

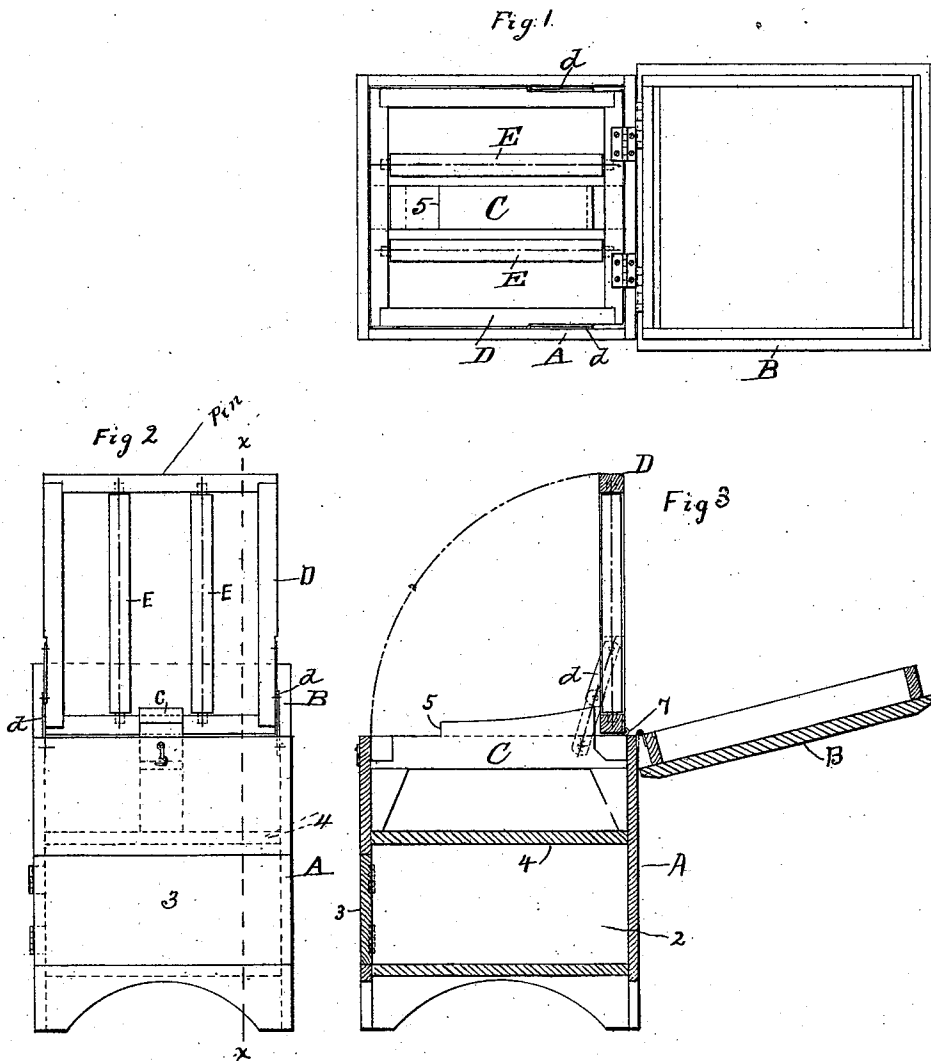
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1

G. F. BOWMAN & A. G. LANGELL.
POLISHING APPLIANCE FOR SHOES.

No. 568,833.

Patented Oct. 6, 1896.



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W. S. Bailey
WITNESSES:

George F. Bowman
Albert G. Langell
INVENTORS

BY *H. J. Fisher.*

ATTORNEY.

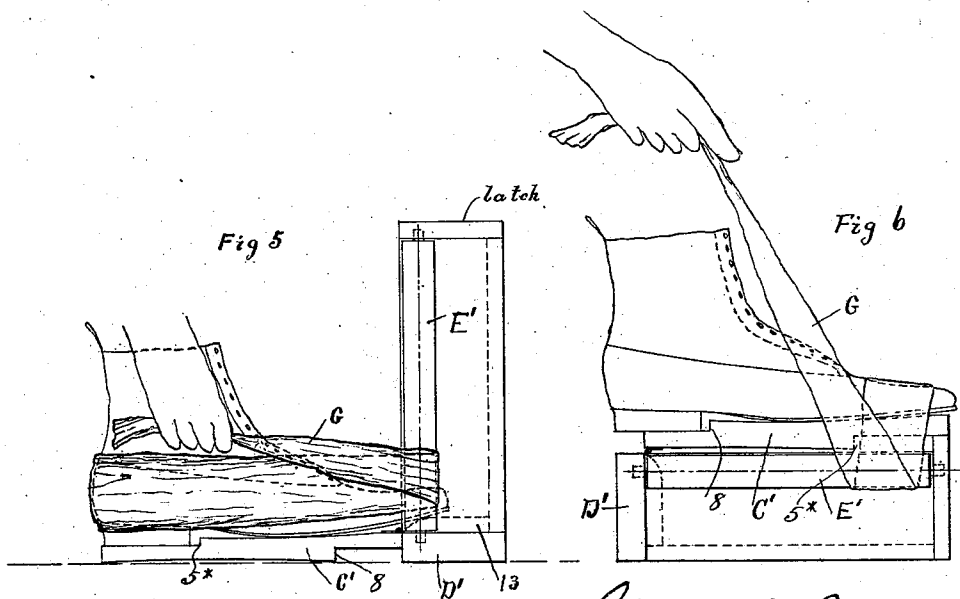
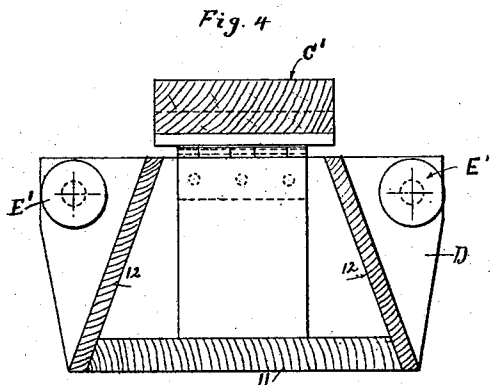
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. BOWMAN AND ALBERT G. LANGELL, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

POLISHING APPLIANCE FOR SHOES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 568,833, dated October 6, 1896.

Application filed March 19, 1894. Serial No. 504,122. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, GEORGE F. BOWMAN and ALBERT G. LANGELL, citizens of the United States, residing at Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Polishing Appliances for Boots and Shoes; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

Our invention relates to polishing appliances for boots and shoes, and the object of the invention is to provide a device or medium which can be advantageously and effectively employed for rubbing and polishing boots and shoes on the foot. Sometimes this occurs after wearing the shoe when a light deposit of dust is to be removed, sometimes after blacking to produce a luster on the shine, and sometimes when a liquid or preparation of some kind is applied to a plain tanned-leather boot or shoe to the end that the material may be distributed and rubbed in and the shoe duly polished.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a cabinet or box in which our invention is contained and having the lid or cover thrown back so as to disclose the internal construction and parts. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the cabinet and parts shown in Fig. 1 with the lid open, as therein, and the roller-frame elevated instead of being shown as in Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the cabinet and parts as they appear when viewed on about line *xx*, Fig. 2, and showing all the parts in the position they occupy in Fig. 2. Figs. 4, 5, and 6 represent a modification of the invention, in which Fig. 4 is a cross-sectional view of the foot device alone separate from any cabinet and with the parts in the relation shown in Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a side elevation of the device as it appears when used to polish the heel and sides of the shoe and showing a polishing-cloth about the foot and the rollers and a hand holding one end of the cloth in the relation it assumes when polishing occurs. Fig. 6 is a side elevation of the device as it appears when used for polishing the top and front of the shoe and showing the cloth under the rollers and over

the foot and a hand holding one end of the cloth.

In Figs. 1, 2, and 3 we show our invention as it appears when embodied in or with a case, cabinet, or box A, as seen in said figures. This box may have any suitable or desirable size—say, for example, about eighteen inches high and corresponding width and depth and adapted to serve as a receptacle for boots and shoes and the usual cleaning and blacking appliances. In the particular form of cabinet here disclosed we show a receiving-chamber 2, with the door 3 at the front thereof and a partition 4 above the said chamber, but beneath the polishing mechanism, which is set into the cabinet from above. The covering-lid B serves as a cover for the entire cabinet when all the parts are put away and the cabinet is closed.

The special mechanism which is shown here as contained in the cabinet is the foot-support C, set into the cabinet centrally thereof and resting, as here shown, upon the partition 4, though it may rest in any other suitable way, and having a shoulder 5 for the heel of the shoe to abut against and prevent forward sliding of the foot. If the part C be used permanently with a cabinet, as disclosed in Figs. 1 to 3, inclusive, it may be built directly into said cabinet and become a fixture therein; but it may also be built in a frame adapted to be set into the said cabinet and removable therefrom. In that case it is itself a separate and distinct article of manufacture, as it can be used independently of the cabinet.

In connection with the part C we employ a frame D, hinged at its rear, in this instance, to the cabinet itself, but adapted to be hinged to the frame or base which carries the part C, provided said frame or base be made a separate part and independent of the cabinet, whereby it may be used in connection with this particular form of cabinet or some equivalent form, or independently, if preferred. The frame D is supported, when in a horizontal position, in a notch in the part C. In this frame are two parallel rollers E, which are designed to come upon either side of the foot when it rests upon the part C, but upon a somewhat lower plane than the foot and relatively about as seen in Fig. 4. These rollers may be of the proportion here shown or larger,

as shall be preferred. If larger, they will operate more easily than when small. Between the rollers E and the support C there is required to be space for the polishing cloth or sheet to pass down beneath the rollers and to operate without coming in contact with the part C, upon which the foot is resting.

The frame D is supported in raised position, as seen in Fig. 3, by a rule-joint brace *d*, one on each side of the said frame, or some equivalent folding brace, the purpose of the brace being to support the said frame in the raised position against the pull over the rollers when cleaning of the heel of the boot occurs.

The frame D need have no fastening whatever to hold it down, because the heel of the shoe which is being blackened rests on the front edge of said frame, and therefore the frame is held in its horizontal position against an upward pull on the rollers by the weight and pressure of the foot.

In Figs. 4 to 6, inclusive, we show the polishing device separate from the cabinet, and show also the manner of its use. As here shown, it is a complete article and is bought and sold in the market. It is composed of the same parts substantially as in the preceding figures, but the foot-support C' is hinged to frame D' and is used on both sides and has heel notches or shoulders 5* and 8 on opposite sides, according as the polisher is doing heel or front work. If for heelwork, the piece C' lies directly on the floor and the frame D' and rollers are upright. If for front work, as in Fig. 6, the said support is thrown forward on the frame and the foot holds the whole down. When the parts are as in Fig. 5, the toe of the shoe extends somewhat into the chamber of the device formed by the bottom 11 and the converging sides 12 and rests on the bottom piece 13 therein. This alone suffices to keep frame D in upright position notwithstanding any pull thereon by or through the polishing fabric G. This fabric consists in a strip of suitable material, such as cotton flannel or the like, which has a soft surface and will not scratch the leather, but will serve to give it polish and luster by being drawn back and forth over the surface. Sometimes we make the strip double, something after

the nature of a belt, and, say, about three feet in length and four or five inches wide. It may, however, be made of other material of any suitable character, and in use the ends are threaded down upon the inside of the rollers and brought up on the outside thereof, and, as in Fig. 6, the foot is projected under the material and the ends thereof are grasped in the hands or other medium to hold the same. Then the material is drawn back and forth and in doing so a polishing action is given thereto upon the shoe. By drawing the material back farther on the rollers it is also drawn farther up on the shoe until the whole of the front of the shoe becomes polished. Then to polish the heel the parts are put into the relation shown in Fig. 5, and the fabric is brought first about the heel and the ends thereof are carried through the rollers to the outside, as in Fig. 6, and the fabric being worked back and forth, as before, the heel and sides of the shoe are polished. Very effective work can be speedily done on the shoe in this way and the entire operation requires but a short time and is comparatively easy and cleanly.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination of a suitably-supported foot-rest, a roller upon each side of said rest and parallel thereto, and a polishing-cloth in engagement with said rollers, substantially as set forth.

2. A frame and a pair of rollers lengthwise of said frame and journaled in the ends thereof, and a foot-rest between said rollers, substantially as set forth.

3. A frame and a pair of parallel cylindrical rollers, in combination with a foot-rest between said rollers and a strip of flexible polishing material, substantially as set forth.

Witness our hands to the foregoing specification this 13th day of March, 1894.

GEORGE F. BOWMAN.
ALBERT G. LANGELL.

Witnesses:

H. T. FISHER,
GEORGIA SCHAEFFER.