

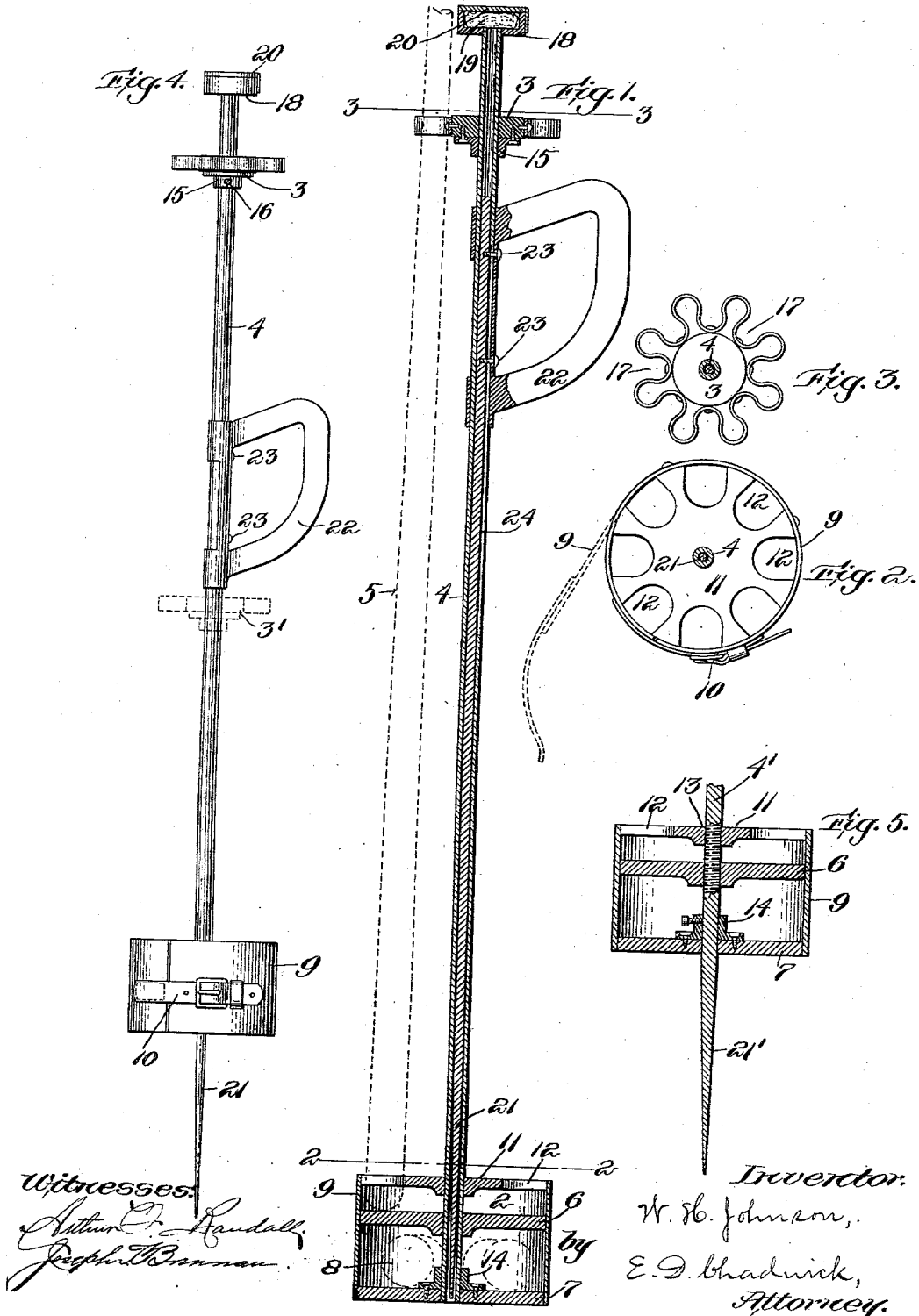
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Patented May 6, 1902.

W. H. JOHNSON.
GOLF CLUB HOLDER.

(Application filed May 20, 1901.)

(No Model.)



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM H. JOHNSON, OF HAVERHILL, MASSACHUSETTS.

GOLF-CLUB HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 699,391, dated May 6, 1902.

Application filed May 20, 1901. Serial No. 60,970. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Haverhill, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Golf-Club Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is intended to provide a device for holding golf-clubs by means of which the clubs may be conveniently carried, made readily available for use, and kept separate and prevented from chafing against one another or against the parts of the device itself, and which shall also possess certain other advantages, hereinafter set forth, over the bags commonly used heretofore.

The main features of my invention comprise a base adapted to receive the handle ends of a number of clubs and a head connected to said base and adapted to detachably engage the shafts of the clubs, also the combination, with the parts just described, of a spike or blade adapted to be driven into the ground to hold the device in a vertical position, also a base, such as above described, provided with a double bottom, forming a compartment in which balls may be carried, all of which features, together with others of less importance, will be hereinafter described at length.

A preferred form of my invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a central vertical section through the complete device. Figs. 2 and 3 are cross-sections taken, respectively, on the lines 2-2 and 3-3 in Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a side elevation of the device shown in Fig. 1 with certain parts thereof in a different position; and Fig. 5 is a central vertical section through the lower part of the device, showing a modified construction.

My carrier comprises a base 2, a head 3, and a rod 4, connecting the same and preferably passing through the centers thereof.

The base 2 is formed to receive the handle ends of a number of golf-clubs 5, one of which is shown in dotted lines in Fig. 1 and is preferably provided with a double bottom composed of two disks 6 and 7, secured to the rod 4 at a suitable distance apart to provide between them a compartment adapted to re-

ceive a number of golf-balls 8, as shown in Fig. 1, the outer walls of the compartment being formed by a strip 9, of leather, metal, or other suitable material, secured to the edges of said disks. In order to give access to the interior of said compartment, one end of the strip 9 may be left unsecured to said disks and provided with means, such as a strap and buckle 10, whereby it may be detachably fastened against the edges of said disks to close the compartment, as indicated in Fig. 2, after a ball has been inserted or withdrawn. The top disk 6 is adapted to form a support for the lower ends of the clubs 5 when placed in the carrier, and in order to keep said ends in place on the disk 6 the strip 9 may be extended upward above said disk to form a retaining ledge or wall. I also prefer to secure a supplementary disk 11 to the rod 4 a short distance above the disk 6, which disk 11 is provided at its periphery with a number of recesses 12, as best shown in Fig. 2, each forming, in connection with the strip 9, a socket adapted to receive one club, the clubs carried by the device being thereby kept separate.

The disks 6, 7, and 11 may be secured to the rod 4 in any desired manner; but my preferred construction on account of its simplicity is to screw-thread the lower end of said rod, as shown at 13 in Fig. 5, and to screw the disks 6 and 11 upon said screw-threaded portion until they are properly located thereon, the bottom disk 7 being clamped firmly in place by means such as a collar 14, secured thereto and to said rod 4.

The head 3 is provided with a series of devices corresponding in number to the sockets 12, each adapted to receive and hold the shank of a golf-club, and in order to accommodate my holder to clubs of different lengths I prefer to make said head adjustable on the rod 4 by providing it with a collar 15, adapted to be locked to the rod in any desired position by means of a set-screw 16 or otherwise.

The device for engaging the shanks of the clubs which I prefer to employ is illustrated in plan view in Fig. 3 and consists of a continuous strip of spring metal bent to form a series of spring-sockets 17, surrounding the head 3 and located, respectively, above the

sockets 12, each socket 17 being of such size that its sides will be spread laterally by the insertion of the shank of a club and will close upon the same after insertion and hold it in place. Instead of forming said sockets 17 in the manner described they may be differently constructed, or each may be made of a separate piece of metal, as will be evident.

At the top of the rod 4 may be secured a cup 18, adapted to hold a sponge 19 for cleaning the golf-balls, and said cup is preferably provided with a spring-cover 20, affording a flat surface on which score-cards may be carried.

It is one of the features of the holder above described that it is adapted not only to keep the clubs separate from each other, thereby preventing abrasion and chafing of their shafts and handles, such as occurs when the clubs are carried in the bags now commonly used, but also to stand upright on its flat base either in a locker or on hard level ground, thus still further protecting the clubs from defacement and damage, and in order that the holder may also be made to stand in a vertical position on soft, uneven, or sloping ground I prefer to provide it with a spike or blade 21, adapted to project downwardly from the bottom of the base 2 and to be driven into the ground on which the holder is to stand, said blade or spike being rigidly connected with a handle 22, which serves not only as a means for inserting and withdrawing said spike, but also for carrying the holder itself. Said spike may be formed integral with the central rod, in which case the rod 4' is extended below the base 2 and has its lower end sharpened to form the spike 21', as shown in Fig. 5, and the handle 22 is attached directly to said rod at any convenient point; but I prefer to provide for the withdrawal of said spike above the bottom of the base 2, so that the holder may be able to stand upright on said bottom when desired, and to this end the central rod 4 may be made hollow, as shown in Fig. 1, the spike 21 being adapted to slide within said hollow rod. In this case the handle 22 will be secured directly to said spike by means such as screws 23, passing through a slot 24 cut in one side of the rod, as shown in Fig. 1. As thus constructed, the lifting of the holder by means of the handle 22 automatically withdraws the spike from the ground and in the arrangement shown in Fig. 1 leaves the bottom of the base 2 unobstructed by anything which would prevent standing the holder on said base on a flat floor or other surface. When the holder is set down on the links, the handle is forced downward, thereby driving the spike into the earth beneath the base and causing the holder to maintain its vertical position regardless of the character of the ground on which it rests.

The described construction of the head, base, and central rod provides for a very compact arrangement of the clubs, and the han-

dle 22, passing between the shafts of the adjacent clubs, projects outward beyond the same far enough to be conveniently grasped, and as it is located between the head and the base of the holder it may be placed so near the center of gravity of the combined holder and clubs that the weight of the heads of the latter will cause the device to assume a convenient nearly-horizontal position when carried by said handle.

If desired, provision may be made for carrying one or two very short clubs by securing a supplementary head 3' to the rod 4 below the handle 22, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4, which head will be provided with one or two spring-sockets 17 or equivalent devices.

In addition to the advantages above described my holder possesses the further features that the clubs can be cleaned without removing them from the carrier and can be inserted and removed with greater ease and with less chafing than heretofore, and all odor due to wet leather or canvas is entirely obviated.

I do not consider my invention to be limited to the details of construction herein shown and described, as they may be variously modified without affecting the main features of my invention.

I claim as my invention—

1. A portable golf-club holder comprising in combination a base provided with means for receiving the handle ends of a series of clubs, a rod rigidly secured to said base at its center, a head rigidly secured to said rod above the base and provided with means for detachably engaging the shafts of said clubs, and holding the same in proximity to said rod, and a handle secured to said rod between the base and head and projecting outward between and beyond said shafts.

2. A portable golf-club holder comprising in combination a base provided on its top with a series of sockets, a rod rigidly secured to said base at its center, a head rigidly secured to said rod above the base and provided with a series of spring-sockets corresponding to the sockets in said base and adapted respectively to detachably receive the shaft of a club, and a handle secured to said rod between the base and head and projecting outward therefrom between and beyond said shafts.

3. In a device of the character described, the combination of a base having a double bottom forming a compartment as described, means for obtaining access to said compartment, means carried by the top of said base for receiving the handle ends of a series of clubs, a head provided with means for detachably engaging the shafts of said clubs, and a rod connecting said head and base.

4. In a device of the character described, the combination of a base provided with a series of sockets, a head provided with means for detachably engaging the shafts of a series of clubs, a rod connecting said head and base,

a spike carried by said rod, and a handle rigidly connected to said spike.

5. In a device of the character described, the combination of a rod, a blade or spike adapted to slide lengthwise of the same, a handle connected to said blade or spike, and means carried by said rod for detachably holding a series of clubs.

6. In a device of the character described, the combination of a base, a hollow rod passing through the center thereof, a head carried by said rod, means for detachably securing a series of clubs to said head and base, a blade or spike adapted to slide within said rod and to be projected below the bottom of said base, and a handle secured to said blade or spike.

7. In a device of the character described, the combination of a base provided with a series of sockets, a head provided with means for detachably engaging the shafts of a series of clubs, rigid connections between said head and base, a blade or spike mounted to slide past the bottom of said base, and a handle rigidly secured to said spike.

8. In a device of the character described, the combination of a base, a hollow rod secured to said base and having a slot in its side, a head carried by said rod, means for detachably securing a series of clubs to said head and base, a blade or spike arranged to slide within said rod, a handle mounted to slide upon the exterior of said rod, and connections passing through said slot for rigidly uniting said handle and spike.

9. In a device of the character described, the combination of a rod provided near its upper end with a head and means carried thereby for detachably engaging the shafts of a series of clubs, two disks 6 and 11 carried by said rod near its lower end and spaced apart, as described, the upper disk being provided with a series of recesses forming sockets, a disk 7 secured to said rod below said disks 6 and 11, and a strip of flexible material secured to the edges of said disks along a portion of their peripheries and left unsecured thereto for the remainder of its length, and means for detachably fastening the free end of said strip to the secured portions thereof, for the purpose set forth.

10. In a device of the character described, the combination of a rod provided with means for detachably engaging the shafts of a series of clubs, two disks carried by said rod and spaced apart to form the top and bottom of a compartment, a series of sockets located above the top disk and open at their outer edges, and a strip of flexible material secured to the edges of said disks and extending above the top disk, thereby forming a compartment in connection with said disks and also serving to prevent the outward displacement of the club-handles, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name this 15th day of May, 1901.

WILLIAM H. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

OLIVER R. MITCHELL,
E. D. CHADWICK.