(No Model.)

K. J. GREENWALD.

BOOT JACK.

No. 254,816. Patented Mar. 14, 1882.

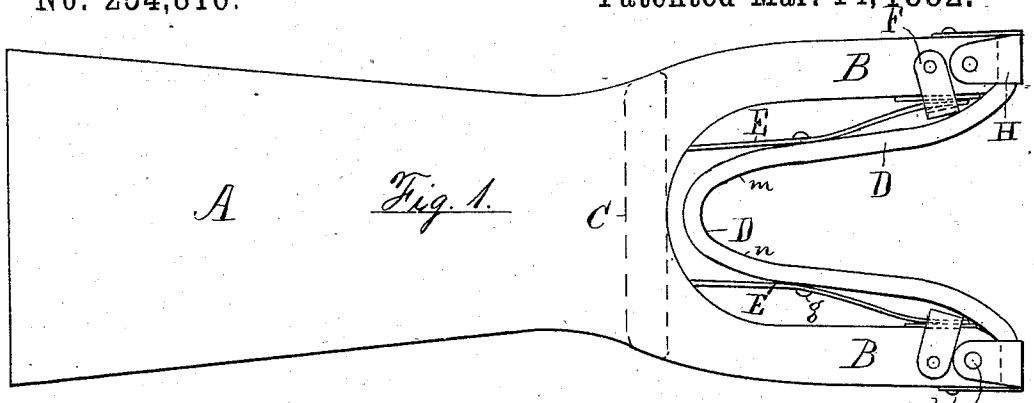


Fig. 1.

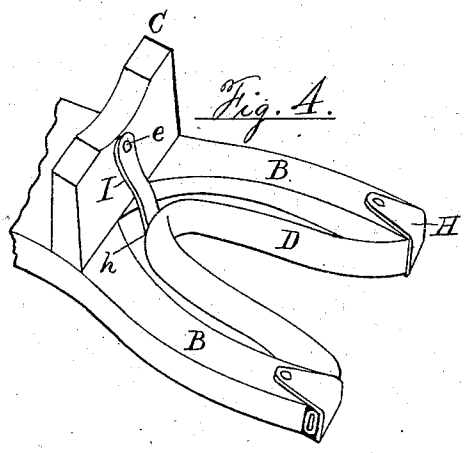


Fig. 4.

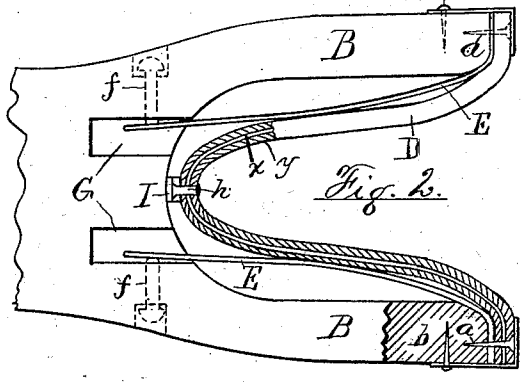


Fig. 2.

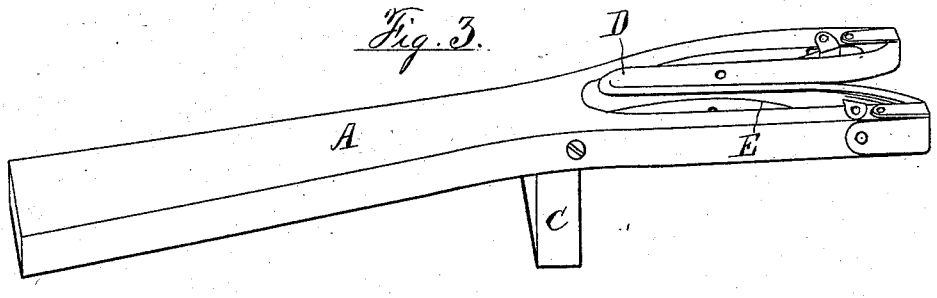


Fig. 3.

Attest:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

KASPER J. GREENWALD, OF NEWARK, NEW JERSEY.

BOOT-JACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 254,816, dated March 14, 1882.

Application filed December 6, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, KASPER J. GREENWALD, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Newark, Essex county, New Jersey, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Boot-Jacks, fully described and represented in the following specification and the accompanying drawings, forming a part of the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in boot-jacks; and it consists in the combination, with the jaws, of an elastic griping-lining of special construction, intended to seize the boot when inserted in the usual manner, and to hold it firmly without bruising.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a boot-jack having the lining re-enforced by spring-plates. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on the under side of the same, but showing a modified construction. Fig. 3 is a perspective side view of the same; and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the under side of the jaws, showing a further modification.

The lining shown in the drawings has proved the best adapted to the purpose, and consists of a steel strip, *x*, having a rubber tube, *y*, drawn tightly over it, so as to present a powerful griping-surface combined with great elasticity.

A is the body of the jack; B, the jaws; C, the cleat to rest upon the floor; D, the lining; E, the re-enforcing springs; F, clamps for securing the front ends of the same; G, notches in the body at the base of the jaws for the rear ends of the springs E to play in, and H caps applied to the front ends of the jaws to secure the lining D in place.

The lining forms an open loop within the jaws to receive the boot, and is bent over the front ends of the jaws and fastened by a nail, *a*. The caps H prevent the nails from pulling out and form a better finish, and may be made of any metal, wrought or cast, so as to cover the ends of the jaws. They are shown in the drawings secured by tacks *b*.

The springs E are shown in Fig. 1 riveted near their middle, at *g*, to the sides of the loop D, and left free to play endwise at both ends. This gives them great elasticity, while they hold the lining firmly at a fixed level by their ends fitting sidewise in the clamps F and notches G. In Fig. 2 the springs are shown unsecured to the loop D by any rivet, and having their front ends unprovided with any clamps F, but having their front ends carried around the ends of the jaws, beneath the bent ends of the lining, and secured by the same nail, *a*. When thus arranged the lining needs some other brace vertically to resist the upward pull of the boot, and such a brace is shown in Fig. 4 in the form of an upright link, I, riveted to the rear end of the loop at *h*, and fastened to the cleat near the floor by a screw or nail, *e*. When thus braced the lining may be used, if desired, without the springs E, as shown in Fig. 4.

From the above description it will be seen that the lining D is peculiarly adapted to yield to the shapes of boots of various sizes by reason of its being unrestricted in its lateral movement, while the means described show that it can be braced in any required direction without diminishing this quality.

Having shown a number of ways for securing the flexible and elastic lining, it is obvious that the same could be arranged to press merely upon the sides of the boot by cutting out the bottom of the loop, as from *m* to *n* in Fig. 1, and relying upon the springs E to support the lining vertically.

I am aware that jaws formed upon the ends of jointed levers have been made, and may be considered as yielding surfaces adapted to fit boots of different sizes. I do not, however, claim a yielding jaw, but a yielding lining to a fixed or stationary jaw; and not merely that, but one having a griping-surface, which I believe no lever-jaws have been provided with.

I am also aware that a strip of rubber has been fitted into a groove formed inside the jaws; but such a lining has no such adaptability as mine to boots of different sizes by reason of its flexibility, it possessing merely a limited degree of compressibility. I do not therefore claim a rubber lining, broadly; but, having shown the construction of my yielding or spring lining, the difference between the inventions referred to and my own will be readily observed, my lining obviously deriving its yielding nature from its internal band of elastic metal and its griping quality from the soft-rubber coating. Such coating may, if preferred, be cemented to the inside only of the loop, and

other materials—as leather, &c.—may be substituted for rubber, if possessing a griping character.

To increase or adjust the force of the springs E, I provide set-screws *f*, inserted in the body of the jack, so as to penetrate the sides of the notches G, in which the rear ends of the springs play. By turning the screws the ends of the springs can be forced inward and their pressure upon the sides of the loop increased at pleasure.

I therefore claim my invention as follows:

In a boot-jack, a flexible lining for the jaws, consisting of a rubber-covered metallic spring, having its end secured to the front ends of the jaws, combined with means for securing the lining within the jaws at a fixed level, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

KASPER J. GREENWALD.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM F. D. CRANE,

PHILIP UMBSCHEIDEN.