

(No Model.)

G. D. BURTON.
ROLLER SKATE.

No. 279,220.

Patented June 12, 1883.

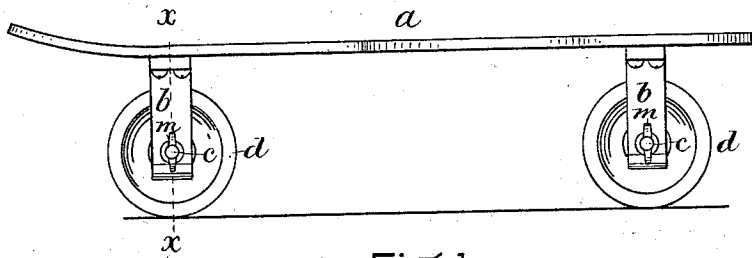


Fig. 1.

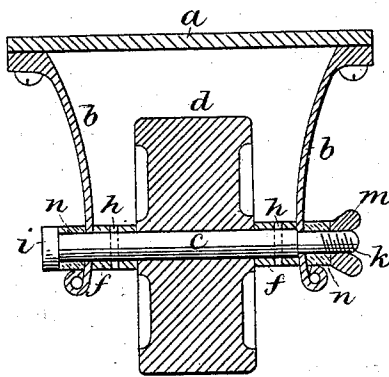


Fig. 2.

WITNESSES

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GEORGE D. BURTON, OF NEW IPSWICH, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

ROLLER-SKATE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 279,220, dated June 12, 1883.

Application filed March 26, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE D. BURTON, of New Ipswich, county of Hillsborough, State of New Hampshire, have invented an Improvement in Roller-Skates, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification, like letters on the drawings representing like parts.

My invention relates to roller-skates, and has for its object to produce a simple and inexpensive skate, and is embodied in a skate having two rollers, one at each end of the skate, and substantially at the middle thereof, the said rollers running on an axle supported at its ends in the lower ends of spring-pedestals made of thin strips of steel or other elastic material, rigidly fixed at their upper ends upon the skate-body or foot-board. Yielding collars or washers are interposed between the end of the pedestals and suitable projections at the ends of the roller-axles, which thus permit a lateral movement of the pedestal upon the said axles as the skate-body is rocked from its normally-upright position above the roller.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a skate embodying this invention; and Fig. 2 a transverse vertical section thereof on line *xx*, Fig. 1.

The skate-body *a*, of any suitable or usual construction, has rigidly fastened thereto, at either side and at its forward and rear ends, spring-pedestals *b*, composed of steel or other strong elastic substance, the lower ends of which are thus free to spring laterally with relation to the skate-body. The said pedestals are curved, as shown in Fig. 2, and are provided at their lower free ends with openings to receive the axles *c* of the rollers *d*, (shown as two in number,) having broad cylindrical bearing-surfaces, and preferably somewhat rounded at their edges, as shown in Fig. 2.

The rollers *d* are prevented from moving longitudinally on their axles *c* by collars *f*, fixed upon the said axle, as by pins *h*, and interposed between the said rollers and the ends of the pedestals *b*.

One end of the axle *c* is provided with a flange, *i*, at a short distance from the normal bearing-point of the pedestal *b*, and the other end of the said axle is threaded, as shown at *k*, and provided with a nut or thumb-screw, *m*.

Yielding collars or washers *n*, preferably of soft rubber, are interposed between the ends of the pedestals *b* and the flange *i* and nut *m*, which constitute projections or shoulders to keep the said washers in place.

Owing to the curvature and elasticity of the pedestals *b*, when more weight is brought upon one side of the body or sole portion *a* of the skate than upon the other side, as when the foot of the wearer is inclined, the pedestals *b*, which are more heavily pressed upon, will yield or assume a greater curvature, and their lower free ends will move outward along the axle *c*, thus compressing the washers *n*, and as soon as the unequal pressure on the body *a* of the skate is removed, elasticity of the pedestals *b* and washers *n* will restore it to its normal horizontal position. The requisite freedom of rocking movement is thus attained in a very simple manner, and the skate has very few parts, so that the cost of construction is small, and it is not liable to get out of order.

I claim—

1. The skate-body and yielding pedestals composed of thin strips of steel adapted to spring laterally with relation to the skate-body, combined with the rollers' axles in the said pedestals, provided with projections or shoulders, and the yielding washers interposed between the said pedestals and shoulders, substantially as described.

2. The combination of the skate-body *a* and laterally-yielding spring-pedestals *b* with the rollers *d*, their axles, and collars fixed thereon at either side of the said rollers, substantially as described.

3. The combination, with the laterally-yielding spring-pedestals and roller-axles provided with a flange at one end and nut at the other end, of the rollers, and collars *f* and *n* on the said axles, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

GEORGE D. BURTON.

Witnesses:

JOS. P. LIVERMORE,
BERNICE J. NOYES.