

J. H. SAMPSON.
BOOT-TREES.

No. 177,753.

Patented May 23, 1876.

Fig. 1

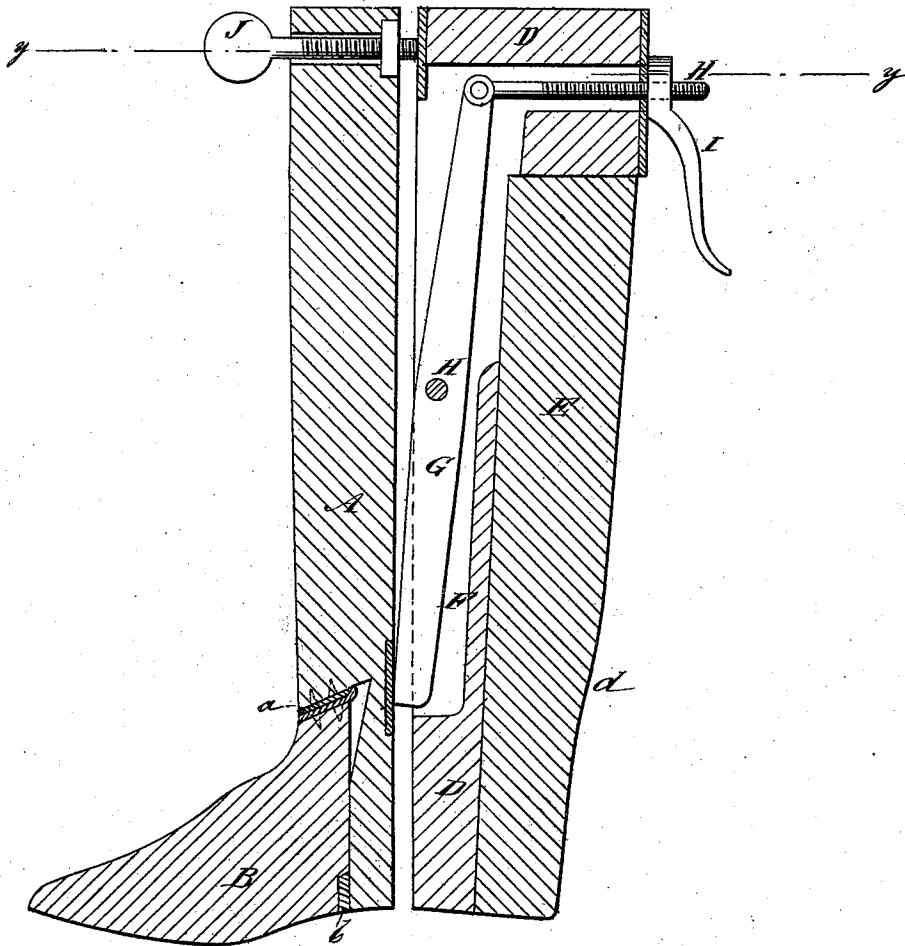
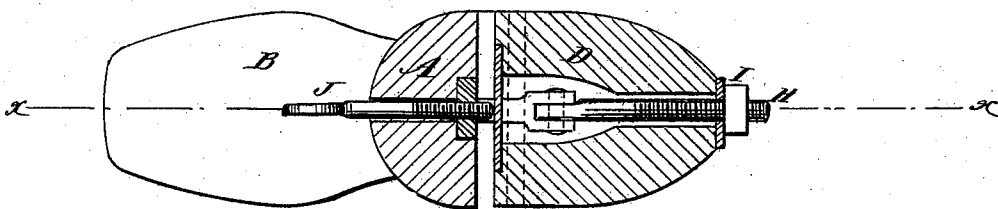


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES H. SAMPSON, OF PARIS, CANADA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BOOT-TREES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **177,753**, dated May 23, 1876; application filed April 10, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES HENRY SAMPSON, of Paris, Province of Ontario, Canada, have invented a new and Improved Center Graduating Boot-Tree, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists of a lever and an adjusting-screw on the wedge-piece, to be used in combination with the front piece and a series of back pieces of different sizes, contrived for stretching or treeing the ankle or center and foot piece, making a simple but powerful and efficient tree.

Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of my improved boot-tree, taken on line *x x*, Fig. 2; and Fig. 2 is a horizontal section taken on line *y y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is the front piece, and B the foot-piece, which connect by the shoulders *a* and the flange *b*. D is the wedge or slide piece; and E is the back piece, and *d* the center of the same. The wedge-piece has a slot, F, down the middle, in which a powerful lever, G, is fixed on a pivot, to bear at the lower end against the front piece at the instep, to tree or stretch out the same, and the center of said lever being provided with an adjusting-screw, H, and nut I at the top, for setting and hold-

ing it, the nut being worked against the rear of the middle piece D.

A series of backs with different centers *d* will be employed for insteps of different heights.

Boots are cut at the ankle or center, smaller than the measure, and treeing is for the purpose of extending them at that point, in order to let the foot go in free. With a low instep the center or ankle is low, and with a high one the reverse; therefore, as the center is on the back, (if there is only one back there is only one center for all ankles,) this my plan remedies, for by having a series of backs the tree can accommodate it to any size; but three backs are sufficient for the usual six sizes.

J is an adjusting-screw in the top of the front to expand the leg.

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

The combination, with sections A D, of the screw J and lever G, the latter bearing against the ankle at one end, and at the other operated by device H I, as shown and described, to admit the use of varying backs and insteps.

JAMES HENRY SAMPSON.

Witnesses:

GEORGE INKRATER,
WILSON WILSON.