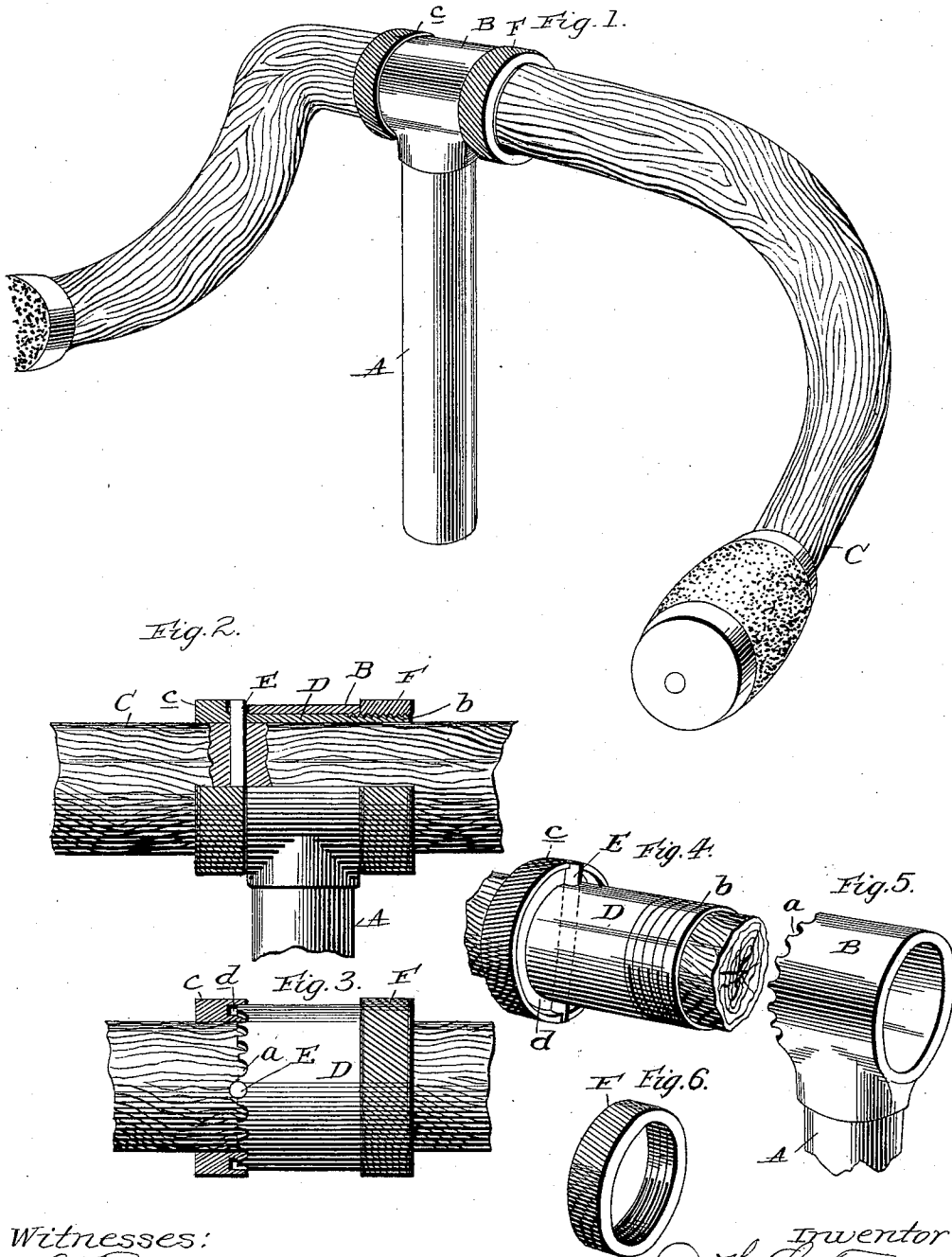


(No Model.)

J. H. LA FAVE.
BICYCLE HANDLE BAR.

No. 590,894.

Patented Sept. 28, 1897.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH H. LA FAVE, OF TOLEDO, OHIO.

BICYCLE HANDLE-BAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 590,894, dated September 28, 1897.

Application filed March 1, 1897. Serial No. 625,642. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH H. LA FAVE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Toledo, in the county of Lucas and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bicycle Handle-Bars; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to handle-bars for bicycles and other velocipedes, and more particularly to that class known as "adjustable" handle-bars; and its novelty and advantages will be fully understood from the following description and claims when taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved handle-bar complete. Fig. 2 is a detail elevation, partly broken away, showing the connection of the bar proper to the stem which is ordinarily inserted in and secured to the steering-head of a bicycle. Fig. 3 is a detail elevation with the enlarged end of the sleeve, which is fixed on the bar proper, broken away. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a portion of the bar proper with the sleeve arranged thereon and secured thereto. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper end of the stem, and Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the interiorly-threaded ring.

In the said drawings similar letters designate corresponding parts in all of the several views, referring to which—

A indicates a metallic stem, which is preferably tubular and is designed to be inserted in and secured to the steering-head of a bicycle in the ordinary manner. This stem A is provided at its upper end with a tubular head B of about the proportional width and diameter illustrated, and this head at one side or end is provided with indentations *a*, which are preferably of a semicircular form and are arranged a slight distance apart, as shown, for a purpose presently to be described.

C indicates the handle-bar proper, which is preferably of wood and of any shape suitable to the purposes of my invention, and D indicates the sleeve, which is placed on the bar C at the middle thereof. This sleeve D is provided at one end with the exterior threads

b and at its opposite end with the enlargement *c*, and in the inner side of the said enlargement it has the annular recess *d*, the purpose of which is to receive the indented end of the head B and thereby prevent the collection of dust in the indentations *a*, so as to always insure the proper working of the device. The recessed enlargement *c* also serves in practice to hide the indentations *a* of the head B from view, and thereby improves the appearance of the device. As before stated, the sleeve D is mounted on the handle-bar proper at the middle thereof, and it is secured to said bar by the diametrically-disposed pin E, as better shown in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. This pin E is arranged in the same vertical plane as the recess *d*, and is preferably of a length equal to the diameter of the enlargement *c* of the sleeve D, so that its ends will be flush with the periphery of the said enlargement, and, in addition to securing the sleeve D to the handle-bar proper, it is designed and adapted to seat in diametrically opposite indentations *a* of the stem-head B, so as to strongly and securely fix the handle-bar proper against turning in the said head.

F indicates the interiorly-threaded ring or nut which is designed to engage the exterior threads *b* of the sleeve D and when turned in the proper direction thereon to draw the handle-bar proper and the sleeve endwise, so as to bring the pin E into engagement with the indented end of the stem-head B and securely hold the pin in engagement with said head, so as to fix the handle-bar proper in the position to which it has been adjusted. When turned sufficiently in the opposite direction, the ring F will permit of the handle-bar proper and the sleeve D being moved endwise, so as to carry the pin E out of engagement with the indented end of the head B and admit of the handle-bar proper being turned in the head B until its ends rest in the position desired, when the parts may be adjusted, as before described, to again adjustably fix the handle-bar proper with respect to the head B. To facilitate turning of the ring F by hand, its periphery is preferably milled or roughened, as shown, and for the sake of uniformity in appearance the periphery of the sleeve enlargement *c* is also preferably milled, as illustrated.

From the foregoing it will be appreciated that the turning of the ring F in one direction permits of the handle-bar proper, C, and the sleeve D thereon being moved endwise, 5 so as to carry the pin E out of engagement with the indentations and admit of the handle-bar being turned until its ends or hand-grasps rest in the position desired by the rider. When turned in the opposite direc- 10 tion, the nut or ring F, in virtue of its bearing against one end of the head B, will draw the handle-bar proper and the sleeve D through the head, and will consequently draw the pin E into two diametrically opposite in- 15 dentations *a* of the head B, and thus securely, although adjustably, fix the handle-bar proper with respect to the head B. It will also be observed that in the present embodiment of my invention the nut F may be turned by 20 hand and that consequently an adjustment of the handle-bar will not entail the employment of a wrench or other implement, which is an important advantage. If desired, the pin E may be made of such a length as to ex- 25 tend from the periphery of the sleeve enlargement *c* at one point into, but not through, the handle-bar proper. Such a pin, however, would engage only one indentation of the head B and would not effect as strong a con- 30 nection of the sleeve D to bar C or as strong a connection of the sleeve D to the head B as the pin E illustrated and described.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Pat- 35 ent, is—

1. In an adjustable handle-bar for bicycles and other velocipedes, the combination of a stem having a tubular head provided with in- 40 dentations at one end, a handle-bar proper extending through the tubular head of the stem, a sleeve arranged on the handle-bar proper and also extending through the stem-head and having exterior threads and also having an enlargement; said enlargement be- 45 ing provided in its inner side with an annular recess to receive the indented end of the stem-head, a pin connecting the sleeve to the handle-bar proper and extending into the recess in the enlargement of the sleeve and adapted 50 to engage the indentations of the stem-head, and a nut mounted on the threaded portion of the sleeve, substantially as specified.

2. In an adjustable handle-bar for bicycles and other velocipedes, the combination of a stem having a tubular head provided with in- 55 dentations at one end, a handle-bar proper extending through the tubular head of the stem, a sleeve arranged on the handle-bar proper and also extending through the stem-head and having exterior threads and also 60 having an enlargement; said enlargement being provided in its inner side with an annular recess to receive the indented end of the stem-head, a diametrically-disposed pin arranged in the same plane as the recess in 65 the enlargement and extending through the handle-bar proper and also extending through the annular recess of the sleeve enlargement to the periphery thereof so as to engage two 70 indentations of the stem-head, and a nut mounted on the threaded portion of the sleeve, substantially as specified.

3. In an adjustable handle-bar, the combination of a handle-bar proper, a sleeve se- 75 cured on the handle-bar proper and having exterior threads and also having an enlargement provided in its inner side with an annular recess, a stem having a head receiv- 80 ing the handle-bar proper and the sleeve thereon and provided at one end with indentations; said indented end being adapted to take into said annular recess, means in the annular recess of the sleeve for engaging the 85 indentations of the head, and a nut mounted on the threaded portion of the sleeve, substantially as specified.

4. In an adjustable handle-bar, the combination of a stem provided with a tubular head having indentations at one end, a handle-bar 90 proper arranged in said tubular head, a sleeve mounted on the handle-bar proper and also arranged in the tubular head and having exterior threads, a pin, for engaging the inden- 95 tations of the tubular head, extending through the sleeve and into the handle-bar proper so as to connect the sleeve and bar, and a nut mounted on the threaded portion of the sleeve, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH H. LA FAVE.

Witnesses:

GEO. B. ORWIG,
AUG. WOLPERT.