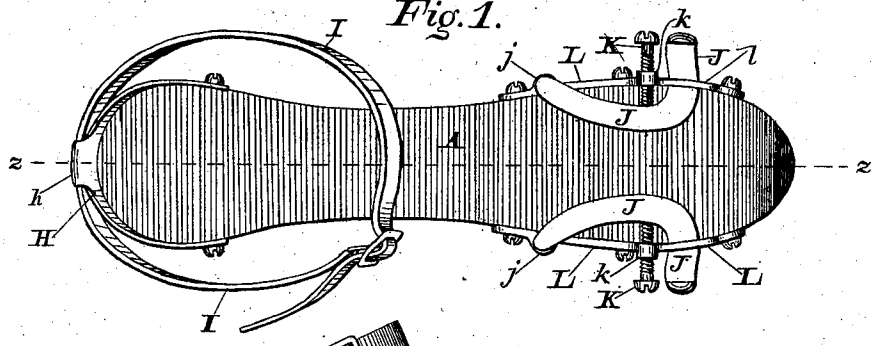
(Model.)

T. A. NEELY.

ROLLER SKATE.

No. 259,708. Patented June 20, 1882.

Fig. 1.



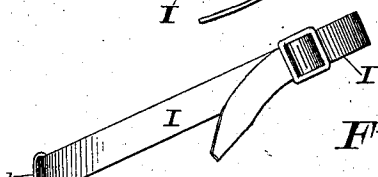


Fig. 2.

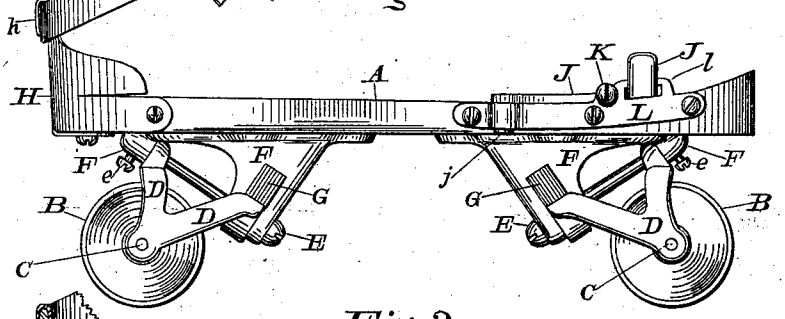


Fig. 3.

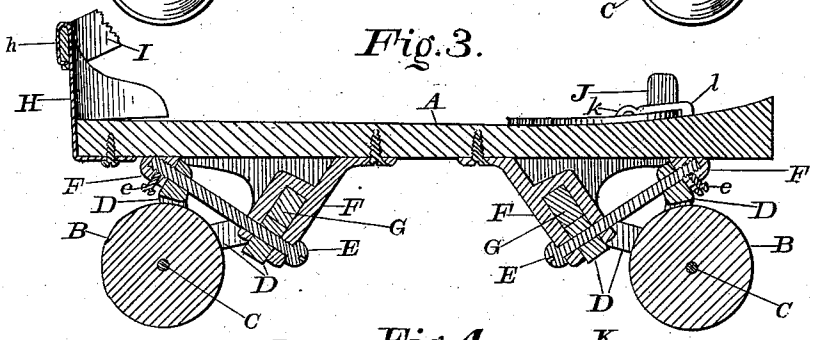
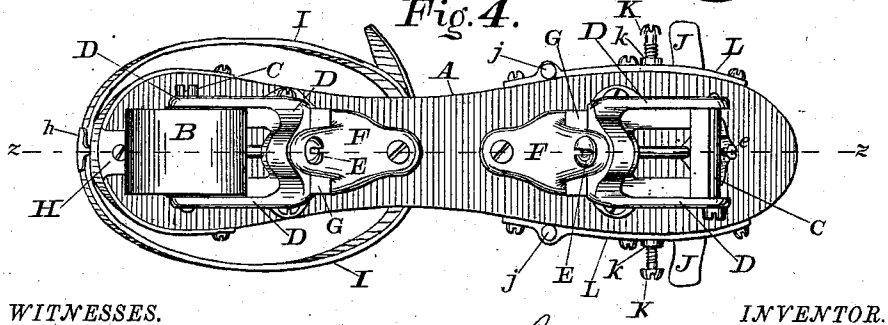


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THADDEUS A. NEELY, OF MUNCIE, INDIANA.

ROLLER-SKATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 259,708, dated June 20, 1882.

Application filed March 14, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THADDEUS A. NEELY, of the city of Muncie, county of Delaware, and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Roller-skates, of which the following is a specification.

The principal object of my said invention is to produce a roller-skate which shall have but a single wheel at each end, which shall have all the advantages in the way of elasticity and adaptability to the service required that the best double-wheeled skates have, while avoiding a considerable portion of the friction and wear of such skates and reducing the cost of manufacturing them.

A further object is to improve the construction of the fastening devices whereby the skate is secured to the foot.

My said invention consists, therefore, of a roller-skate having the peculiarities of construction hereinafter particularly described and claimed, whereby the before mentioned objects are accomplished.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, which are made a part hereof, and on which similar letters of reference indicate similar parts, Figure 1 is a top or plan view of a skate embodying my said improvements; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same; Fig. 3, a longitudinal vertical section on the dotted line *z z;* and Fig. 4, an under side plan thereof, one of the wheels being removed in order to show the wheel-frame, its pivot-shaft, and the wheel-axle more plainly.

In said drawings, the portions marked A represent the foot-piece of the skate; B, the wheels; C, the axle; D, the wheel-frames; E, the pivot-shafts for said frames; F, brackets attached to the foot-piece A, containing bearings for said shafts; G, pieces of rubber interposed between said wheel-frames and said brackets; H, preferably metallic heel-pieces; I, straps attached thereto; J, clamps to secure the front part of the foot to the skate; K, screws for operating said clamps, and L metallic portions in which are bearings for said clamps and said screws.

I will now proceed to describe the peculiar features of my said invention.

As will be seen, there is but one wheel B at each end of the skate; but these wheels are considerably broader on the face than those commonly employed. This gives a better bearing on the floor than two single wheels, besides reducing the number of wheel-edges liable to catch on irregularities in the floor-surface just one-half, and, because of the greater width of the wheels, the actual danger in a still greater proportion. By the peculiar construction and mounting of the wheel-frames D all the elasticity and "scientific" attributes of the double roller skates are secured in the form shown.

The brackets F are, as will be noticed, continuous from a point about vertically above the wheel-shaft to about horizontally-opposite the same, with a bearing-shaft, E, running diagonally across from one point to the other, on which the wheel-frame rests. This shaft is exactly central to the breadth of the wheel, and the wheel-shaft is in such relation thereto that the bearing force comes squarely upon its bearings, whereby the amount of friction produced in running the skate is reduced to a minimum.

A piece of rubber, G, is interposed between the wheel-frames D and the brackets F for the usual purpose of righting the skate-foot when tilted over and of preventing any except an enforced rocking or tilting movement of the wheels and wheel-frames.

The heel-pieces H are simply pieces of sheet metal suitably formed and attached to the heel of the foot-pieces A, as shown, and take the place of the more expensive combined metal and leather heel-piece which is commonly used. It has a lip, *h*, which is turned over and clinched upon the strap I, as is most plainly shown in Fig. 3, which forms all the fastening necessary for said strap.

The clamps J are pivoted at *j* to the metal portion L, and pass horizontally through said piece at *l*. The upwardly-projecting portions of these clamps are operated to grip the sole of the skater's boot or shoe by the screws K, which pass through screw-bearings *k* on the metal piece L. This forms a very simple and reliable fastening.

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

1. In a roller-skate having two wheels only, rocking or oscillating bearings, the bearing-shafts being located centrally above said wheels

and running from a point about vertically above the wheel-shafts on an angle toward the floor, substantially as shown and specified.

2. The combination, in a roller-skate, of the brackets F, the shafts E, the wheel-frames D, the single wheels B, and the wheel-shafts C, said several parts being arranged and operating substantially as shown and specified.

3. The combination, with a skate, of the heel-piece H, having turned-over lip *h*, and the strap I, said lip being clinched down upon said strap, which is thus secured, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination, with a skate, of the sole-clamps J, pivoted at *j*, and the screws K, whereby said clamps are operated, substantially as set forth.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand and seal at Indianapolis, Indiana, this 11th day of March, A. D. 1882.

THADDEUS A. NEELY. [L. S.]

In presence of—
C. BRADFORD,
CHAS. L. THURBER.