(No Model.)

N. E. PITMAN.

WALKING STILT.

No. 433,365. Patented July 29, 1890.

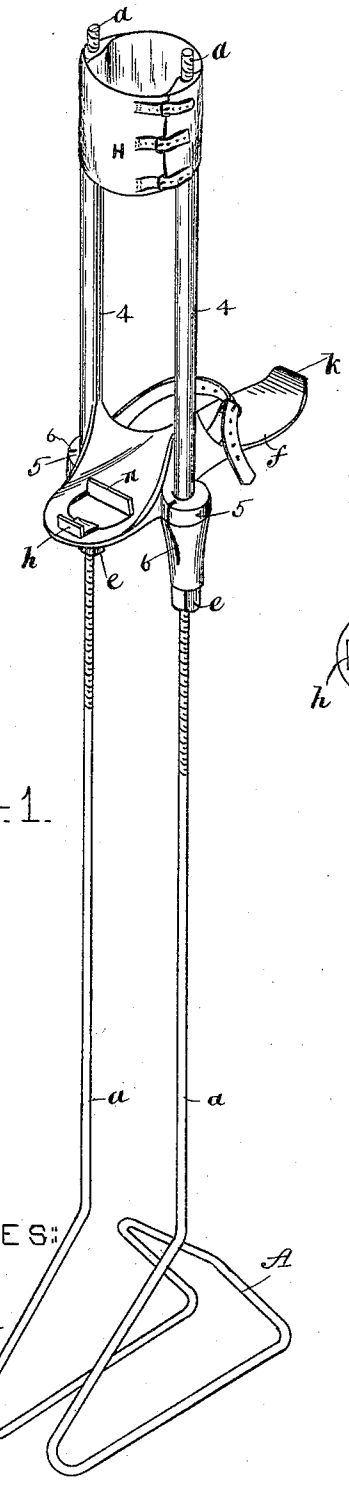


Fig. 1.

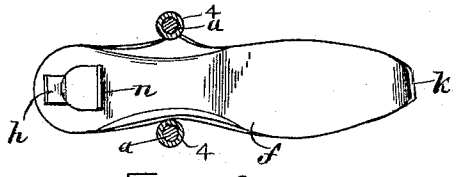


Fig. 2.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NATHANIEL E. PITMAN, OF LYNN, MASSACHUSETTS.

WALKING-STILT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 433,365, dated July 29, 1890.

Application filed February 18, 1890. Serial No. 340,889. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHANIEL E. PITMAN, of Lynn, in the county of Essex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Walking-Stilts, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in stilts designed for use in walking, and the nature thereof is fully described and specifically claimed hereinafter.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view representing a walking-stilt embodying this my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional detail described hereinafter.

It is the object of this invention to provide a device for assistance to a person in walking. To that end I take a piece of spring material, preferably a piece of steel wire *a*, and bend it to substantially the form shown in the accompanying drawings. The foot portion A, which bears upon the ground, extends forward from its connection with its supporting-posts, and these are bent rearwardly at their lower end, so that a spring action is secured in the foot portion itself. The vertical posts of said formed wire are provided with screw-threads, with which the nuts *e e* are arranged to co-operate to the end that said nuts may be set at different positions on the posts to support adjustably the stirrup *f*. Said stirrup *f* is preferably formed of sheet metal and is fashioned to receive the shoe of the traveler. It is provided with an attaching-strap, which passes over the instep of the traveler's foot. It is further provided with projections *h n k*, (see Fig. 2,) formed by striking up the material of the stirrup, and which projections operate to keep the traveler's foot from slipping backward and forward in the stirrup during the operation of walking. Said stirrup is provided with upwardly-extending rods 4 4, which are preferably formed integral with the material of the stirrup. Said rods 4 4 support the attaching-brace H, which is preferably formed of fabric material or leather, and is provided with straps and buckles, as represented, whereby it is clamped tightly about the leg. The rods 4 4 are provided with central openings adapted to receive the ends of posts *a*. The whole stirrup *f*, the brace H, and the intermediate supporting-rods 4 4, combined, as before stated, are thus supported on the posts *a* and are movable as one piece thereon vertically. Combined with the stirrup are enlargements 5 5, adapted to bear upon the nuts *e e*, and connected with the nuts are spring-pins 6 6, which interlock the enlargements 5 5, and thus hold the stirrup firmly in place during the walking operation.

In use the nuts *e e* are moved upwardly or downwardly on the posts *a* to a position where they will support the stirrup at the desired height. The pins 6 6 are then interlocked with the enlargements 5 5 and the device is applied to the foot of the wearer, as represented in Fig. 1 of the accompanying drawings. A duplicate device is placed upon the wearer's other foot, and he then steps forward in the usual and customary way of walking.

The above-described stilt will be found useful for plasterers and artisans of like character.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

1. In combination, the stirrup, the supporting-posts therefor, and a foot portion A, carried by the posts and adapted to bear upon the ground, said foot portion being of spring material.

2. In combination, the stirrup, the supporting-posts having a bent extension at the lower ends, and the foot portion A, extending forward from said extension to bear upon the ground.

3. In combination, the stirrup, the support therefor, consisting of the rod bent to form two upward-extending posts *a*, and the foot portion A, all in one piece, substantially as described.

4. In combination, the stirrup, the screw-threaded supporting-posts, and means for adjustably sustaining the stirrup, consisting of the nuts *e* on the posts beneath the stirrup, substantially as described.

5. In combination, the posts *a*, the stirrup having enlarged portions 5 encircling said

posts, the leg-strap H, movable vertically along the posts, the connections 4 between the stirrup and the leg-strap, and the means for vertically adjusting the stirrup, substantially as described.

6. In combination, the screw-threaded posts *a*, the stirrup having the enlargements 5, the nuts *e*, and the springs 6 for engaging the enlargements and holding the stirrup down, substantially as described.

Signed at Lynn, Massachusetts.

NATHANIEL E. PITMAN.

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