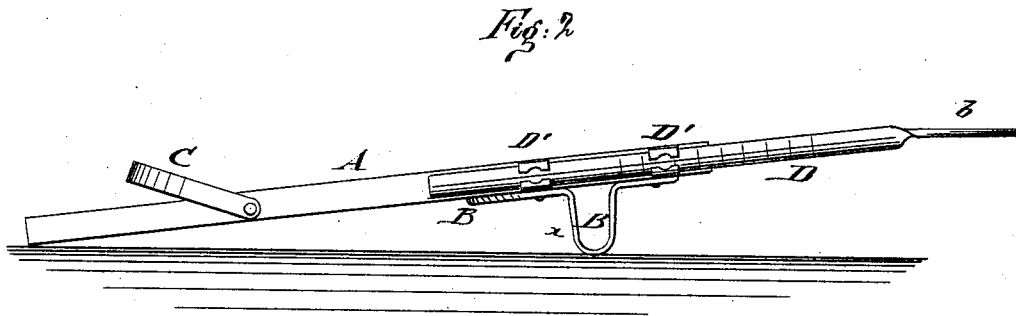
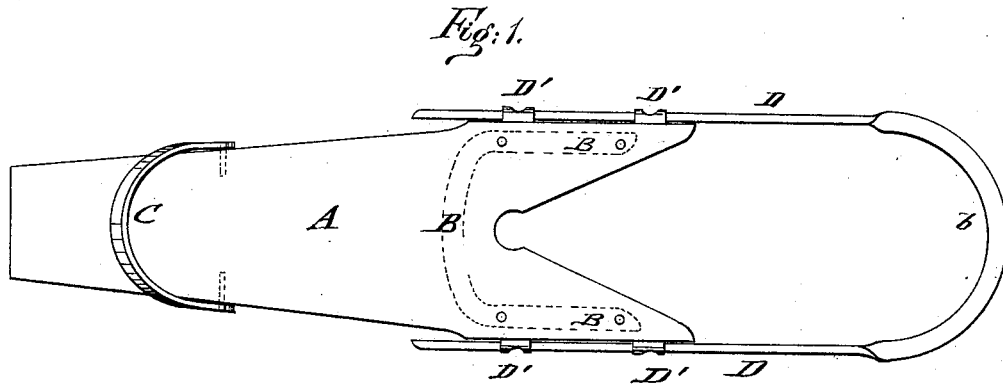


M. ROSS.  
Boot-Jack.

No. 199,996.

Patented Feb. 5, 1878.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTIANUS ROSS, OF ABILENE, KANSAS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOT-JACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,996**, dated February 5, 1878; application filed November 22, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MARTIANUS ROSS, of Abilene, in the county of Dickinson and State of Kansas, have invented a new and Improved Boot-Jack, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top view, and Fig. 2 a side view, of my improved boot-jack.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention refers to an improved boot-jack by which boots of any size may be pulled off with the greatest ease, the jack being readily adjusted to any required size; and the invention consists of a recessed jack-piece, with metallic strengthening bottom brace, heel-piece, and adjustable toe-piece that slides in side keepers of the jack.

The toe-piece has graduated spring-legs and a rounded-off bow or front piece, that is twisted into position at right angles to the spring-legs.

Referring to the drawing, A represents a wooden supporting-piece, that is made of the customary shape in boot-jacks, and recessed at the front part for taking hold of the heel. The jack-piece A is supported on a metallic brace, B, that is attached to the under side thereof, and bent into U shape, and also with downward-extending U-shaped portions, as shown in Fig. 2. The legs of the U-shaped brace B are firmly riveted or otherwise attached to the jack-piece A at both sides of its recessed front section, so as to strengthen the same and prevent the splitting of piece A. The rear part of the jack-piece A is provided with a metallic heel-piece, C, that is firmly screwed to the sides of the same, and is intended as a support for the foot, holding the jack in position. This heel-piece C has for its object to prevent the slipping off of the foot when the boots are wet or icy on the bottom, and to give a more reliable hold to the entire jack for the pulling off of the boot from the other foot. It also serves as a convenient device for hanging up the jack when not in use.

The jack-piece A is further arranged with a toe-piece, D, of U shape, whose legs are guided in side guide-pieces or keepers D' of the jack-

piece A. The sliding legs of the toe-piece D are graduated, and numbered at the outside, so as to admit the adjustment of the toe-piece readily to any size of boot, or determine the number of any size of boot by setting the toe-piece to the boot.

The legs of the toe-piece D are made with an outward spring, so as to retain its position at whatever point they are adjusted by the spring action of the legs, exerting sufficient friction to admit the hanging up of the jack on the toe-piece without any change in the relative positions of the toe-piece D and jack-piece A. The toe-piece is made flat at the inside, and slightly curved or rounded off at the outside, the straight legs being guided in vertical position, while the bow or bent portion *b* of the toe-piece is twisted at right angles to the legs, so that its rounded-off under side bears on the toe of the boot, and prevents any marking or chafing on the same.

When one foot has been placed in position into the jack-piece and below the properly-adjusted toe-piece, and the other supported against the heel-piece, the boot may be pulled off with great ease, and without exerting the least injurious influence upon the boot.

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

1. A boot-jack having a rigid metallic or other heel-piece secured to the rear part of the jack, substantially as set forth.

2. A boot-jack made with an adjustable toe-piece and a rigid heel piece or support, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a boot-jack, a wooden jack-piece, A, provided with a U-shaped brace, having downwardly-bent portions *a*, said brace being attached to piece A at both sides of the recess, so as to strengthen the same and prevent splitting, substantially as described.

4. In a boot-jack, an adjustable toe-piece having graduated spring-legs, and a front bow twisted at right angles to the legs, substantially as and for the purpose described.

MARTIANUS ROSS.

Witnesses:

C. STEVENS,  
P. B. ROSS.