

(No Model.)

E. F. BALLOU.
ROLLER FOR SKATES.

No. 285,783.

Patented Oct. 2, 1883.

Fig. 1.

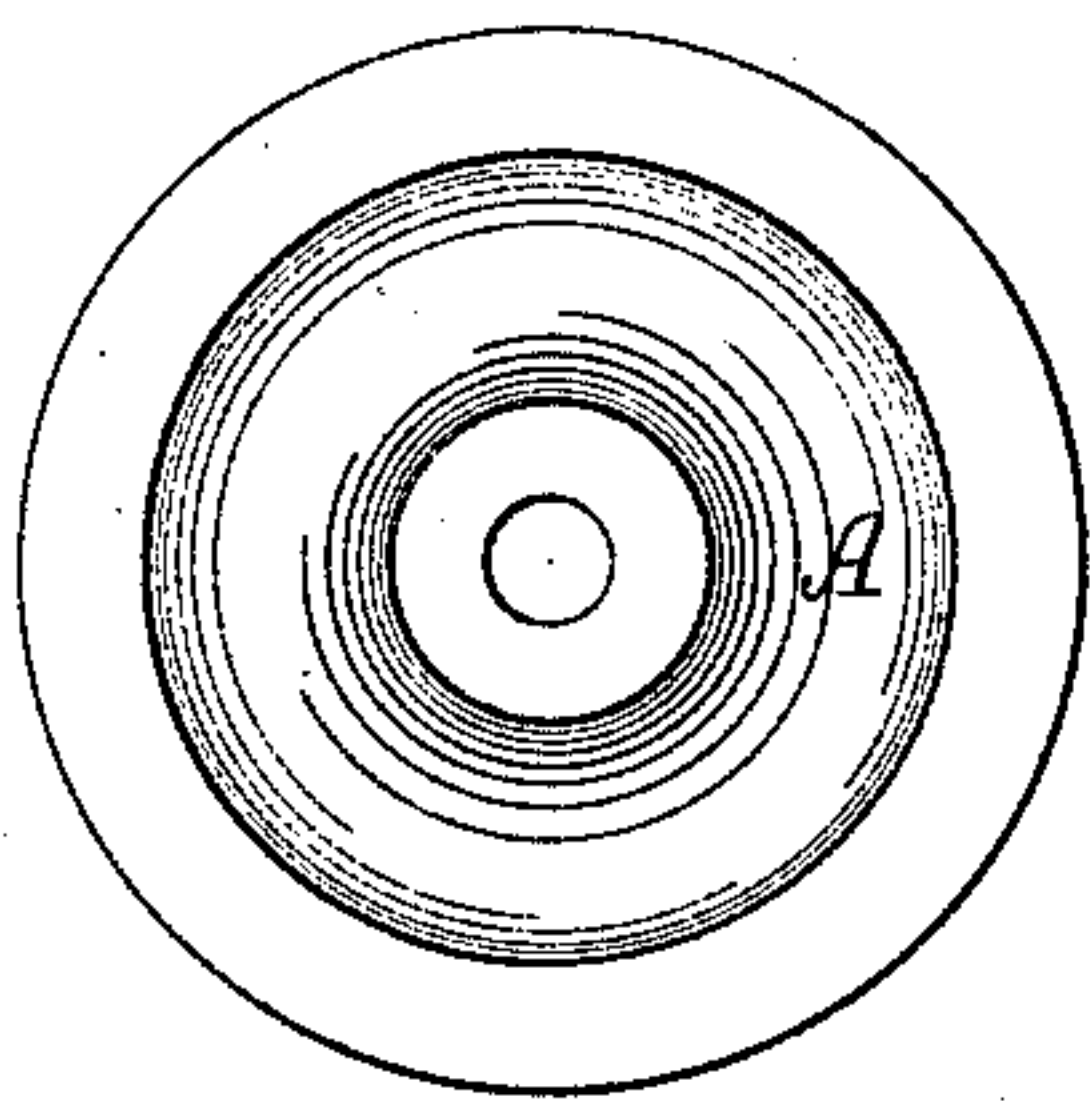


Fig. 2.

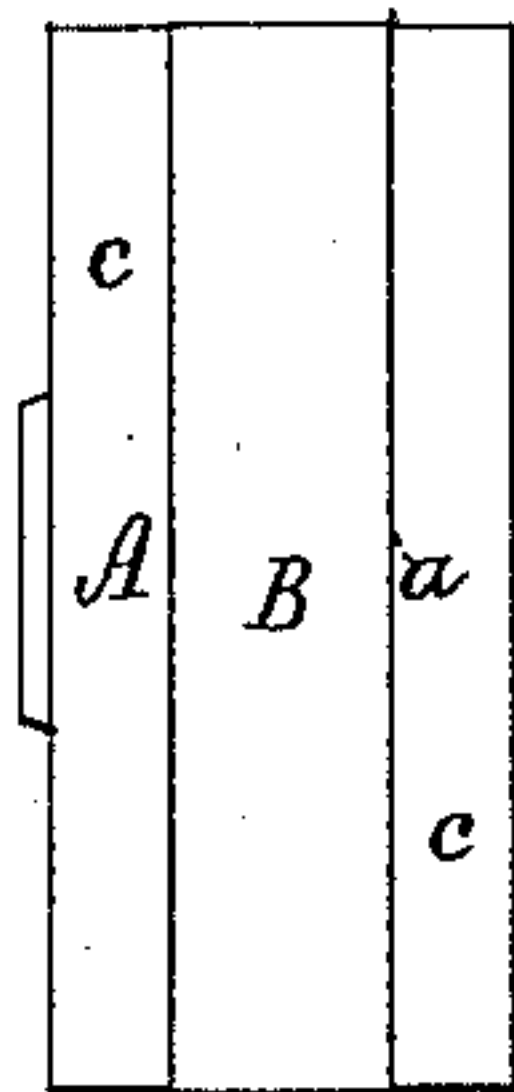


Fig. 4.

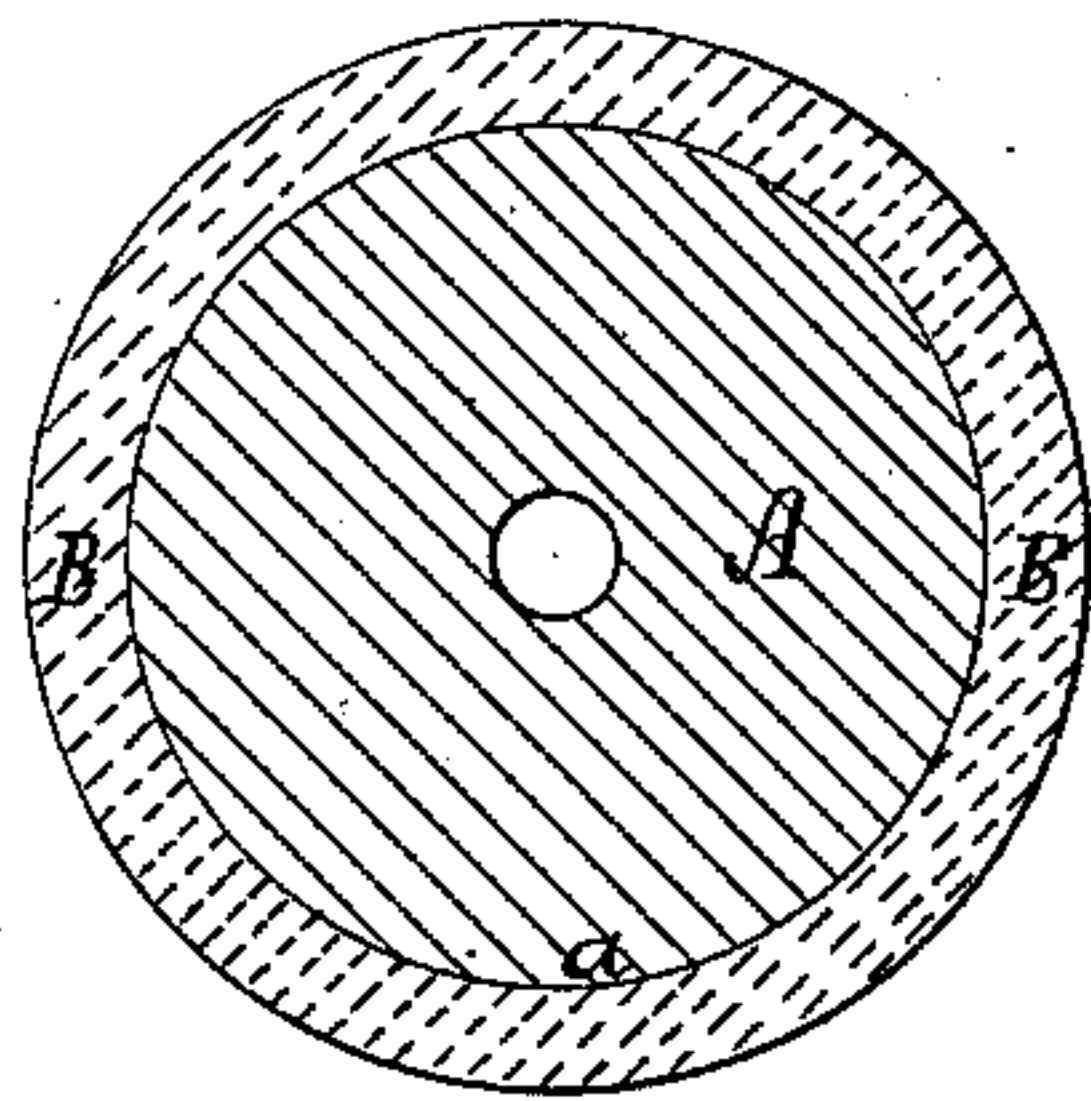
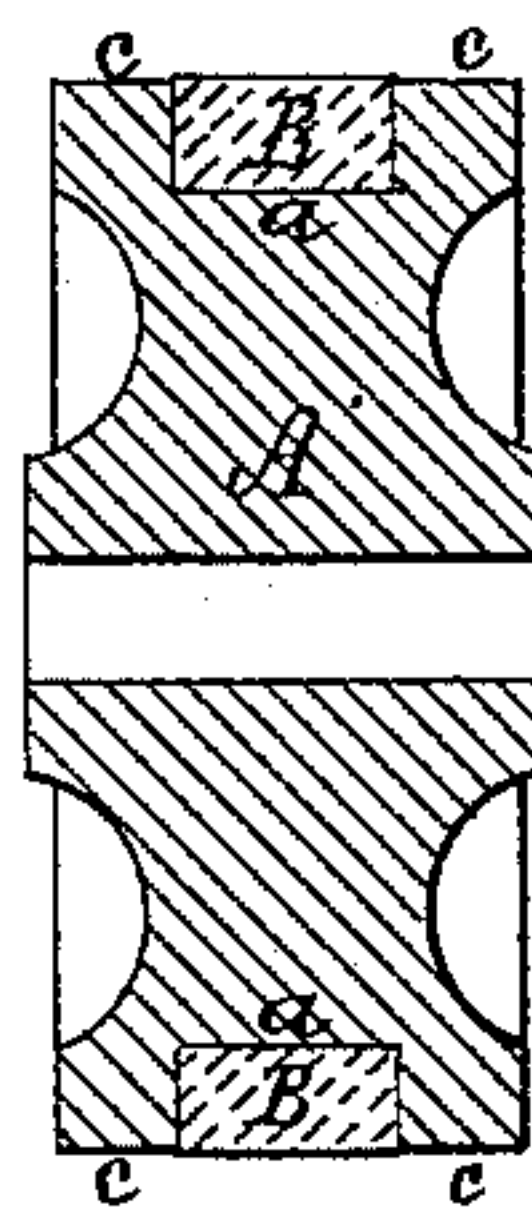


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD F. BALLOU, OF MARLBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS.

ROLLER FOR SKATES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 285,783, dated October 2, 1883.

Application filed July 17, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD FRANCIS BALLOU, of Marlborough, in the county of Middlesex, of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Rollers for Skates; and I do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

10 Figure 1 is a side view; Fig. 2, an edge elevation; Fig. 3, a transverse, and Fig. 4 a longitudinal, section of a skate-roller of my improved kind.

The improved roller has a groove formed within it at and around its periphery, which groove may be rectangular, square, or trapezoidal in shape in its transverse section. The groove has a filling of cork fastened within it, its outer surface being even, or about so, with the bearing-surface or tread of the roller.

15 In the drawings, A denotes a skate-roller of the usual form, made of lignum-vitæ or other proper wood, it being grooved in its periphery, as shown at *a*, and the groove filled with a strip or mass, B, of cork, the outer surface of which is flush with or slightly projecting from that of the tread or cylindrical bearing, parts *c c* of the roller.

20 It is found in practice that a skate-roller so constructed is preferable to one without cork in it, as it makes very much less noise in re-

volving on a floor, wears it less, and can be revolved to better advantage. Besides, it is not so liable to slip laterally, and thereby cause a skater to fall down while suddenly turning about in skating.

I am aware that bicycle-wheels usually have elastic tires of rubber, and that carriage-wheels have had elastic tires extending across their periphery, and therefore I make no claim to such. Nor do I claim in roller-skates rubber springs or any other device adapted as shown or described in the United States Patent No. 243,761, or in that entitled Reissue No. 7,345. In my skate-roller the cork does not extend entirely across the periphery, but only partially across it, such cork being flanked by or depressed between bearing-surfaces of such periphery, which prevent it while in use from being contracted so as to be injured or broken.

I therefore claim as a new or improved manufacture—

A skate-roller grooved peripherically and having cork arranged in the groove, and flanked by bearing-surfaces or parts of the periphery, substantially as set forth.

EDWARD FRANCIS BALLOU.

Witnesses:

GEO. BALCOM,
JOHN L. STONE.