No. 806,622. PATENTED DEC. 5, 1905.

J. S. BAKER & C. F. KETCHEM.

ROOF CLIMBER.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 11, 1903.

Fig. 1.

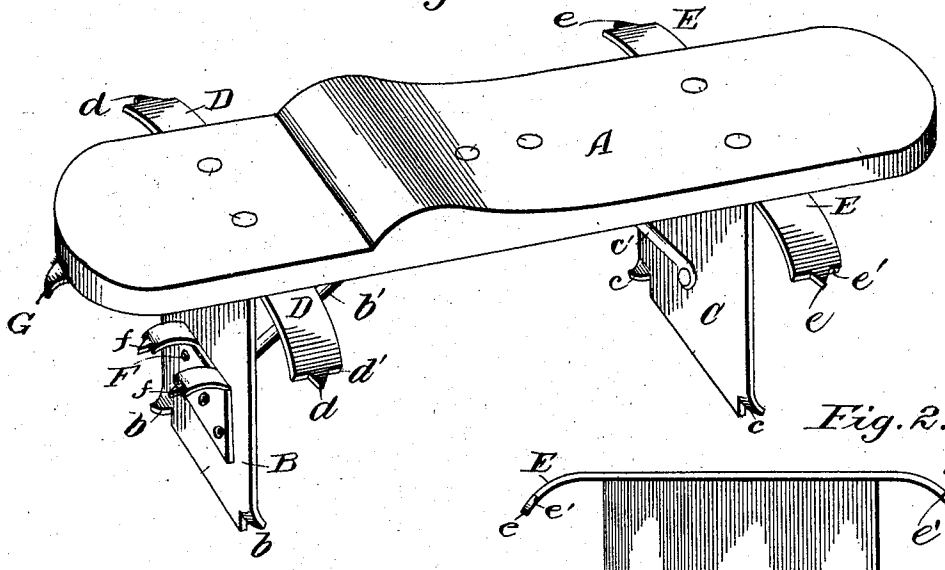


Fig. 2.

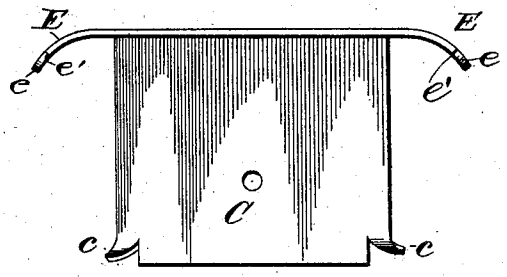


Fig. 3.

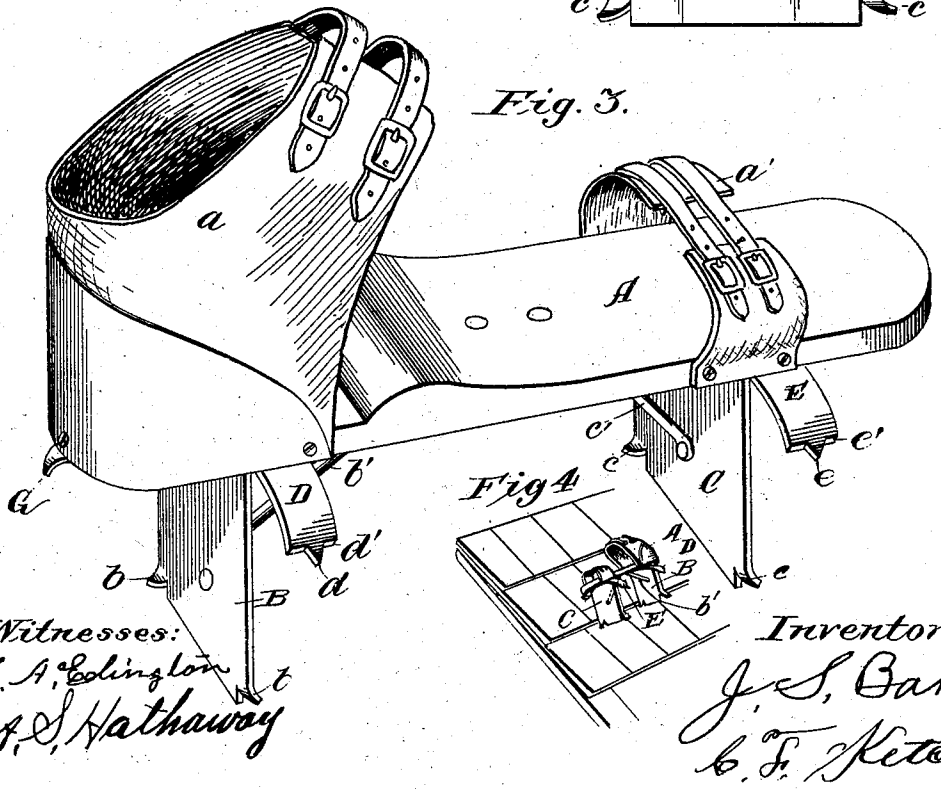


Fig 4

Witnesses:
H. A. Edinglon
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Inventors:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES S. BAKER AND CHARLES F. KETCHEM, OF CORNISH, INDIAN TERRITORY, ASSIGNORS OF ONE-THIRD TO A. S. HATHAWAY, OF LOCO, INDIAN TERRITORY; SAID BAKER ASSIGNOR OF HIS RIGHT TO J. B. OVERSTREET, OF LOCO, INDIAN TERRITORY.

ROOF-CLIMBER.

No. 806,622. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 5, 1905.

Application filed December 11, 1903. Serial No. 184,847.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JAMES S. BAKER and CHARLES F. KETCHEM, citizens of the United States, and residents of Cornish, in the Chickasaw Nation, Indian Territory, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Roof-Climbers, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention is an improvement in that class of devices which are adapted to be attached to the feet to enable the wearer to walk or otherwise support himself upon shingle or other sloping wooden roofs. By means of said devices the use of wooden brackets or scaffolds may be dispensed with for the purpose of supporting the wearer on sloping roofs, and thereby a great economy of time and labor effected in the shingling or repair of roofs.

The invention is embodied in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts hereinafter described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the main portion of our improvement, no means for attaching it to the foot of the wearer being shown. Fig. 2 is a face view of one of the main attachments to the foot-piece. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the roof-climber complete. Fig. 4 is a perspective view illustrating the position assumed by the roof-climber when in use upon a sloping roof.

A indicates an oblong wooden piece, which is shown in Fig. 3 to be provided with heel and toe straps *a a'* substantially in the manner of a well-known class of ladies' skates. The attachments of the base of the foot-piece A, by which the wearer is enabled to walk or otherwise support himself upon a sloping roof, are as follows:

B and C indicate the two similar supports, which are constructed of metal, preferably plate-steel, and secured to the under side of the foot-piece A at points midway between the center and ends of the latter and transverse or at right angles to the longitudinal axis of the foot-piece. At its lower corners the plate-support B is provided with claws *b*, which are turned in opposite directions. The main plate-support C is similarly provided with claws *c*. The portion of each of the supports B C which intervenes their respective claws or prongs is straight. Laterally-projecting claws D E are provided at points immediately above the respective vertical supports B and C. As shown in Fig. 2, the parts B and C are preferably constructed as permanent attachments of lateral projections D and E, the two parts being in each case riveted to the foot-piece A. The parts D E are narrow metal straps, preferably steel, their lateral projecting ends being curved slightly downward and provided with claws or prongs *d* and *e*, respectively, which intervene shoulders *d'* and *e'*, respectively. The rear end of the foot-piece A is provided with a claw G, which is extended rearward and curved downward. To the rear foot-support B is attached another heel-piece F, (see Fig. 1,) which is provided with arms having claws *f*, constructed substantially like those which are formed on the lateral projections D and E.

The vertical supports B and C are provided on their adjacent inner sides, respectively, with inclined braces *b'* and *c'*. The upper ends of these braces are attached to the foot-piece A at points which are in practice about one and one-half inches apart, which space enables the wearer of the roof-climber to ascend and descend a ladder with ease, since it is wide enough to receive the rungs of the same.

It will be understood that in practice a workman or other person having occasion to work upon a sloping roof will attach a climber to each foot. By placing one or both feet in such position that the climber or climbers are inclined, as shown in Fig. 4, it is apparent that the claws on the lower side will engage the shingles, so as to prevent slipping. It will be seen that the shoulders *d'* and *e'* of the respective lateral prongs D E will prevent the claws *d e* from entering the shingles so deeply as to split them. Similarly, the claws *c* and *b* of the vertical supports B and C will not enter the shingles too deeply. The workman is thus enabled to support himself conveniently and without any serious strain upon the legs or ankles. It is apparent that the greater the weight imposed upon the roof-climber the more firmly the prongs will retain their hold upon the roof. In case the workman desires to reverse his position on the roof, so as to face in the opposite direction, the heel-claw G may be set in the shingles and used as a

turning-point. In case the workman desires to descend the roof the claws F and G enable him to do so without danger of slipping. The straight portion of the lower edge of the vertical supports B and C, which intervenes their respective claws, enables a person to walk upon a floor or other flat surface if occasion requires.

What we claim is—

1. The improved roof-climbing device, comprising a foot-piece provided with devices for attachment to the foot of the wearer and having transverse supports provided with claws at their lower corners, the portion intervening said claws being straight to form a tread-surface, and the claws being retracted so that they do not project below the plane of the portion intervening them, substantially as described.

2. The improved roof-climbing device, comprising a foot-piece having foot attachments, vertical supports constructed of plate metal and having their lower corners provided with claws, and laterally-projecting prongs attached to the foot-piece and provided at their ends with claws and lateral shoulders, substantially as described.

3. The improved roof-climbing device, comprising a foot-piece with foot attachments and having vertical supports provided with claws, and heel-claws attached to said foot-piece and the rear support and projecting rearward, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

J. S. BAKER.
C. F. KETCHEM.

Witnesses:
W. A. WILSON,
W. J. CLOWDUS.