H. L. TRUE.

PARLOR-SKATES.

No. 189,285. Patented April 3, 1877.

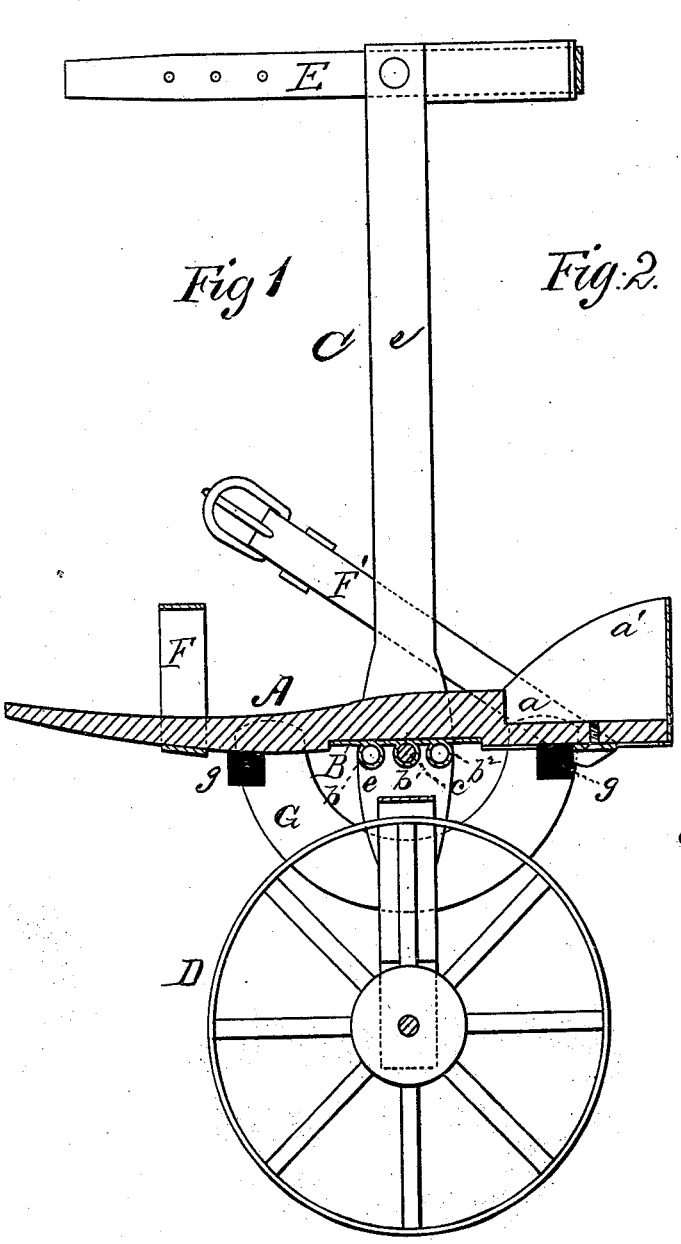

Fig 1

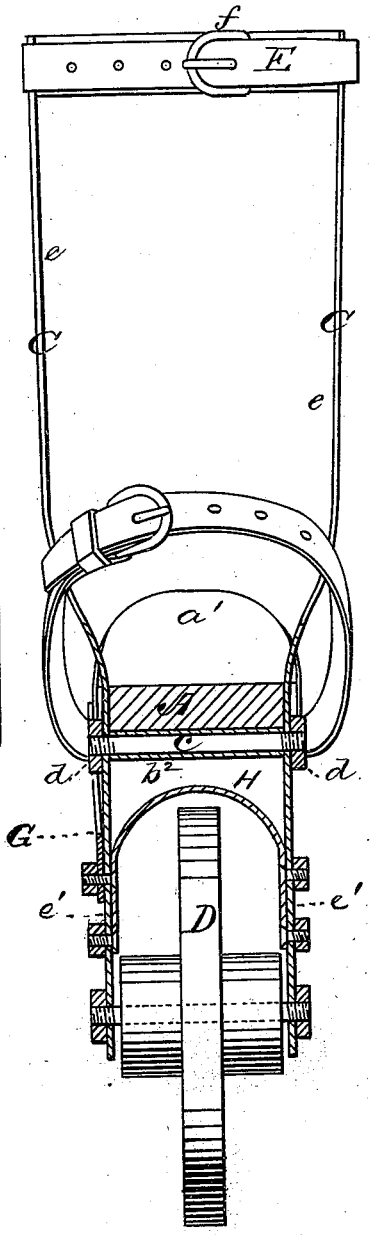

Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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HIRAM L. TRUE, OF McCONNELLSVILLE, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN PARLOR-SKATES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **189,285**, dated April 3, 1877; application filed March 3, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HIRAM L. TRUE, of McConnellsville, in the county of Morgan and State of Ohio, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Velocipede Parlor-Skates; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a longitudinal vertical section of my invention, and Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view thereof.

This invention has relation to improvements in roller-skates; and it consists, first, in a skate having a single transporting-wheel of sufficient diameter, whereby the skater is able to guide himself to the right or left with great facility, and to make short turns, and the friction is reduced to a minimum; second, in the novel construction and arrangement of two strong upright plates or bars extending above and below the shoe, the upper extension serving as ankle-braces, and the lower one as bearings for the transporting-roller; third, in an adjustable shoe, vibrating on a rod or bolt between the uprights aforesaid, and capable of tipping backward and forward to allow of motion in the ankle-joint; fourth, in combining with a vibrating shoe, its uprights, and the bolt upon which the said shoe vibrates, a metallic plate, rigidly secured to the bottom of the shoe, having several bearings for the bolt, whereby the latter may be shifted to the front or rear in adapting the skate to feet of different lengths, and preserving the proper center of gravity; fifth, in movable brakes, secured to the under side of the shoe in front and rear of the roller, which will be brought in contact with the periphery of the wheel by tipping the said shoe, thereby locking the roller, and quickly arresting the progress of the skater; sixth, in a detachable semi-annular metallic side brace, secured at its ends to the shoe, and at its central part to the bearing-arm of the transporting-roller, whereby the shoe is made to preserve a rigid relation to the arms of the roller; and, finally, in an arched transverse brace, extending from bearing-arm to bearing-arm under the shoe, and over the roller, whereby the said arms are prevented from spreading and allowing the said roller from escaping from its bearings, and the upright bars aforesaid are prevented from playing, all as will be hereinafter more fully explained.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A designates a wooden or metallic shoe-shaped plate, having at its rear end a recess, *a*, for the reception of the shoe-heel, and around the rear edge a metallic guard, *a'*, of the usual construction. B represents a strong metallic plate, rigidly secured to the under side of the shoe A, and provided with a number of spaced transverse bearings, *b* b^1 b^2, in one of which the journal-bolt *c* of the roller-skate will have its seat. This bolt extends at its ends through the upright (preferably metallic) braces C C, and is secured in position by means of nuts *d*, tapped upon its projecting ends. Braces C C extend upward and downward a sufficient distance above and below the shoe A, as shown in Fig. 2, to form lateral ankle-braces *e* and bearing-arms *e'* for the transporting-roller D. In the drawings, bolt *c* is shown engaged in the middle bearing b^1 of plate B, but may be shifted to the front or rear, as may be required for longer or shorter feet than common, in preserving a proper balance. E represents a suitable leather strap riveted to the upper ends of braces C C, and provided with a suitable buckle, *f*, by means of which it is bound around the leg above the ankle, thus converting the arms *e* into braces for preventing the ankle from turning. The shoe A is secured to the foot by means of the usual toe and instep straps F F'. It has free vertical vibration upon the journal-bolt *c*, and is provided upon its under side, in front and rear, with detachable brake-shoes *g*, which, by tilting the shoe, will come in contact with the periphery of roller D, and, by arresting its rotation, enable the skater to stop promptly. This tilting is prevented, if desired, by a semi-annular metallic brace, G, arranged at each side of the skate, the ends of which are rigidly secured to the shoe, and its lower central part to the arms *e'* of braces C C below the said shoe. The braces G are readily detachable by removing the fastening-bolts. The

transporting-roller is journaled in any suitable manner in the lower ends of the arms e' aforesaid, there being but one such roller, and the arms are prevented from spreading, twisting, or any relative endwise displacement, by means of an arched transverse metallic brace, H, rigidly secured, by suitable nuts and bolts, to the said arms, and spanning the roller.

There being but one transporting-roller, turning short to the right or left is very easily accomplished by the skater, thereby enabling him to avoid collisions in a crowded rink, and to perform many graceful evolutions, as well as attain great speed.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with a parlor-skate shoe, having suitable fastenings, and a central journal-bearing below said shoe, of a single roller, arranged under the hollow of the shoe, below the level of the same, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with a parlor-skate shoe, of a roller, D, which is adjustable to the front or rear, substantially as specified.

3. The braces C C, extending above and below a skate-shoe, A, to form ankle-braces e and bearings e' for a roller, substantially as specified.

4. The shoe-plate A, having plate B, provided with spaced bearings b b^1 b^2, in combination with braces C C and the journal-bolt c, substantially as specified.

5. The shoe-plate A, adjustable to front or rear, in combination with the braces C C and the transporting-roller D, substantially as specified.

6. The rocking shoe-plate A, in combination with the braces C C, bolt c, and the transporting-roller D, substantially as specified.

7. The combination, with the braces C C and the transporting-roller D, of the shoe-plate A, having brake-shoes g, and the journal-bolt c, substantially as specified.

8. The combination, with the braces C C, the shoe-plate A journaled therein, and the transporting-roller D, of the semi-annular braces G, locking the said plate against vibration, substantially as specified.

9. The arched transverse brace H, in combination with the braces C C, shoe-plate A, and roller D, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

HIRAM L. TRUE.

Witnesses:
F. B. POND,
WILLIAM FOULKE.