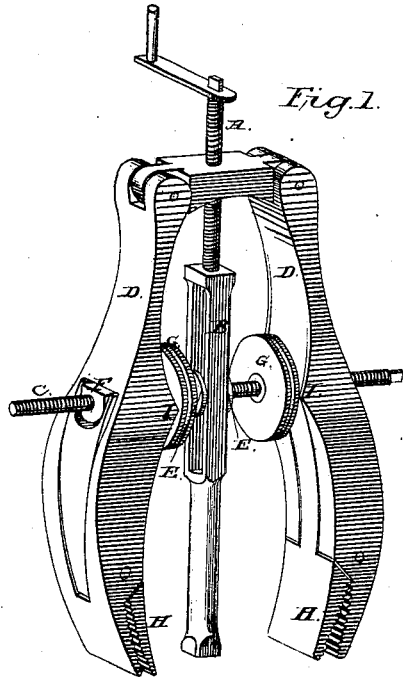
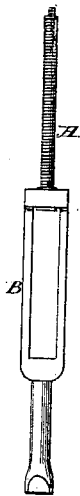


H. GERRED  
 Boot and Shoe Lasting Apparatus.  
 No. 204,963.                      Patented June 18, 1878.

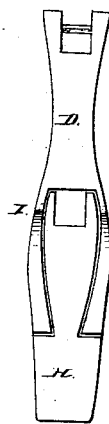


*Fig. 1.*

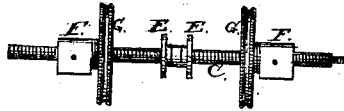
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Attest:*

*Robert P. Thompson*

*John S. Foster*

*Inventor:*

*Hugh Gerred*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HUGH GERRED, OF CHESTER, ILLINOIS.

## IMPROVEMENT IN BOOT AND SHOE LASTING APPARATUS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,963**, dated June 18, 1878; application filed April 11, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HUGH GERRED, of the city of Chester, in the county of Randolph and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improved Boot-Laster, of which the following is a specification:

Heretofore the fronts of boots were lasted with the common pinchers, which is objectionable, for the reason that it is a tedious and laborious operation; and also for the reason that the upper undergoes so many successive gripes that it is thereby injured; and, besides, when using certain sorts of leather they are inadequate to do the work.

The shank-lasters in use are objectionable, because their shape and the thumb-screws outside of the arms prevent the convenient tacking of the work to its place.

The object of my invention is to provide a boot-laster whereby a boot of any size may be lasted rapidly, with safety to the material, and ease to the operator.

The invention consists in the arrangement of the slotted rod with the upright screw-rod, whereby the arms are kept in line with said rods, and by which an up-and-down movement is imparted to the arms sufficient for all practical purposes.

It also consists in the adjusting-nuts, in connection with the right-and-left hand screw-rod, by means of which the arms are freely moved in any desired operative position; also, the guides on the horizontal screw-rod, by which the upright rod is kept in a central position.

It further consists in the adjusting-nuts having threads cut in their surface fitting to threads in thumb-nuts, by means of which the jaws are kept closed on the material whether moved inward or outward, which is sometimes necessary; and it finally consists in the peculiar shape of the arms, fitted to operate within each other, and the projection I on said arms, which serves as a stop to the thumb-nuts.

In the accompanying drawing, in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts, Figure 1 is a perspective of a device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is the vertical rods. Fig. 3 is the horizontal rod-guides, adjusting-nuts, and thumb-nuts. Fig. 4 is a detached upright view of one arm.

The slotted rod B is fastened to the screw-rod A by riveting; the screw and slot are of

the same length, and of sufficient length to be adapted to all practical purposes.

The arms D are operated by means of the screw-rod C, having threads cut in reverse directions, so that it follows that one turn is equal to two of threads cut in the usual way. The threads on said screw tend alike toward the center, thereby keeping guides E E in a central position.

The adjusting-nuts F F have threads cut in the surface, fitting to the threads in the thumb-nuts G G, by means of which the jaws H are closed on the material.

The operation of the device is as follows: When the arms D are sufficiently apart to admit the last, and the slotted rod B is at the end of its upward movement, by placing the under end on the sole of the last the jaws are in a position to fasten on the upper, which fastening is done by turning the thumb-nuts G G. By turning the upright screw-rod A, the upper will be drawn with the necessary force, because the force exerted on the upper pushes the last with an equal force in an opposite direction. When the upper is fairly above the insole, by turning the horizontal screw-rod C the upper will be brought to a position to be tacked to its place.

What I claim is—

1. In a lasting device, the combination of the slotted rod B with the screw-rod A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a lasting device, the combination of the adjusting-nuts F with the right-and-left hand screw-rod C, by which the arms D are operated, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a lasting device, the combination of the adjusting-nuts F on the right-and-left hand screw-rod C and thumb-nuts G with the arms D, provided with the projections I, by means of which the jaws H are operated, all substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

4. In a lasting device, the combination of the adjusting-nuts F, the right-and-left hand screw-rod C, and guides E with the slotted rod B and screw-rod A, substantially as and for the purpose stated.

HUGH GERRED.

Witnesses:

ROBT. P. THOMPSON,  
JOHN S. FOSTER.