my gage as adapted to use on cloth boots and shoes, and Fig. 4 a plan view of a device to be used with my gage-plate for effecting the simultaneous production of all the marks for locating the buttons on the button side of a quarter.

As represented in the drawings, A is the gage-plate, preferably made of metal, and having its edge *a* formed to the shape of the instep-seam edge of a quarter of a boot or shoe of the corresponding size.

The gage-plate shown in Figs. 1 and 2 is intended for making leather quarters, and for that purpose is provided at corresponding places on both of its faces with projecting points *a'*, fixed on a line, and spaced at distances that correspond to the line and distances occupied by the button-holes in the piece that overlaps the button side of the quarter. The said gage-plate is reversible by reason of having its marking-points in both of its faces, so as to be used for marking the "right" and "left" boot or shoe of the pair.

The modified form of gage-plate shown in Fig. 3 is for use on cloth quarters, and for that purpose it is provided with perforations a^2, which occupy the same positions that the pins *a'* do in the gage-plate above described. The said perforations are used for applying coloring-matter, either wet or dry, to pass through and leave a visible mark on the surface of the cloth quarter. Said coloring-matter may be applied to produce all the marks for locating the buttons by means of a single sweep of a brush or other suitable implement.

The device for impressing the marks (shown in Fig. 4) consists of a bed-piece, B, having a platen, C, hinged thereto in such manner that their two faces can be brought into contact. In said bed-piece a recess, *b*, is formed, large enough to receive the gage-plate for the largest (ordinary) sized boot or shoe, and all intermediate sizes to the smallest, and said recess is formed, as shown in Fig. 4, so that the gage-plate can be inserted therein with either side uppermost, as occasion may require, to mark the quarter for either a right or left shoe. In said recess three guide-pins, *b'*, are arranged in such manner that two of said pins, the center and one of the outside ones, will enter the two holes a^3 in the gage-plate and retain it (the gage-plate) in position with either side uppermost. A leaf-spring, D, is fixed to the bed-piece B, so as to bear upon the gage-plate A and hold it in place in the recess *b*. Said spring also serves to hold the quarter in position while the marks are being imprinted thereon. A knob or handle, *d*, fixed in the free end of said spring, affords the means for raising that end of the spring while either a gage-plate or a quarter is being inserted beneath it. The platen C is provided with air-openings *c* for the escape of air from beneath it when it is thrown over onto the bed-plate B. A recess, *c'*, formed in said platen, per-

mits the knob *d* to pass thereinto when the platen is thrown over.

The mode of operating the said impressing device is as follows: A gage-plate, A, is placed beneath the spring *d* in the recess *b*, and a quarter with its face side clamped by the spring *d* against the face of the gage-plate, its instep-seam edge being fixed to accord with the corresponding edge of said gage-plate. The platen C is then thrown over with a smart shock onto the bed-piece B, and thereby the points *a'* will be driven into the face of the quarter, so as to leave visible indentations therein to mark the proper location for the buttons thereon.

While I preferably make the gage-plate A with corresponding points projecting from both of its faces, so as to render it reversible for marking both quarters for a pair of shoes, it is obvious that two gage-plates with pins in opposite faces may be used in its stead; and it is also obvious that the said gage-plate may be made with one of its edges conforming to any other edge of the quarter than the instep-seam edge to serve the same purpose; and I desire to have it understood that my invention includes in its scope the above-named modifications.

I claim as my invention—

1. A button-locating gage consisting of a flat plate having one of its edges made to conform to the contour of one of the edges of a quarter for a boot or shoe, and provided with the means herein described for imprinting at one operation the visible marks for locating all the buttons on said quarter in the manner herein specified.

2. The combination, with a gage-plate, A, provided with projecting points *a'*, corresponding to the location of the buttons on a boot or shoe quarter, of an impressing device consisting of a bed-piece, B, and platen C, constructed and arranged to operate substantially as herein specified.

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