No. 634,387. Patented Oct. 3, 1899.

D. S. BETCONE.

SHOE DISPLAYING DEVICE.

(Application filed Nov. 28, 1898.)

(No Model.)

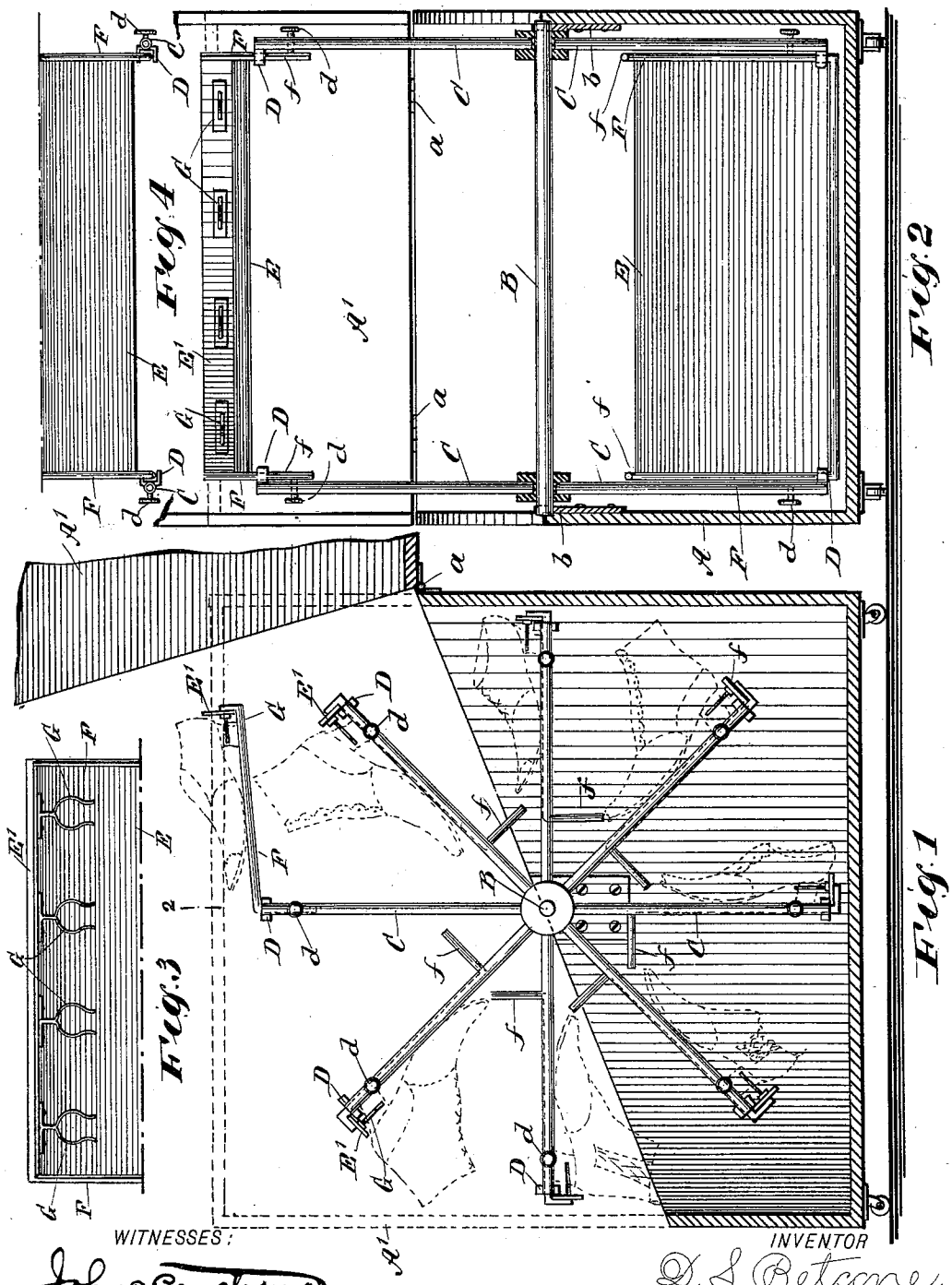


Fig. 4

Fig. 2

Fig. 1

Fig. 3

WITNESSES:

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DONALD STUART BETCONE, OF INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

SHOE-DISPLAYING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 634,387, dated October 3, 1899.

Application filed November 28, 1898. Serial No. 697,630. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DONALD STUART BETCONE, of Indianapolis, in the county of Marion and State of Indiana, have invented a new and Improved Shoe-Displaying Device, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to a device designed for displaying shoes, and is particularly adapted for use by traveling salesmen, the device in such case being inclosed within a casing or trunk-body, so that it may be safely shipped.

My invention consists of a wheel having shelves to which shoes may be secured and which may be secured to the wheel either in tangential or radial positions, as it is desired to display the shoes or prepare the device for shipment.

My invention further comprises the novel features hereinafter shown and described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a cross-sectional elevation through a trunk, showing my device therein. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section through the same on the line 2 2 in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of a portion of one of the shelves upon which the shoes are secured; and Fig. 4 is a plan view of the other part of the shelf, showing the means for securing it to the frame of the displaying device.

Among traveling shoe-salesmen a great deal of trouble and loss of time are caused by having to unpack shoes and display them before taking orders and also by having to repack the shoes before leaving a town. This, besides the loss of time and labor caused, is a serious matter, as many times it is impossible to properly show the stock to a prospective customer because of the inability to find a place where the shoes may be properly displayed. By using my improved device the shoes are at all times in condition for immediate inspection, and the space necessary for properly displaying the shoes is only that needed for the trunks which contain them, and it is therefore possible to more quickly display the shoes and also to display them in many places and under circumstances where it would otherwise be impossible, thus saving the time and expenses of the salesmen and making it possible to take many orders which would not otherwise be secured.

I have herein shown my device as mounted within a trunk-body or casing, although it is evident that the same may be used to advantage in many instances when not thus inclosed. The trunk-body or casing consists of the two parts A and A′, which are hinged to each other at *a*. The particular construction of this casing is not an essential part of my invention, and it may be constructed in any suitable or desired manner.

The frame upon which the shoes are mounted consists of a central axle or pivot B and skeleton wheels mounted at each end of the axle and consisting of a central hub carrying the spokes C. These spokes at their outer ends are each provided with a guide D and a clamping-bolt or set-screw *d*, adapted to receive and hold bars mounted upon shelves E, which are made of such width as to conveniently receive a shoe thereon, the shoe extending transversely of the shelf. Each shelf is made of such a length as to extend from one of the wheels to the other and is preferably provided with a projecting strip E′ at its back edge and is also provided with bars F, located one at each end and having one end bent at a right angle, forming a short section *f*. These bars F fit in the guides D, so that they may be pulled upward and held with the short bent section *f* in engagement with the guides and the clamping or locking bolt *d* or may be pushed inward, so that the shoes and the shelf lie between the adjacent spokes C. This latter position is the one which would be occupied by the shoes while the trunk is in condition for shipping. When the shoes upon any particular shelf are to be displayed, that shelf is pulled outward and into the position shown by the upper one in Fig. 1. This may be very quickly done, as it only requires the loosening of the set-screw *d*. The shoes are securely held upon the shelves by means of spring-clamps G or any other suitable device. The spring-clamps engage the heels of the shoes and securely hold them in place, at the same time permitting them to be removed for examination, if desired.

The frame which carries the shoes is pivotally mounted within the casing either by bearings *b*, which are secured to the sides of the casing, or by an independent frame, as may be desired.

By using this device the shoes are readily kept in their proper place and are at all times in condition for display. It is not therefore necessary to consume any time in getting the shoes ready, and it is also possible to take the trunks to a store where a salesman desires to take an order. As the trunks occupy but little space it would be possible to find sufficient space for this purpose in any store. Besides saving time the use of this device preserves the shoes in better condition than where they are loosely packed in a trunk or in trays.

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

1. In a device for displaying shoes, the combination of a frame consisting of an axle, hubs and spokes, with shelves having means for securing shoes thereto, and means for securing the shelves to the spokes in both tangential and radial positions, substantially as described.

2. In a device for shipping and displaying shoes, the combination of a casing or trunk-body, with a revoluble frame mounted within said trunk-body, shelves to which the shoes may be secured, and means for securing said shelves tangentially to the revoluble frame and also radially thereto and within its outer periphery, substantially as described.

3. In a device for displaying shoes, the combination of a revoluble frame consisting of an axle and wheels, said wheels having guides disposed about their periphery, with shelves having means for securing shoes thereto, L-shaped bars upon the shelves and fitting the guides, either end of said bars being adapted to engage the guides to support the shelves either tangentially outside the wheels or radially within the periphery of the wheels, and means for securing the shelves in either position.

DONALD STUART BETCONE.

Witnesses:
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