

J. PRIEST.

Rack for Holding and Exhibiting Shoes.

No. 204,249.

Patented May 28, 1878.

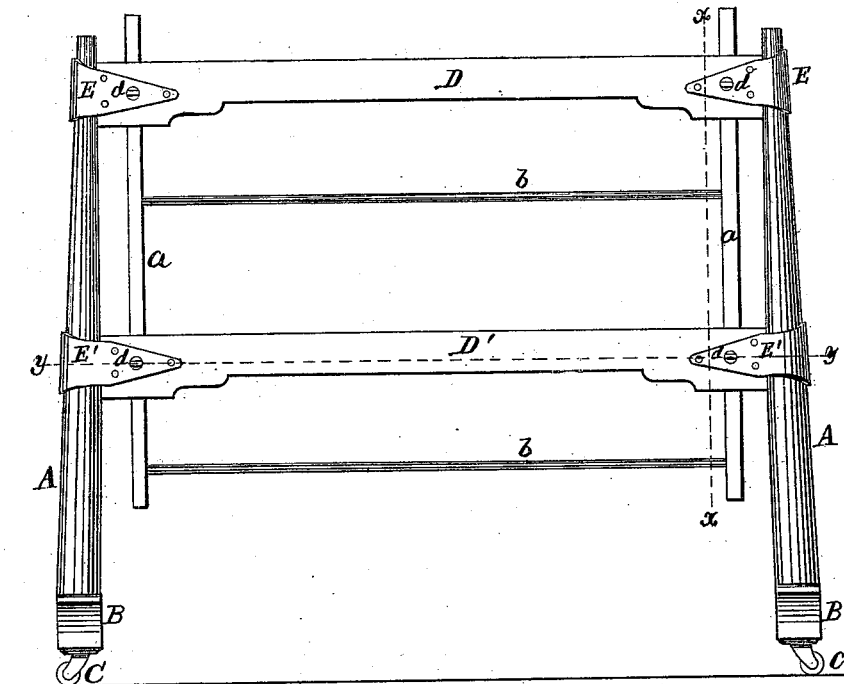


Fig. 2.

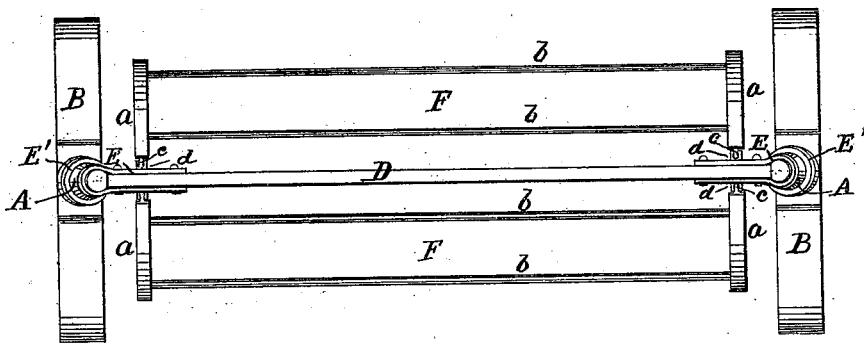


Fig. 1.

WITNESSES:

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C. H. Dodd.

INVENTOR:

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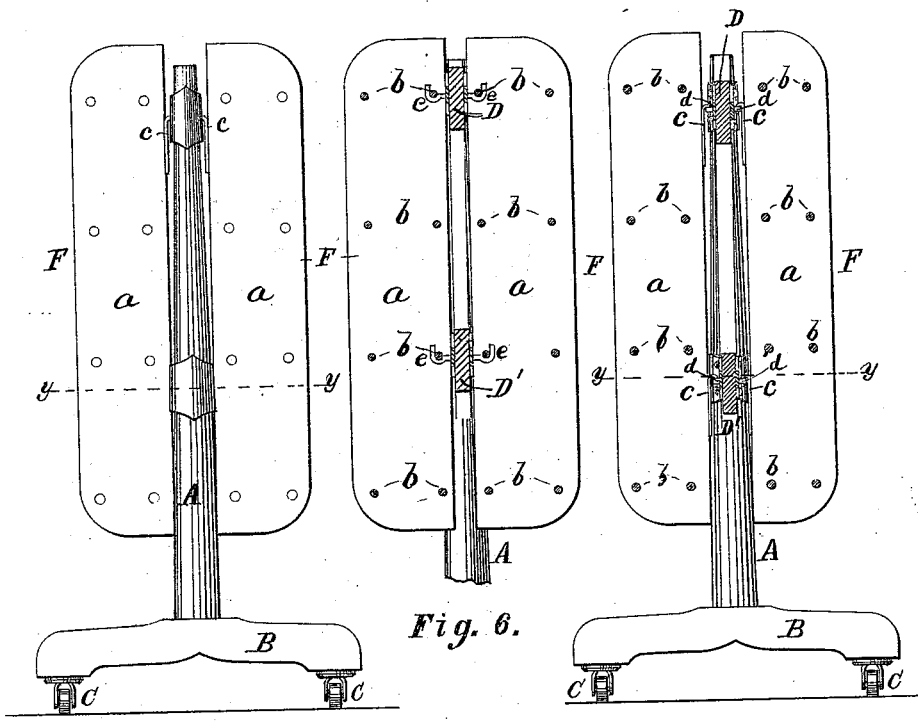


Fig. 3.

Fig. 4.

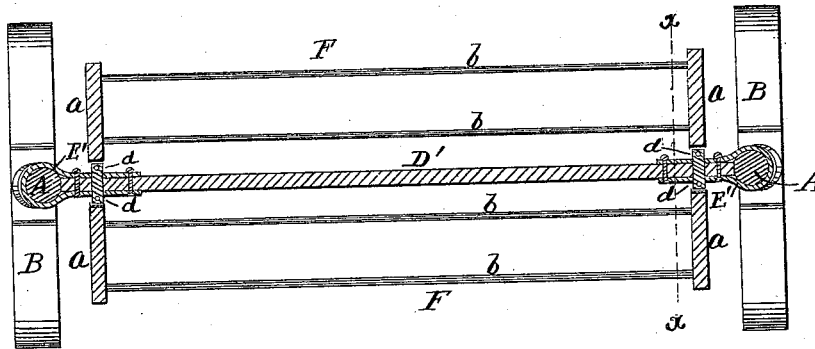


Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHNSON PRIEST, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN RACKS FOR HOLDING AND EXHIBITING SHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,249**, dated May 28, 1878; application filed March 9, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHNSON PRIEST, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shoe-Horses, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification:

My invention relates to the construction of portable or movable horses or racks for use in boot and shoe factories, for supporting shoes during the operation of finishing the soles and heels, and for use in exhibiting boots and shoes in shoe-stores, and for other purposes; and it consists in constructing said horse or rack of two tapering uprights, each provided with one flat side, and set in a horizontal sill or foot, extending at right angles thereto to form a sufficient width of base to render the horse or stand self-supporting, and one or more horizontal tie-bars, provided at each end with a socket or eye to receive said tapering uprights, as will be further described.

My invention further consists in the combination of a portable stand or rack made up of one or more horizontal bars and two uprights, all in the same vertical plane, supported in suitable horizontal bases or feet, extending at right angles to said uprights, and horizontal bars to render the horse or stand self-supporting, and one or more separate and independent racks or frames, provided with horizontal bars or rods to support the goods, and with two or more hooks adapted to engage with said central or main frame to support said independent rack or frame thereon, and adapted to be readily detached therefrom at the will of the operator, as will be further described.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a plan of my improved shoe-horse complete. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, with one of the detachable racks or frames removed. Fig. 3 is an end view of the device complete. Fig. 4 is a vertical section on line *x x* on Figs. 2 and 5. Fig. 5 is a horizontal section on line *y y* on Figs. 2, 3, and 4; and Fig. 6 is a vertical section, similar to Fig. 4, illustrating a modification in the manner of suspending the detachable racks or frames.

A A are two uprights, made preferably round, with a flat place formed upon the inner side of each, and with their upper portions ta-

pering toward their upper ends, said uprights being firmly secured in the horizontal sills or feet B B, in the under sides of which are set the casters C C.

D D' are two wooden bars, provided at each end with the metal straps E or E', firmly bolted or riveted to the end thereof, after being bent to the proper form to embrace and fit the tapering portion of the upright A, as shown, the size of the sockets upon each bar being made to fit that portion of said upright which is at the point where it is desired to locate the bar, and the end of each bar being cut square and fitted to bear against the flat side of said uprights to prevent them from being rotated within said straps.

This construction of the central frame or horse enables me to make a very strong and serviceable frame, capable of being readily and easily disconnected and packed away in a small compass when not desired for use.

Such frames as heretofore used in shoe-shops have been framed together by means of mortise and tenon, and, as a consequence, were liable to become weak in the joints unless they were braced, and the braces were objectionable as being in the way of the shoes when hung over the bars by the string connecting the pair together at the heel, in the usual manner of using such stands or horses.

By this construction the use of braces is entirely obviated, and the frame is much stronger than the frames heretofore in use.

F F are two independent and separate rack-frames, each made up of two end pieces, *a a*, connected together by two or more pairs of rods, *b b*, and each provided with two or more hooks, *c c*, adapted to engage with eyes *d d*, set in the sides of the bars D D', for the purpose of suspending said racks upon the central frame or horse, as shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4.

In the modification shown in Fig. 6 the hooks *c* are set in the bars D D', and the frames F F are suspended by resting one or more of the rods *b b* upon said hooks, as shown.

In finishing the soles and heels of boots and shoes several operations have to be performed in different parts of the room, during which it is desirable to keep the boots or shoes from being rubbed together, so as to chafe or injure one another; hence it is customary to place them

upon their bottoms on racks or shelves as they leave the hand of the operator, at each stage or after each operation, till they are completely finished; and when they are dried and fastened together at the heels, they are thrown over the bars *D D'*, and suspended thereon by the connecting-string, in a well-known manner.

The advantage of having the racks or frames *F F* detachable from the central or supporting horse is that one rack may be detached and removed to another stand or another part of the shop while the remaining rack is being filled, thus facilitating the work.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination, in a portable or movable shoe-horse, of two tapering uprights, each provided with one flat side, and set in horizontally-extending sills or feet, and one or more horizontal bars, provided at each end with a socket or eye adapted to receive and embrace one of said uprights, said eye or socket being shaped to fit and bear against the flat side of said uprights to prevent them from turning therein, substantially as and for the purposes described.

2. The combination, in a portable shoe-horse or other goods-exhibiting stand, of two tapering uprights, *A A*, each provided with one flat side, one or more horizontal bars, *D D'*, each having its ends shaped to fit and bear against said flat side of the uprights, and provided at each end with a metal strap, *E* or *E'*, firmly bolted or otherwise secured thereto, and form-

ing a socket to receive and embrace one of said uprights, and the horizontally-projecting sills or feet *B B*, to support the rack or frame in an upright position, substantially as described.

3. In combination with a portable goods-exhibiting horse or stand composed of two uprights set in horizontally-projecting sills or feet, and one or more horizontal bars connecting said uprights, one or more separate racks or frames, *F*, each composed of two end pieces, *a a*, and two or more pairs of bars or rods, *b b*, and provided with two or more hooks, *c c*, adapted to engage with and support said frame *F* upon said central goods-exhibiting horse or stand, substantially as and for the purposes described.

4. The combination of a shoe-horse or other goods-exhibiting stand composed of two uprights set in suitable bases or feet and connected by one or more horizontal bars or rods, provided with two or more eyes or sockets, *d d*, and one or more separate racks or stands, *F*, each provided with two or more hooks, *c c*, firmly secured thereto, and adapted to engage with the eyes *d d*, substantially as and for the purposes described.

Executed at Boston, Massachusetts, this 7th day of March, A. D. 1878.

JOHNSON PRIEST.

Witnesses:

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