

No. 669,173.

Patented Mar. 5, 1901.

J. B. KING & F. R. POOL.

BOOT TREE OR LAST.

(Application filed Feb. 19, 1900.)

(No Model.)

3 Sheets—Sheet 1.

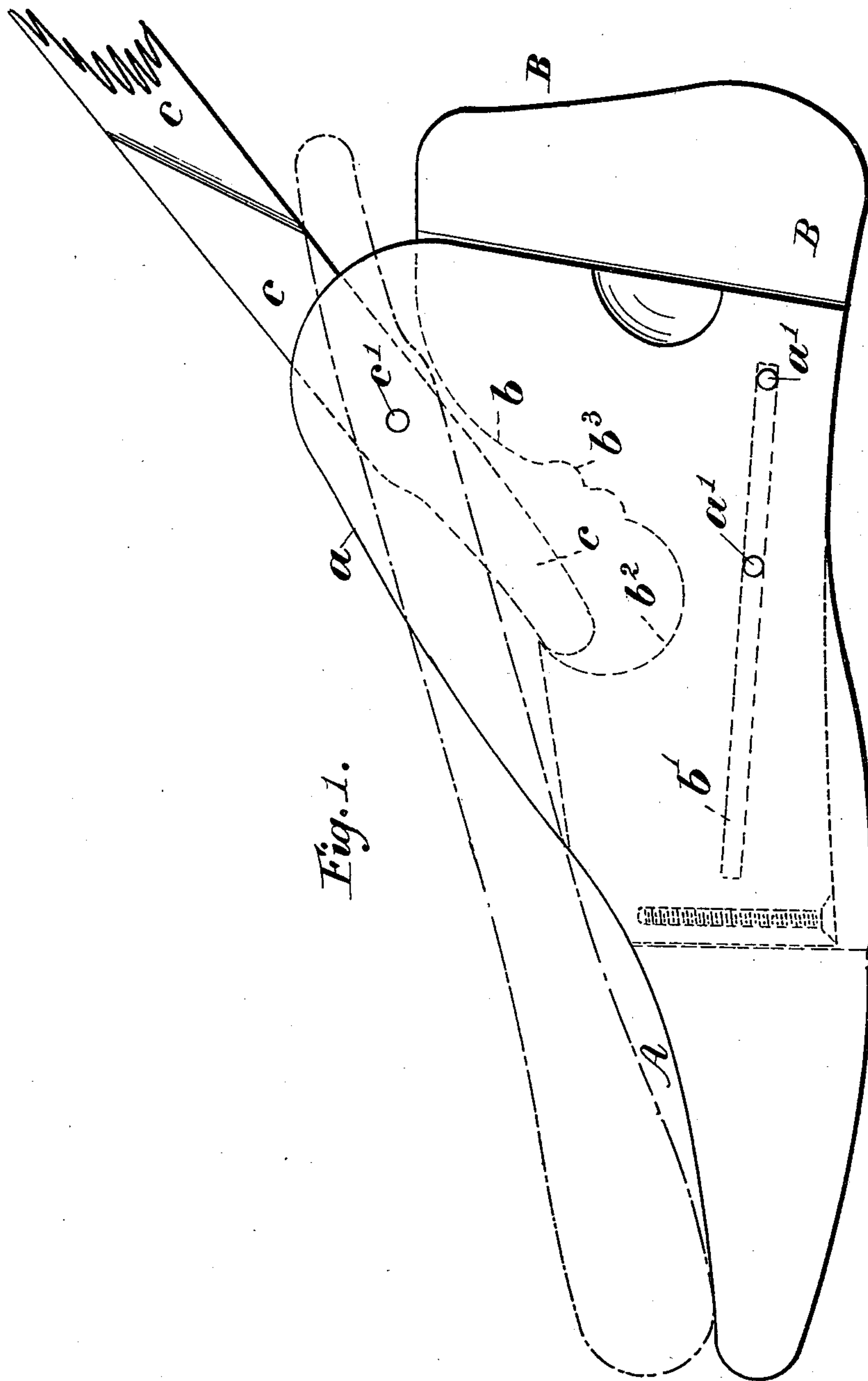


Fig. 1.

Witnesses:  
E. A. Finckel.  
Jane S. Fair.

Inventors:  
John Paragwanath King.  
Frederick Rouse Pool.  
by W. H. Finckel Atty.

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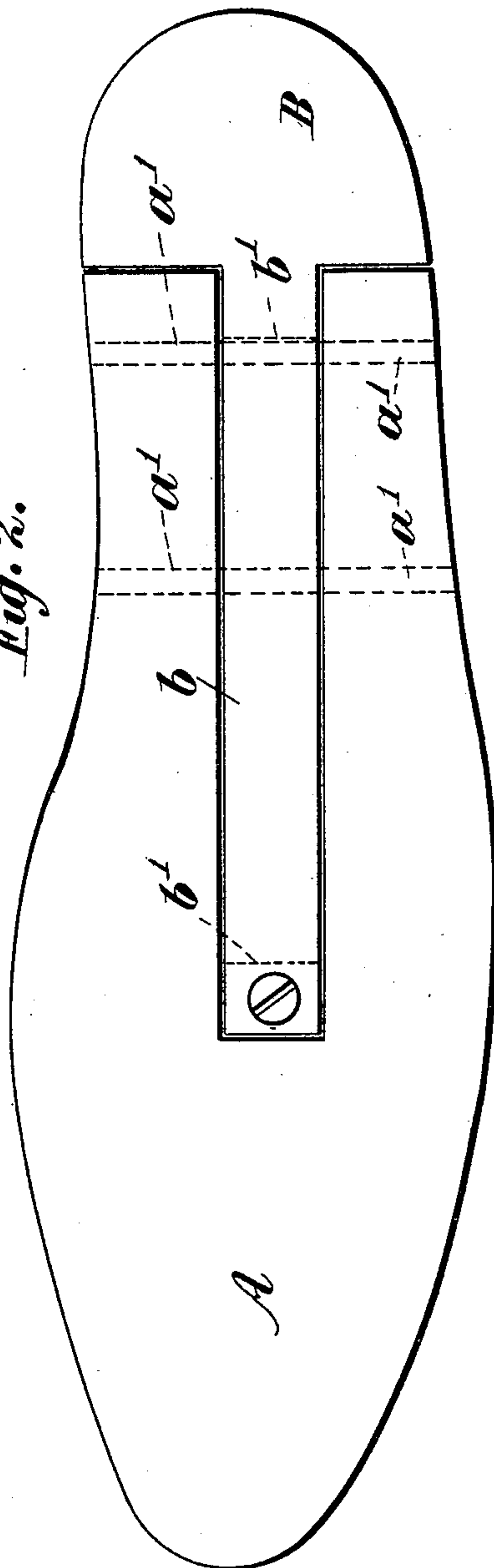
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3 Sheets—Sheet 2.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses:  
E. B. Finckel  
Jane S. Fair

Inventors:  
John Paraguanath King.  
Frederick Clouse Pool.  
by W. H. Finckel atty.

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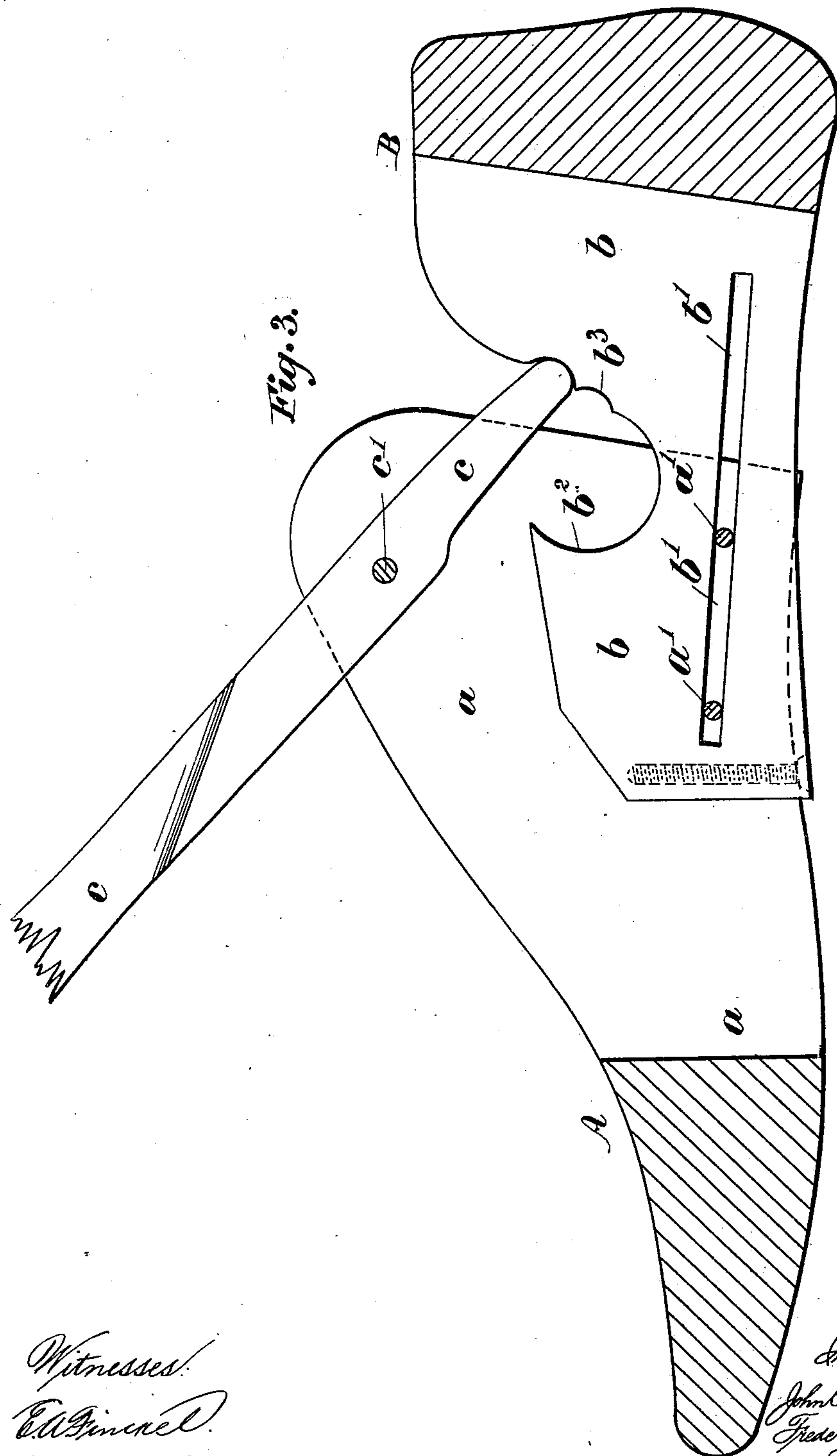
**J. B. KING & F. R. POOL.**

**BOOT TREE OR LAST.**

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**3 Sheets—Sheet 3.**

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Witnesses:  
E. A. Finkel.  
Jane S. Fair.

Inventors:  
John Paraguianath Sing  
Frederick Bousc Pool.  
by W. H. Finckel  
Atty.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN B. KING, OF MUTLEY, AND FREDERICK R. POOL, OF LONDON,  
ENGLAND.

## BOOT TREE OR LAST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 669,173, dated March 5, 1901.

Application filed February 19, 1900. Serial No. 5,830. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN BARAGWANATH KING, residing at Mutley, in the county of Devon, and FREDERICK ROUSE POOL, residing at London, England, subjects of the Queen of Great Britain, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot Trees or Lasts, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, and for which we have made applications for patents in Great Britain, dated July 24, 1899; in Germany, dated August 16, 1899, and in France, dated January 23, 1900.

The invention has for its object an improved boot tree or last which is capable of ready application to a boot or shoe and of removal therefrom, while for packing or transport it is capable of assuming a compact form without separation of any of the parts.

Our invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view, Fig. 2 an under side view, and Fig. 3 a vertical longitudinal section, of our improved boot tree or last.

In carrying our invention into effect we form a boot tree or last preferably of the usual external form and in two pieces—namely, a front portion A, comprising the main part of the foot, and a heel portion B, formed with a forwardly-projecting web  $b$ , fitting and capable of sliding within a slot or space  $a$ , formed in the front portion. A slot  $b'$  is preferably formed in the web  $b$  of the heel portion B, and pins  $a'$  are passed through the front portion A and through said slot  $b'$  to guide and control the motion of the heel portion B; but other means may be employed for this purpose.

In the web  $b$  of the heel portion B is formed a space or socket  $b^2$  to receive the operating and retaining end of a lever  $c$ , working within the slot or space  $a$  in the front portion A of the tree or last, and said lever  $c$  has its fulcrum-pin  $c'$  fixed in the upper part of said front portion A. The space or socket  $b^2$  in the web  $b$  of the heel portion B is of such form as to enable the operating end of the lever  $c$  to swing freely therein and engage the opposite walls thereof, thereby to move

said heel portion B in either direction, as may be required, and said space  $b^2$  may be formed with notches  $b^3$  in its rear wall to receive and lock the operating and retaining end of the lever  $c$ , which latter is formed as a tooth or wiper.

In Fig. 1 the lever  $c$  is shown by full lines in the position it would occupy when inserting the tree or last in a boot or shoe and by dotted lines in the packed position.

In some cases the lever may be pivoted to the heel portion and the web may form part of the front portion of the last.

We have shown the slot  $b'$  slightly inclined from the horizontal, by which means the in-step portion is caused somewhat to rise, thereby stretching the boot or shoe upper in a vertical direction in addition to the horizontal; but, if desired, the slot  $b'$  may be made in a horizontal position.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A boot tree or last, having a front portion adapted to receive the heel portion, a heel portion provided with a socket and adapted to be moved longitudinally in relation to the front portion, and an operating and retaining lever pivoted to the front portion and adapted to engage opposite walls of the socket in the heel portion to move the heel and front portions to and from each other, and retain them in position when in use, and capable of being turned over when not in use, and lying compactly on the top of the boot tree or last, substantially as set forth.

2. In a boot tree or last, the combination of a front portion and a heel portion, one of said portions formed with a longitudinal vertical slot and the other portion formed with a longitudinal vertical web fitting in said slot, said web provided with a transverse slot and a space or socket, pins fixed in one portion and passed through the transverse slot in the web, and an operating and retaining lever pivoted to one of said portions and engaging the space or socket formed in the web, substantially as set forth.

3. In a boot tree or last, the combination of a front portion, having a vertical slot, a heel

portion, a web carried by the heel portion and fitting the slot in the front portion, and provided with a slot and a space or socket having notches, pins passed through the front  
5 portion and through the slot in the web, and an operating and retaining lever pivoted to the front portion, the end of the operating-lever engaging the space or socket in the web and the notches formed in said space or socket,  
10 whereby the parts are retained in position when in use, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of witnesses.

J. B. KING.  
F. R. POOL.

Witnesses to the signature of J. B. King:

ARTHUR GEAKE,  
BERNARD LYNDEN.

Witnesses to the signature of F. R. Pool:

B. J. B. MILLS,  
W. GIRLING.