(No Model.)

H. G. LOCKE.

LAST.

No. 385,362. Patented July 3, 1888.

Fig. 1.

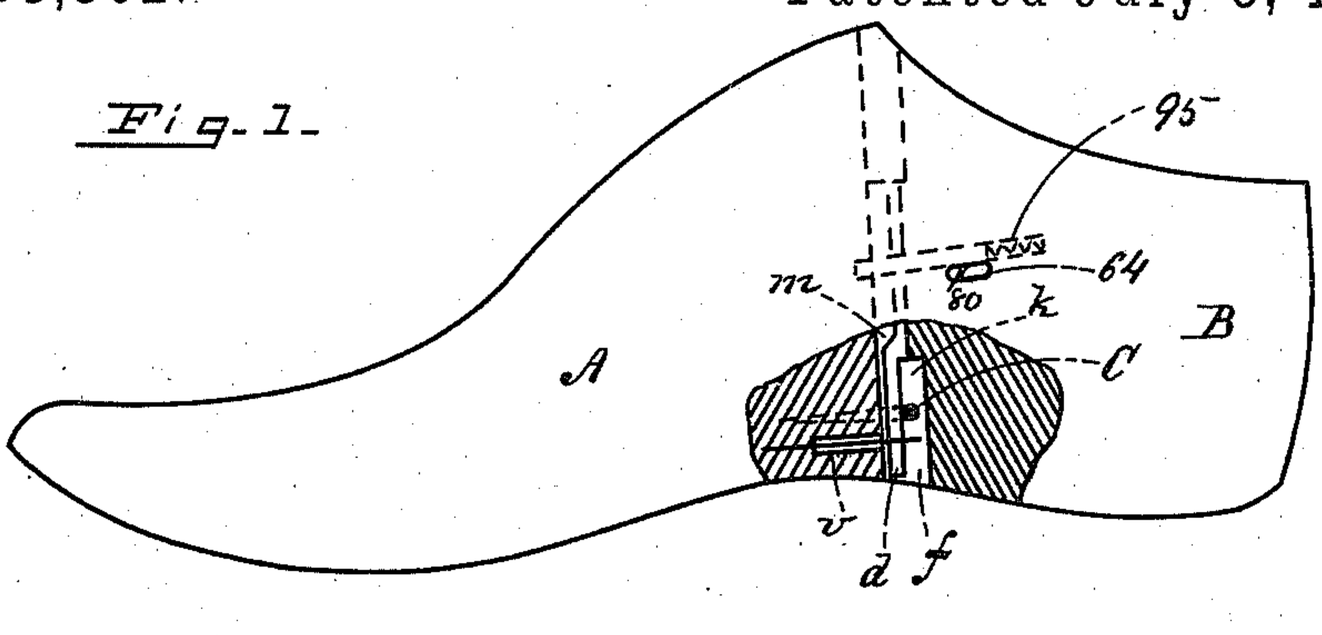


Fig. 2.

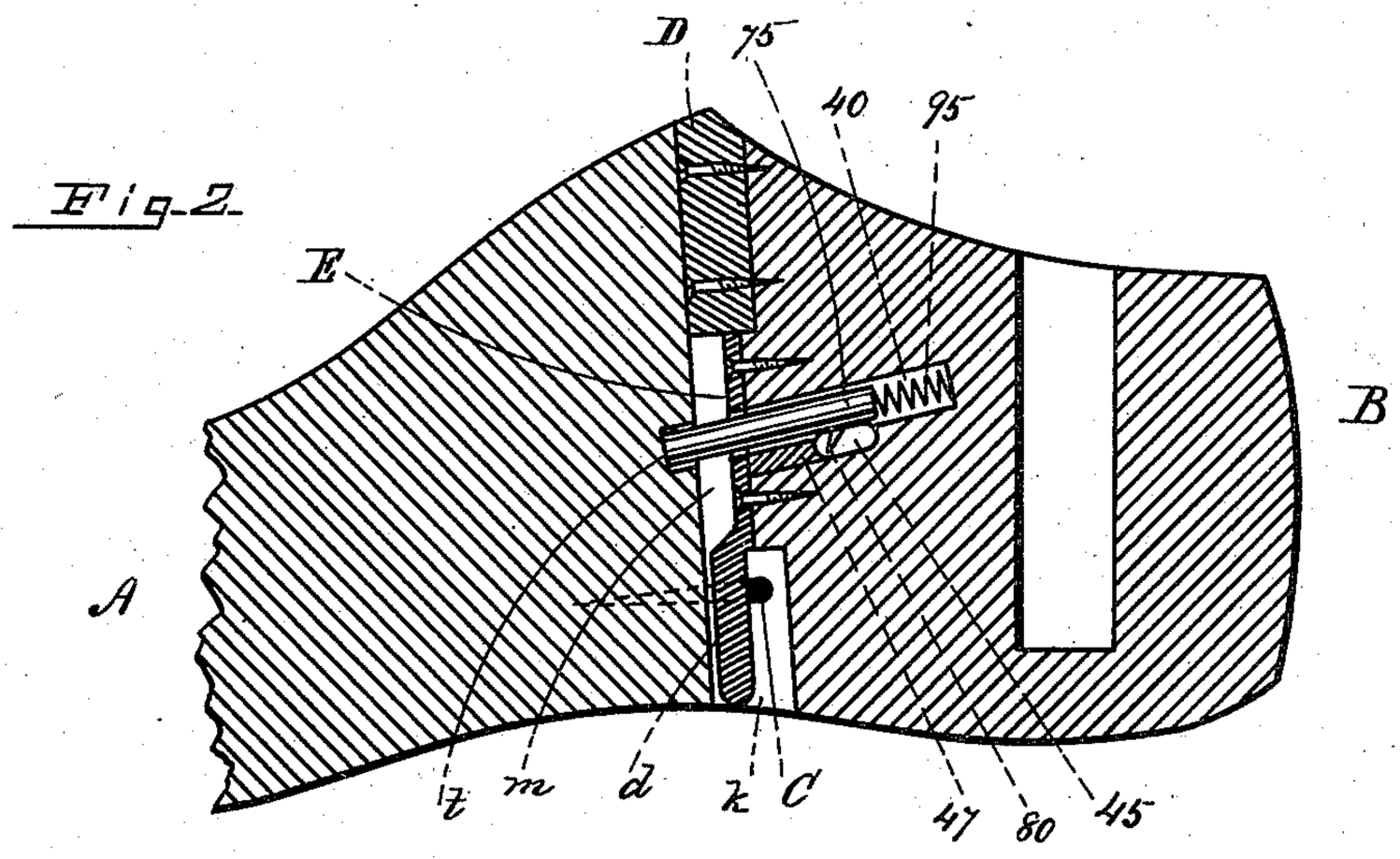


Fig. 3.

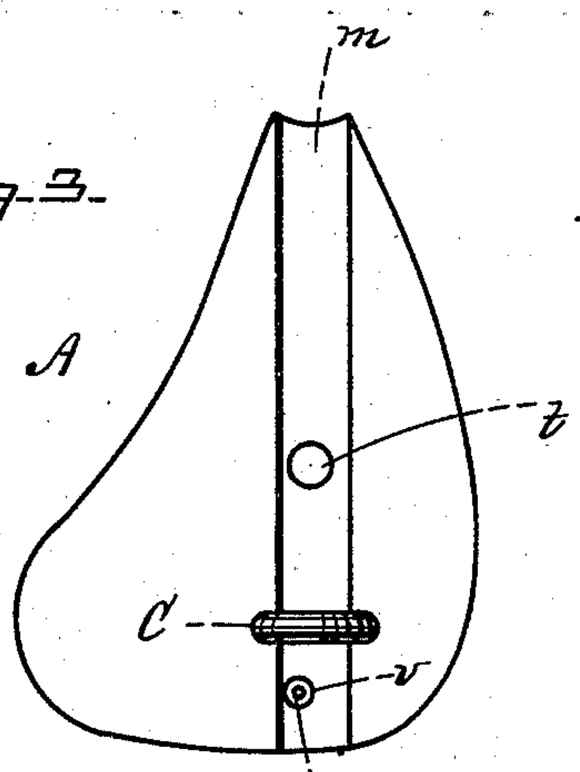
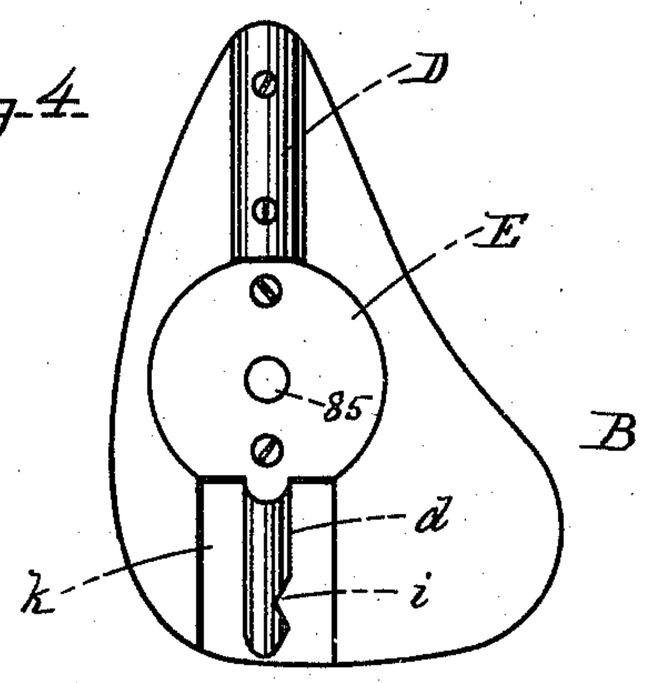


Fig. 4.



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LAST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 385,362, dated July 3, 1888.

Application filed May 7, 1888. Serial No. 273,006. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HOWARD G. LOCKE, of Weymouth, in the county of Norfolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Boot or Shoe Lasts, of which the following is a description sufficiently full, clear, and exact to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which said invention appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved last, a portion of the same being represented as broken away to show the interior mechanism; Fig. 2, an enlarged vertical longitudinal section, the toe portion being represented as broken off; Fig. 3, an end elevation of the body of the last as viewed from the rear, and Fig. 4 an end elevation of the heel-section as viewed from the front.

Like letters and figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

My invention relates to that class of boot or shoe lasts which are separable; and it consists in certain novel features, as hereinafter fully set forth and claimed, the object being to produce a simpler, cheaper, and more effective article of this character than is now in ordinary use.

The nature and operation of the improvement will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters from the following explanation:

In the drawings, A represents the body-section, and B the heel-section, of the last, the line of separation extending transversely through the last from side to side at or near the apex of the instep, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the rear end of the body-section being slightly inclined forward and the forward end of the heel-section inclined in a reverse direction to enable the parts to be readily separated when in the boot or shoe, it being obvious that this could not be accomplished with facility if the contiguous faces of the sections were not so constructed.

A vertical groove, *m*, is formed in the rear end of the body-section A, and projecting horizontally from said section, near the bottom of said groove, there is a spring, *f*, a socket, *v*, being formed around said spring to permit it to work freely. A horizontally-arranged socket, *t*, is also formed centrally in the rear of the body-section for receiving the end of the locking-bar, hereinafter described, and near the bottom of said end, immediately above the spring *f*, a screw-eye or staple, C, is inserted, which opens upward.

The forward end of the heel-section B is provided with a vertically-arranged groove, *k*, near its bottom, for receiving the outer end of the eye C and free end of the spring *f*, and centrally secured to the forward end of said heel-section there is a vertically-arranged guide-piece, D, adapted to fit and slide in the upper portion of the groove *m*. A plate, E, is also secured to the forward end of the heel-section B, between the guide-piece D and socket *k*, said plate being provided with a downwardly-projecting bar, *d*, having a notch, *i*, in one of its sides near the lower end adapted to receive the free end of the spring *f*.

A centrally-arranged socket, 40, is formed in the heel-section B, said socket extending rearward and upward from the forward end of the heel-section, and being enlarged, as shown at 45, to receive a stop-plate, 47, which is secured on the bottom of said socket near its outer end in the rear of the plate E. A locking bar or bolt, 75, is inserted in the socket 40 and projects through a hole, 85, in the plate E, said bar being provided with a spring, 95, which acts expansively to force its outer end into the socket *t* in the body-section A. The bar 75 is provided on its lower side with a spur, 80, and opposite said spur an elongated opening, 64, is formed, which extends outwardly through one side of the heel-section, said spur engaging the stop-plate 47, to prevent the bar from escaping from the socket 49 when the sections are separated.

In the use of my improved last the body-section is first inserted in the forward portion of the boot or shoe, after which the heel-section is forced downward into position at the rear of the body-section, the bar *d* passing through the eye C and engaging the spring *f*, which falls into the notch *i*, near the outer end

of the bar 75, the locking-bar 75 at the same time entering the socket *t* and locking the parts together in a manner that will be readily understood by all conversant with such matters without a more explicit description. To unlock the parts, the end of an ordinary last-hook or other similar implement is inserted through the slot or opening 64 in front of the spur 80 and the bolt 75 pushed backward until withdrawn from the socket *t* by pressing on said spur, after which the heel-section may be readily slipped upward and detached from the body-section, the upward movement of the bar *d* overcoming the spring *f* and causing it to escape from the notch *i*, the sides of which are inclined, as shown in Fig. 4, to permit the same.

Having thus explained my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a boot or shoe last, the body-section A, provided with the groove *m*, eye C, and spring *f*, and the heel-section B, provided with the socket *k*, guide-piece D, and plate E, having the notched bar *d*, combined and arranged to operate substantially as described.

2. In a boot or shoe last, a section, as A, provided with a socket, as *t*, for receiving the end of the locking-bar, and a section, as B, provided with a socket, as 40, a slot, as 64, opening into the socket 40, a stop-plate, as 47, a spring, as 95, and a locking-bar, as 75, said stop-plate, spring, and bar being disposed in the socket 40, and said bar provided with a spur, as 80, and adapted to enter the socket *t*, substantially as set forth.

3. In a boot or shoe last, the body-section A, provided with the groove *m*, socket *t*, eye C, and spring *f*, and the heel-section B, provided with the socket *k*, guide piece D, socket 40, spring 95, stop-plate 47, locking-bar 75, having the spur 80, and the plate E, having the notched bar *d* and hole 85, all being combined and arranged to operate substantially as described.

4. In a boot or shoe last, the body-section A, provided with the eye C and having the socket *v* and spring *f*, said spring being disposed longitudinally in said socket, in combination with the heel-section B, provided with the bar *d*, having the notch *i*, said notch being provided with inclined sides, substantially as set forth.

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