

W. H. McDONALD.

SKATES.

No. 175,250.

Patented March 28, 1876.

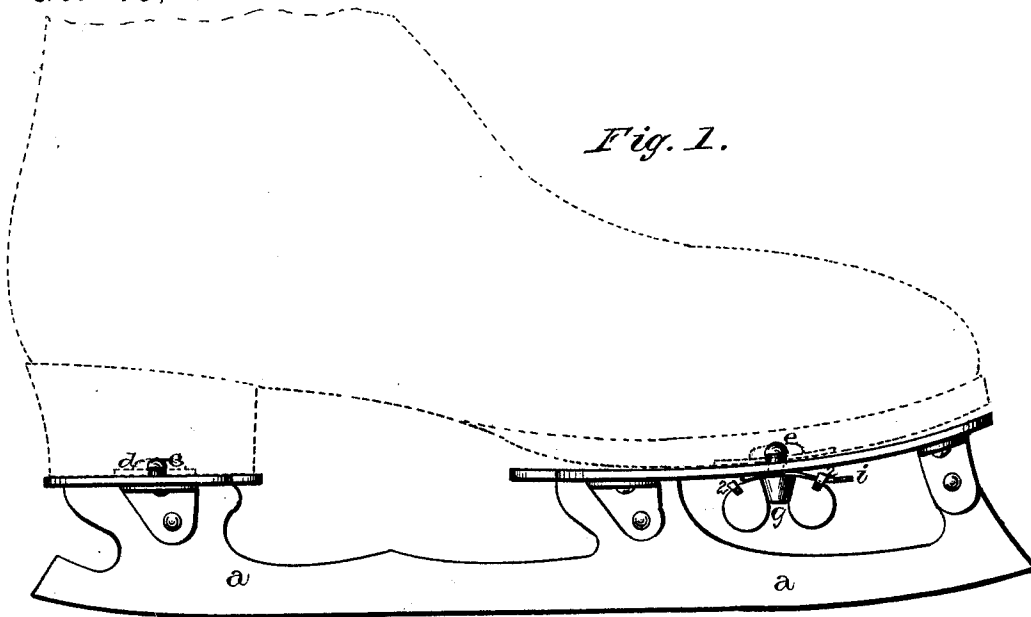


Fig. 2.

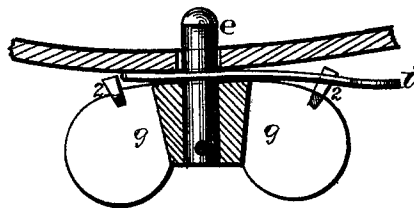


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

Wm. Garner
T. M. Burnham

Per:

Wm. H. McDonald
Inventor:

F. A. Schumann
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. McDONALD, OF TITUSVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SKATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **175,250**, dated March 28, 1876; application filed January 27, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. McDONALD, of Titusville, in the county of Crawford and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Skates; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in skates; and it consists in the arrangement and combination of parts that will be more fully described hereinafter, whereby the skate can be quickly and readily attached and detached from the foot, and all complicated fastenings done away with.

The accompanying drawings represent my invention.

a represents a skate of any desired construction, having the headed projection or catch *c* extending rigidly up above its heel-plate, at right angles to the length of the skate, and which catches in the plate *d*, that is embedded in the heel of the boot or shoe. Projecting up above the foot-plate is another such catch, *e*, but which, instead of being immovable like the other, has a suitable handle or thumb-plate, *g*, secured to its lower end, underneath the plate, by means of which it can be readily turned around. Secured to the under side of the plate is a flat spring, *i*, which catches in a notch, *2*, formed in each end of the handle *g*, and thus locks the catch in position. The outer sides of the stops *2* are rounded or beveled, as shown in Fig. 3, so that when the handle *g* is turned the spring *i* will be raised upward by the stop itself, and the moment the stop passes the spring the spring instantly springs downward between the two stops, and thus forms a positive dead-lock upon the handle to prevent it from being turned.

By means of this simple arrangement the catch *e* can be instantly fastened or unfastened, and is held much more securely than can be done by any jointed levers or similar devices.

To secure the skate to the foot, the skate is first turned at right angles to the foot, and the catch *c* inserted in the heel, when the skate is turned in line with the foot. The catch *e* is then inserted in its plate in the sole of the boot and shoe, and then turned half-way around by means of the handle *G* until the spring catches in the notch *2* in one end of the handle, when the catch will be locked in position at right angles to the length of the foot.

Instead of the projection *c*, any other catch or fastening may be used that may be preferred, as one that catches in the back or sides of the heel will answer just as well.

I am aware that a rigid catch on the heel and a revolving catch on the foot-plate are not new in themselves, and this I disclaim.

My invention consists in the arrangement and combination of the devices here shown and described, or their mechanical equivalent.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

In a skate having a catch upon the heel-plate, the combination of the revolving catch *e*, having the thumb-plate *g* attached to its lower end, stops *2*, and spring-catch *i*, the stops *2* being so formed that they will raise the catch *i* upward as the thumb-plate is being turned, and then let it spring in between them, and thus form a dead-lock, substantially as shown and described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 18th day of January, 1876.

WILLIAM H. McDONALD.

Witnesses:

DANIEL MCZOOK,
WILLIAM D. WAID.