(No Model.)

J. H. SCHNEIDER.

BOOT AND SHOE TREE.

No. 288,185. Patented Nov. 6, 1883.

Fig. 1.

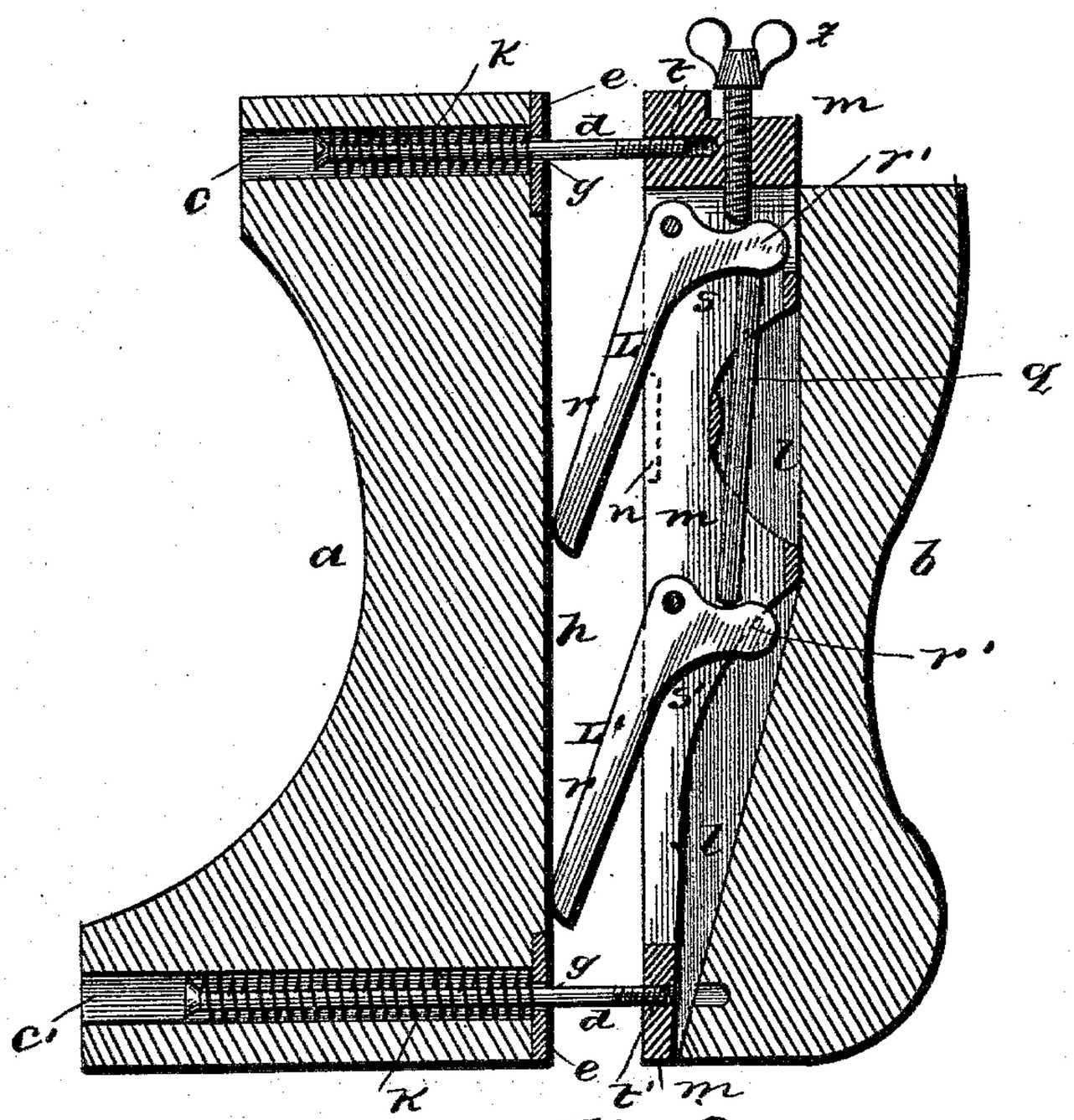
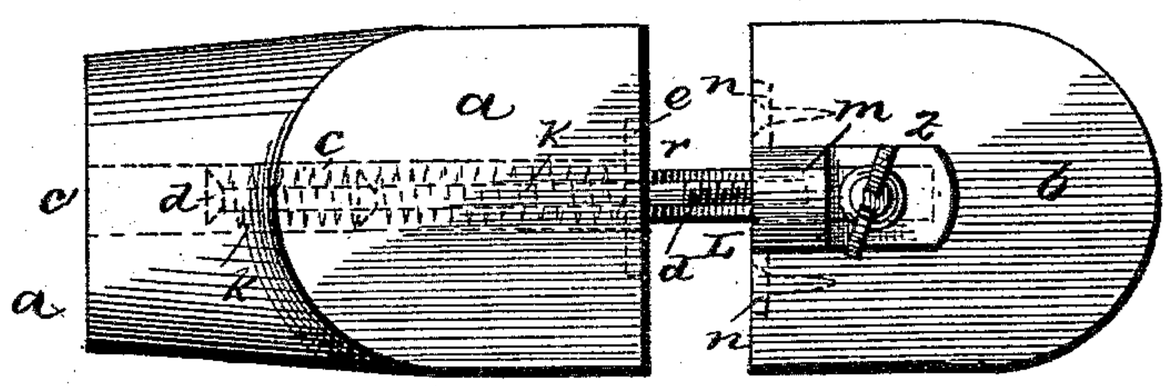


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN H. SCHNEIDER, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT.

BOOT AND SHOE TREE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 288,185, dated November 6, 1883.

Application filed August 22, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. SCHNEIDER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot and Shoe Trees; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a vertical cross-sectional view, showing the operating mechanism; and Fig. 2 is a plan view of the tree.

This invention has relation to adjustable boot or shoe trees, and it is designed as an improvement on the invention described in Letters Patent No. 270,850, granted to me January 16, 1883; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of devices, as will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim appended.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, *a* designates the front wooden section of the last, and *b* the rear section, also of wood. Recesses *c* and *c'* are made in the upper and lower portions of the front section, said recesses opening toward the rear section, and serving to receive the headed ends of the connecting-pins *d*, and to allow the same the necessary play. The mouths of the recesses are closed by plates *e*, which are perforated at *g* for the passage of the connecting-pins, and are laid flush with the inner face, *h*, of the front section. Within the recesses *c* and *c'* are placed, around the pins, springs *k*, which are designed to bear against the heads of said pins and against the plates *e* in such a manner as to draw the sections *a* and *b* together, when said sections are relieved from the operation which holds them apart. In all of these particulars the device is essentially the same as that shown in my former patent above referred to; but in the particulars hereinafter referred to I have simplified and cheapened the construction, and have produced a boot or shoe tree that is more easily put together, while at the same time it is equally as effective in operation.

A central channel, *l*, is formed longitudinally in the rear section, *b*, opposite the face *h* of the front section, and in this channel *l* is secured the fulcrum-frame *m*, by means of screws which are passed through the lugs *n n*, which are let into the rear section, *b*, flush with its face.

L L' designate angle-levers, having longitudinal arms *r* and short concave power-arms *r'*. These levers are pivoted between the sides of the fulcrum-frame *m*, one above the other, so that when the sections *a* and *b* are closed or in contact with each other the long arms of the levers will lie in the slot formed by the sides and ends of the fulcrum-frame.

A short bar or rod, *q*, extends from the under face of the power-arm *s* of the angle-lever L to the upper face of the power-arm *s'* of the angle-lever L', so that when the upper angle-lever, L, is operated by the thumb-screw Z, having its bearing in the head of the fulcrum-frame *m*, the rod *q* will operate the angle-lever L' at the same time.

The threaded points of the pins *d* are secured in the threaded perforations *t* and *t'* in the face of the fulcrum-frame *m*, near its upper and lower ends.

The end of the thumb-screw is designed to bear against the power-arm of the lever L. The ends of the long arms of the levers L L' are designed to bear against the inner face, *h*, of the front section, *a*, and when the screw Z is turned, forcing said arms outward, the front section is forced forward from the rear section, moving on parallel lines, so that its expanding effect is equal at all points. When the screw is turned to relieve the front section, *a*, from the pressure of the angle-levers, the spring-connections draw the sections together until they are in contact, the long arms of the levers being received in the slot in the fulcrum-frame.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination, with a boot-tree having the front section, *a*, provided with the plates

e, sockets *c* and *c'*, and the channeled rear section, *b*, having the fulcrum-frame *m*, of the angle-levers L L', having their power ends concave, as shown, the bar or rod *q*, extending from the under side of the power end of the upper angle-lever to the upper side of the power end of the lower angle-lever, and the thumb-screw Z, all adapted to operate in connection with the headed pins *d* and springs *k*, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. SCHNEIDER.

Witnesses:

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