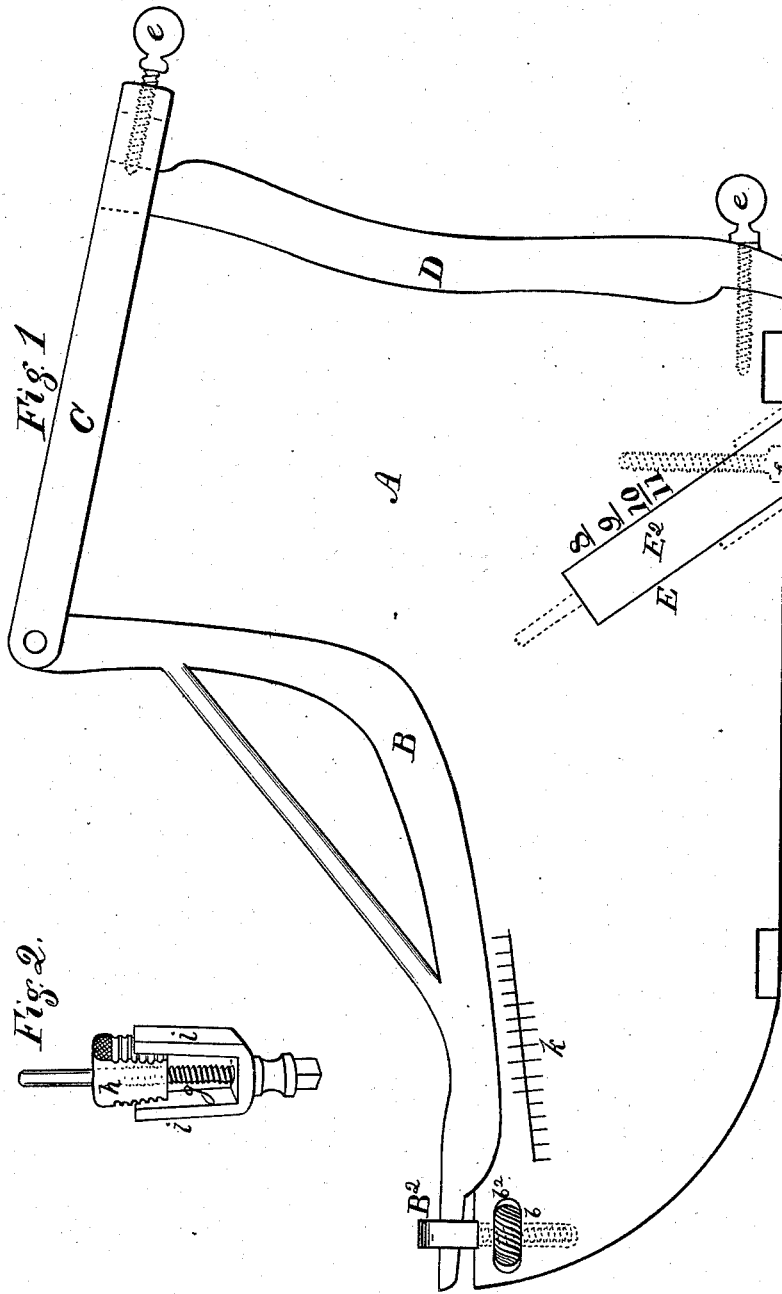


C. HELLER.  
Boot and Shoe Crimper.

No. 164,680.

Patented June 22, 1875.



Witnesses.

A. B. Tibbitts

J. K. Smith

Inventor.

Charles Heller

By Geo. W. Tibbitts, Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES HELLER, OF CLEVELAND, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOT AND SHOE CRIMPERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **164,680**, dated June 22, 1875; application filed April 2, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES HELLER, of Cleveland, in the county of Cuyahoga and State of Ohio, have invented an Improved Boot and Shoe Crimper, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in crimpers; and consists of a form on which to stretch the leather, said form being provided with clamps, one for the uppers and one for the back, the several parts constituting the device being constructed, combined, and operated as hereinafter described and claimed.

The object of my invention is to quickly, easily, and perfectly crimp the leather into perfect shape without wrinkles in both the front and back, so that a boot or shoe can be made without a seam back of the heel.

To enable others to fully understand my invention, I proceed to describe the same in detail, with the aid of the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation. Fig. 2 is a detached view of screw-clamp sometimes used in the slot in the lower side of the form.

A is the form, having the front edge arranged for forming the upper, and the back perpendicular edge arranged for forming the back. Over the front edge is placed a clamp, B, held at the toe by an eyebolt, B<sup>2</sup>, which is adjustable by means of a thumb-nut, b, playing in the slot b<sup>2</sup>. To the top end of the clamp B is pivoted a narrow frame, C, which embraces the top of the form A, and is provided with a set-screw, c, in the back end for securing it. Over the back edge of the form A is placed a clamp, D, held in place by the screw c at the top, and by the screw e at the bottom. In the bottom of the form is made a diagonal slot, E, having piece E<sup>2</sup> fitted into it, and held by a screw, f, for filling up the space when not wanted for use. The purpose of said slot is for the insertion of the clamp, Fig. 2, as hereinafter shown. This clamp consists of a screw, g, having a screw-thread cut on about two-thirds of its length, the balance, or point, terminating in a pin. The screw g carries a wedge-nut, h, between the jaws i i. The gripping-faces of said nut h are partly corru-

gated, the upper part being roughened similar to the surface of a fine file. The object of this mode of making the faces is to insure a firm gripe upon the edge of the leather without injuring it. Upon the side of the form A, near the toe, is marked a scale, k, indicating the various sizes for different shoes. By the side of the slot E is also marked a scale, also for the same purpose.

The method of using this device is as follows: The fronts or uppers are cut by a pattern, and are placed on the form A, and secured in place by the clamp B. The peculiarity of this and clamp D is, that they hold the leather firmly at the ends, preventing it from being contracted in its length while being stretched on the form. When the leather has been thus secured on the form, the sides are rubbed down with a burnisher of bone or glass. The leather is thus stretched at the sides without wrinkling or drawing up from the ends, so that in cutting out the leather it can be cut to the exact pattern without allowance for shrinkage, whereby a considerable saving is made in cutting up leather. In stretching the finer qualities of leather, as morocco, kid, &c., I rub onto the sides of the form a small quantity of tallow before rubbing down the leather. This causes it to adhere to the form without the use of the clamp in the slot E. The clamp E is only used for heavier qualities of leather. One of the greatest advantages by this method is, that in stretching leather the fat or oil in the leather is not pressed out, but leaves it in as good condition as before. The stretching of the backs is precisely the same as for the fronts, so that no seam is made down the back of shoes or gaiters the same as boots. When the clamp, Fig. 2, is used, the piece E<sup>2</sup> is taken out of the slot E, and the clamp put in its place, the point of the screw entering the hole in the form. This clamp is for gripping the edges of the leather, and holding it when the heavier kinds are to be stretched.

By the use of this device any shoemaker can easily cut out his leather with given patterns, and quickly and perfectly crimp it for himself.

Having described my invention, I claim—  
1. In a crimping apparatus, the combina-

tion of the form A, clamps B and H, and slotted frame C, adapted to embrace the upper portion of the frame and hold the clamps in position, all substantially as and for the purpose stated.

2. The combination of the slotted frame C, pivoted to the forward clamp, and holding the

rear clamp by means of a thumb-screw, with the clamps B and H, as shown and described.

CHARLES HELLER.

Witnesses:

GEO. W. TIBBITTS,  
ALFRED ELWELL.