

A. V. CULVER.
STOVE LEG CASTER.
APPLICATION FILED MAY 16, 1913.

1,092,808.

Patented Apr. 7, 1914.

Fig. 1.

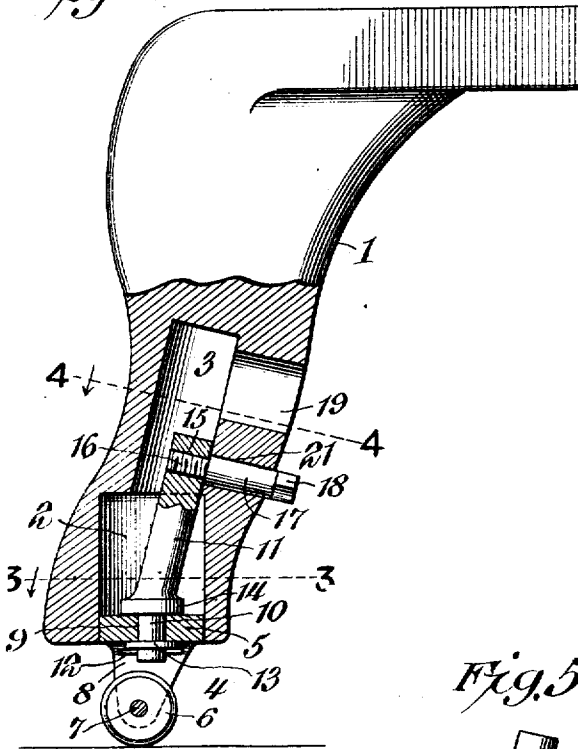


Fig. 2.

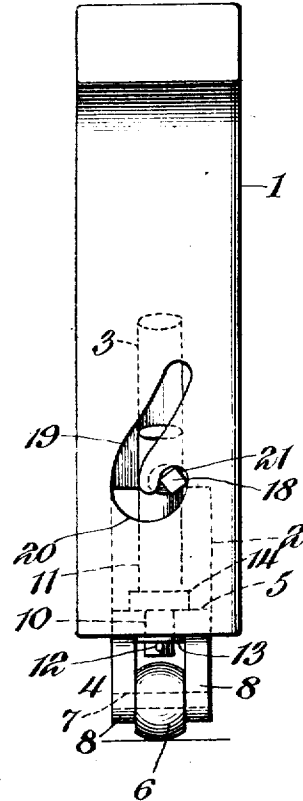


Fig. 5.

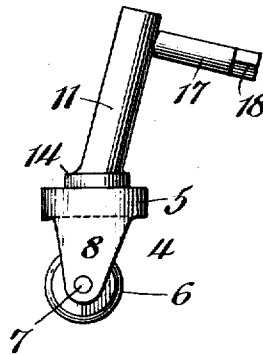


Fig. 4.

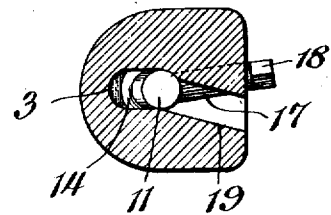
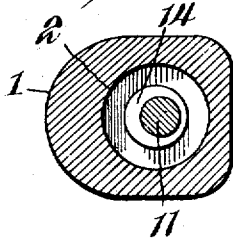


Fig. 3.



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INVENTOR,

WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT V. CULVER, OF FRANKFORT, INDIANA, ASSIGNOR TO VALENTINE C. ALEXANDER, OF FRANKFORT, INDIANA.

STOVE-LEG CASTER.

1,092,808.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 7, 1914.

Application filed May 16, 1913. Serial No. 768,081.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT V. CULVER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Frankfort, in the county of Clinton and State of Indiana, have invented a new and useful Stove-Leg Caster, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in stove leg casters.

The object of the present invention is to improve the construction of stove leg casters, and to provide a simple, cheap and practical caster of strong and durable construction, adapted to be normally concealed from view in position for instant use, and capable when the stove leg is lifted off the floor or other supporting surface of automatically dropping into operative position.

A further object of the invention is to provide a stove leg caster of this character, adapted to be readily applied to and removed from a stove leg, and which when connected therewith will not be liable to become separated therefrom and lost.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the construction and novel combination of parts hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the accompanying drawing, and pointed out in the claims here-to appended; it being understood that various changes in the form, proportion, size and minor details of construction, within the scope of the claims, may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.

In the drawing:—Figure 1 is a vertical sectional view of a stove leg provided with a caster, constructed in accordance with this invention. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view on the line 3—3 of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a similar view on the line 4—4 of Fig. 1. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the caster and the stem.

Like numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawing.

In the accompanying drawing in which is illustrated the preferred embodiment of the invention, 1 designates a stove leg provided with a hollow lower portion having an opening composed of a lower vertical relatively large cylindrical portion 2, and an upper inclined portion 3 of less diameter than the lower portion, which is adapted to house and conceal a caster 4 when the lat-

ter is not in use. The caster 4 comprises a stock 5 of cylindrical form to fit the cylindrical opening 2 and rotate therein, and a roller 6 mounted on a horizontal axle or pivot 7 between depending portions or ears 8 of the stock. The stock 5 is provided with a central vertical opening 9 for the reception of a lower vertical pivot 10 of an inclined stem 11. The pivot 10, which is formed integral with the stem 11, extends through the opening 9 of the stock and is secured therein by a key 12 or other suitable fastening device, a washer 13 being preferably interposed between the same and the stock. The stem is provided at the upper end of the pivot with a horizontal collar or enlargement 14, forming a shoulder against which the stock fits. The roller 6, which is eccentrically arranged with relation to the stock 5 to enable it to trail similar to the roller of an ordinary caster, is of a size to be received within the lower cylindrical portion 2 of the opening of the hollow leg. The caster is adapted to rotate on the pivot, and it is supported in its pivotal movement by the walls of the cylindrical lower portion of the opening of the stove leg. The inclined stem is of a length to extend upwardly into the upper portion 3 of the opening of the leg when the caster is at the limit of its downward movement, and the said upper portion 3 of the opening is of a sufficient diameter to permit a relative transverse movement of the stem incident to the vertical movement of the caster. The stem is provided in its upper portion with a threaded opening 15 for the reception of a reduced threaded portion 16 of a screw 17, having a squared outer end 18 and operating in a slot in the rear wall or portion of the stove leg. The screw forms a projecting arm, and its squared end 18 enables it to be readily rotated and the reduction of the inner terminal of the screw forms a shoulder, which fits against the stem.

The slot in the rear wall of the leg is of substantially uniform width and consists of an upper inclined portion 19, and a lower curved portion 20, extending from the lower end of the inclined portion to a point substantially below or in the vertical plane of the upper end of the inclined portion and having an upwardly extending terminal forming a recess 21 to engage with the screw 17, whereby the caster is supported in its

extended operative position. The screw is adapted to slide upwardly and downwardly in the slot of the leg, and when the leg is lifted, the caster drops by gravity and the screw slides downwardly in the inclined portion of the slot and is guided by the lower curved portion 20 of the slot to a position to automatically engage with the said recess 21 when the leg is lowered and allowed to be supported by the caster. When the pressure of the leg is removed from the caster, the screw drops out of engagement with the recess and is adapted to be readily turned to permit it to slide upwardly in the inclined portion 19 of the slot. The lower cylindrical portion of the opening of the leg and the upper inclined portion of the opening are of sufficient length to permit the caster to be housed entirely within the hollow leg, when the latter is lowered to permit it to rest upon the floor or other supporting surface. While the caster is shown applied to a stove leg, yet it may be advantageously employed as a leg caster for various other articles, especially where the caster is subjected to a heavy weight or strain.

What is claimed is:—

1. A device of the class described including a leg provided with an opening having a cylindrical guiding and bearing portion, a caster movable upwardly and downwardly in the said opening and provided with a substantially cylindrical stock fitting the said cylindrical portion of the opening and braced by the walls thereof, a stem having on the lower end thereof a pivot arranged centrally of the cylindrical portion of the opening and extending through the stock,

the latter being freely rotatable on the said stem within the said opening and the caster being received wholly within the said opening to permit the leg to rest upon a supporting surface, and means carried by the stem and engaging the leg for maintaining the caster in a projected position.

2. A device of the class described including a leg provided with an opening having a lower cylindrical guiding and bearing portion and provided with a reduced upper portion, said leg being also provided with a slot located opposite the upper portion of the said opening and provided with an extended lower portion forming a recess, a caster movable upwardly and downwardly in the said opening and having a substantially cylindrical stock fitting the lower cylindrical portion of the said opening, a stem extending into the upper portion of the opening and provided on its lower end with a pivot on which the cylindrical stock is mounted, and a pin mounted on the stem and extending into the slot of the leg and adapted to engage with the said recess to maintain the caster in a projected position, said pin being also movable upwardly in the said slot to carry the caster wholly within the opening of the leg to permit the latter to rest upon a supporting surface.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT V. CULVER.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM R. HINES,
ARTHUR MCKINSEY.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."

Correction in Letters Patent No. 1,092,808.

It is hereby certified that Letters Patent No. 1,092,808, granted April 7, 1914, upon the application of Albert V. Culver, of Fränkfort, Indiana, for an improvement in "Stove-Leg Casters," was erroneously issued to Valentine C. Alexander, as assignee of the entire interest in said invention, whereas said Letters Patent should have been issued *to the inventor, said Culver and Valentine C. Alexander, said Alexander being owner of one-half interest only* in said invention, as shown by the records of assignments in this Office, and the said Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein that the same may conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed and sealed this 12th day of May, A. D., 1914.

[SEAL.]

J. T. NEWTON,
Acting Commissioner of Patents.