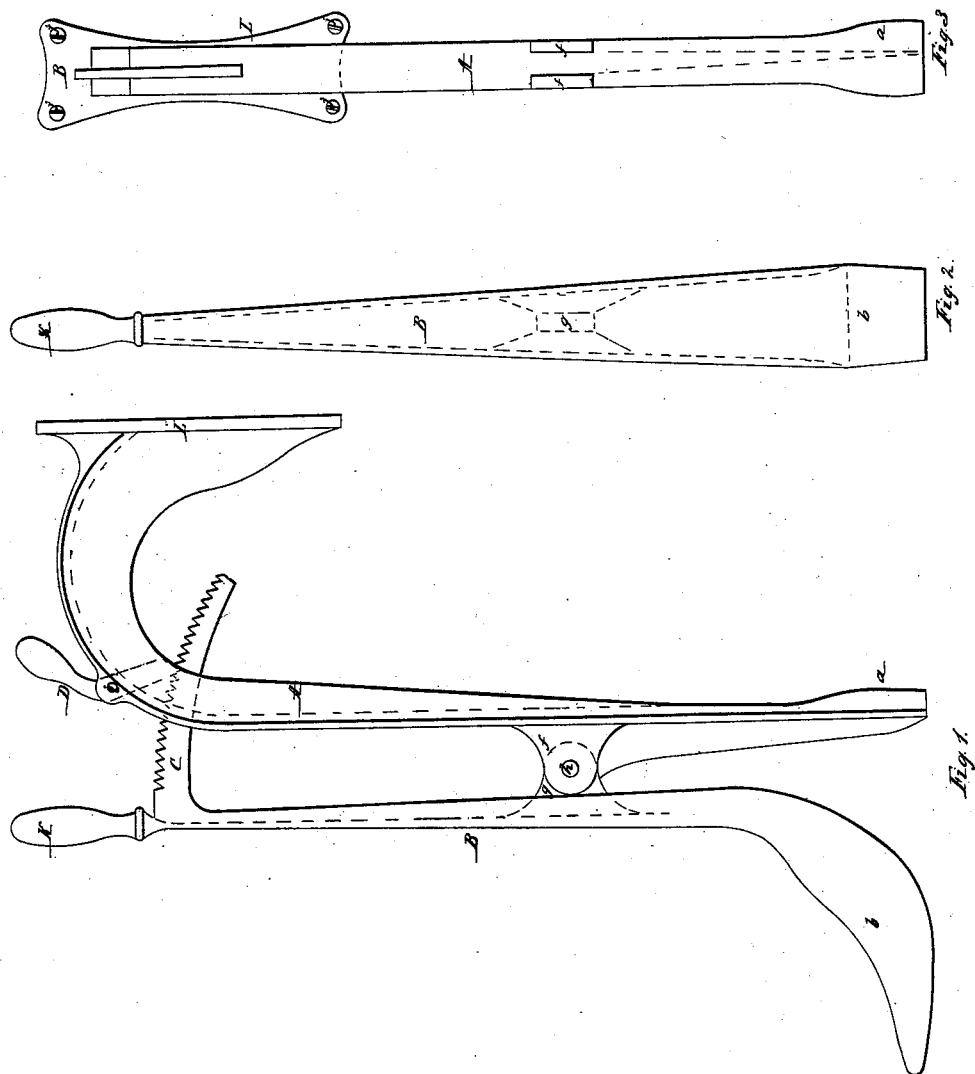


J. Ellison,

Shoemakers' Tool,

N^o 48,801,

Patented July 18, 1865.



Witnesses:

*N. Jones
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Inventor:

James Ellison

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES ELLISON, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVED BOOT AND SHOE HOLDER.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 48,801, dated July 18, 1865

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES ELLISON, of Boston, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Boot and Shoe Holder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the whole apparatus. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the lever B; and Fig. 3 is a similar view of the fixed arm A, with which the said lever is connected.

Like parts are indicated by the same letters in all the drawings.

The purpose of my invention is to hold a boot or shoe firmly in a convenient position while it is being brushed or polished, enabling the operator to use both hands at once, or a brush in either hand, instead of holding the boot or shoe in the usual manner with one hand and wielding a single brush with the other, whereby the operation of brushing, polishing, or cleaning boots and shoes is greatly facilitated; and the nature of my improvement consists in the employment of a curved arm, A, long enough to reach from the sole of a boot to the top of the leg, and permanently attached to the side of a room or other suitable stationary article, in combination with a lever, B, provided with a last-shaped foot, *b*, a handle, K, and a ratchet, C, to operate in connection with a weighted or self-acting pawl, D, the said arm and lever being so constructed as to be readily inserted in a boot or shoe and afterward expanded, so as to hold it firmly in the most convenient position to be brushed or polished.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my improvement, I will now proceed to describe the construction and operation of the same.

A is an arm, of cast-iron or other suitable material, the general shape of which is clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 3, the lower end, *a*, being shaped somewhat like the heel of a last, and the upper end provided with a cleat or flange, L, having holes *j j j j*, through which

screws may be passed and driven into the side of a room or other suitable fixture or stationary article, whereby the arm is rigidly confined in any required position.

B is a lever, of cast-iron or other suitable material, shaped as clearly shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the lower end, *b*, being in the form of a portion of a last, the upper end being provided with a handle, A, and a ratchet, C, (which may be cast in one piece with the lever.) Near the center of this lever B are ears *f f*, (see Figs. 1 and 3,) between which is fitted the tenon *g*, *h* being a fulcrum-pin passing through said ears and tenon, as represented in Fig. 1.

Through the upper portion of the arm A is a slot for the reception of the ratchet C and the pawl D, the latter turning freely on the pivot *i*, and weighted so as to force its lower end into the teeth of the said ratchet. The pawl might, however, be forced upon the ratchet by means of a spring.

The operation of the apparatus is as follows: The lower ends, *b* and *a*, of the arm and lever being brought toward each other so as to contract the foot or skeleton last formed by the two, the boot or shoe is placed upon it, as on a person's foot, when the operator, pressing the handle K toward the arm A, forces the ends *a* and *b* apart, so as to fill the foot of the boot or shoe, and thereby hold it firmly in place. A boot or shoe thus held can be brushed or polished with much greater ease and rapidity than when held by the operator in the usual manner. Putting the boot or shoe onto the apparatus and taking it off are the work of a moment.

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

A boot and shoe holder consisting of the fixed arm A, pivoted lever B, handle K, ratchet C, and pawl D, or their equivalents, constructed, combined, and operating substantially as set forth, and for the purpose described.

JAMES ELLISON.

Witnesses:

N. AMES,

GEO. R. CLARKE.