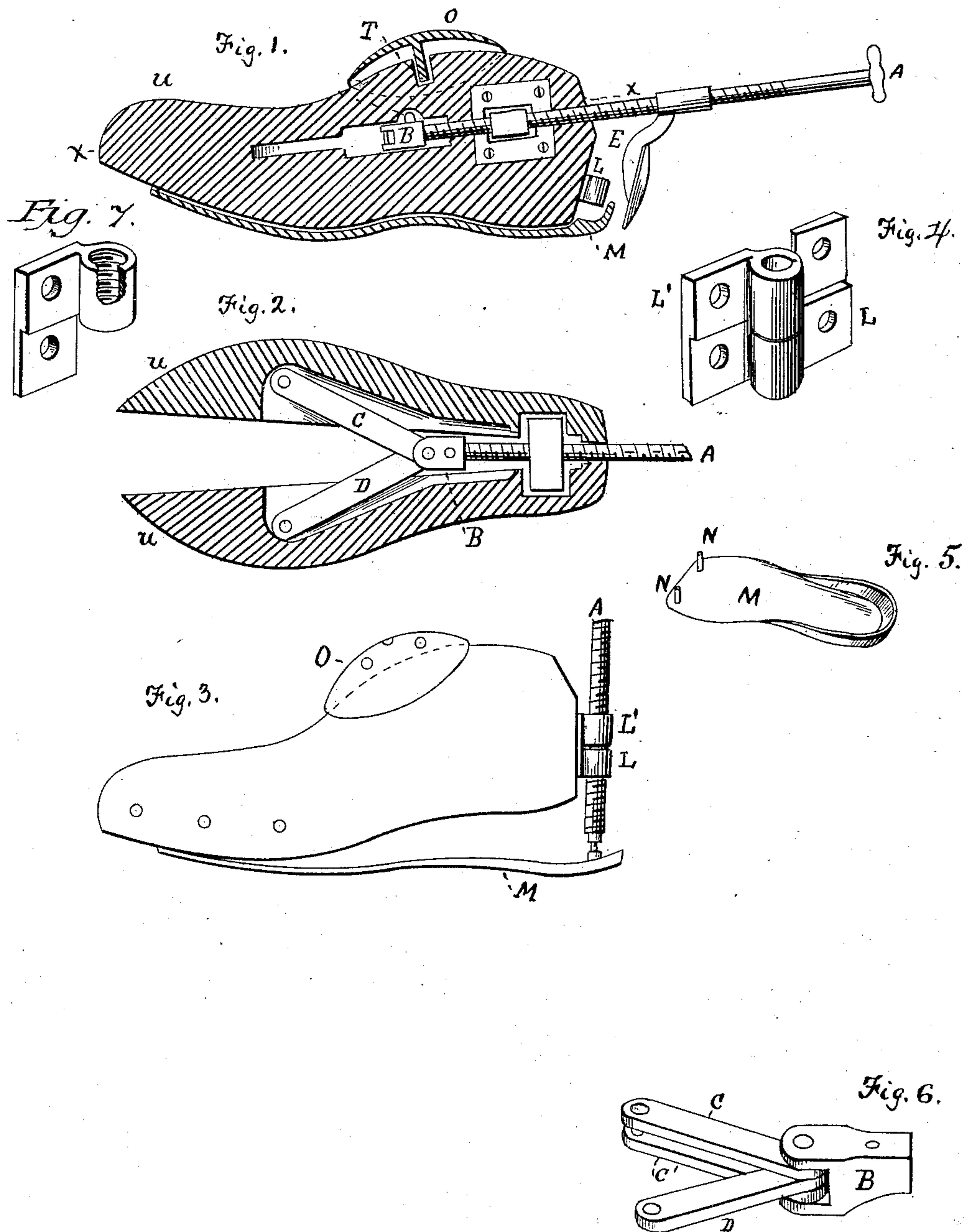


(No Model.)

W. JONES.
BOOT OR SHOE STRETCHER.

No. 375,939.

Patented Jan. 3, 1888.



WITNESSES

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BOOT OR SHOE STRETCHER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 375,939, dated January 3, 1888.

Application filed May 9, 1885. Serial No. 164,917. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILEY JONES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Norfolk, in the county of Norfolk and State of Virginia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Boot or Shoe Stretchers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention consists of certain devices attached to a divided wooden last, whereby the said last is made to stretch a shoe across the toe and on the instep, as will be hereinafter described.

In the drawings which serve to illustrate my invention and form a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a longitudinal elevation showing the inner side of the divided wooden last with central longitudinal section of the bottom plate and instep-cap. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section in the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 shows the stretcher as used in stretching the instep. Fig. 4 is a perspective of the heel-nuts. Fig. 5 is a perspective of the bottom plate. Fig. 6 is a perspective of the links and swivel-nut. Fig. 7 is a view of a part of heel-nut with tapped screw-threaded aperture.

In the drawings already mentioned, M is a metallic bottom plate fitting under the bottom of the last and provided with two studs, N N, which studs fit detachably each into a corresponding socket or cavity in the bottom of the last near the toe.

L and L' are two screw-threaded heel-nuts tapped vertically for the screw A. One of these nuts is secured to each half of the last outside of the hinge, and when the screw A is inserted vertically through these nuts they serve to lock together the two halves of the last and prevent the toe from spreading open while the heel is being raised in the process of stretching the instep.

C, C', and D are three links pivoted on one pin in the swivel nut B, link C' being under link C and pivoted in the same side of the last, and link D interlapping between them and pivoted in the opposite side of the last, thereby balancing the pressure on nut B and preventing wrenching on the said nut, as seen in Figs. 2 and 6.

B is a swivel-nut fitting detachably on the end of screw A, and provided with a single pin, on which are pivoted the links C, C', and D.

T is an orifice in the top of the last for the pin of instep-cap O, one-half of the said orifice being cut from each side of the last.

The parts which in this application are designated as "screw" A and "heel-brace" E are old, and therefore not claimed in this application, the same having been described and claimed in my application for Letters Patent for improvement in shoe stretchers, filed April 22, 1885, Serial No. 163,035. As may be seen, however, they are advantageously combined in my present improvement for more effectually stretching shoes. To stretch a shoe across the toe, I turn the screw A, which drives forward the swivel-nut B, thereby causing the links C, C', and D to expand the divided last U U, as seen in Fig. 2. Heel-brace E presses on the counter inside the shoe and holds the last from slipping back during this process of stretching across the toe. To stretch a shoe on the instep, I detach the screw A from the swivel-nut B and insert the said screw vertically through the pair of heel-nuts L and L'. Then I put the bottom plate, M, and the instep-cap O in their places and turn screw A, thereby raising the last, as seen in Fig. 3. The pair of heel-nuts are secured to the last in an open-jointed manner, so as not to prevent a sufficient spread of the last in widening the shoe.

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

1. The combination, in a shoe-stretcher consisting of a divided wooden last, of the bottom plate, M, provided with studs N N, fitted in their corresponding cavities in the said last, substantially as and for the purposes described and set forth.

2. In a shoe stretcher, the links C, C', and D, in combination with swivel-nut B, and pivoted on a single pin in the said nut, all substantially as and for the purposes described and set forth.

WILEY JONES.

Witnesses:

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