

(No Model.)

J. T. SMITH.
UMBRELLA STICK OR CANE.

No. 282,231.

Patented July 31, 1883.

Fig. 1.

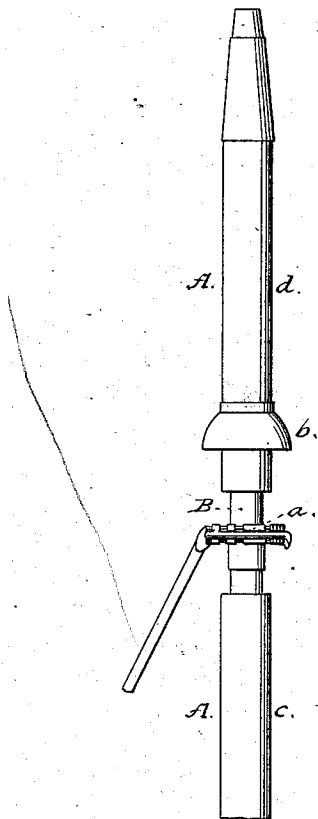
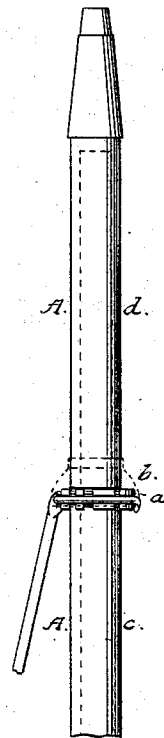


Fig. 2.



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UMBRELLA STICK AND CANE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 282,231, dated July 31, 1883.

Application filed April 3, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES THOMAS SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing at New York city, in the county of New York and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Umbrella Sticks or Canes; and I do hereby 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 consists, first, in an improved umbrella-stick, which is composed of a wooden shell or tube, in which is inserted a metal tube to give strength to the stick; and, second, in the means for attaching the notch, to which the ribs are hinged, to the umbrella-stick.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate my invention and make part of this specification, Figure 1 is a view of a portion of my improved umbrella-stick with the parts disjoined, and Fig. 2 is a similar view with the various parts joined together.

Like letters designate corresponding parts in both figures.

My first improvement consists in a wooden stick, A, having a hole bored longitudinally therein, in which is inserted a metal tube, B. This interior metal tube gives strength to the umbrella, so that there is little or no danger of breaking it. This stick, composed of an interior metal tube surrounded by a wooden case or shell, is superior to any other stick composed of wood and metal or metal only. By placing the metal in the interior the least amount of metal is necessary to give the required strength with the least weight, and all the advantage of the graining and the display of other beauties of the wood used are obtained.

A plain metal stick, or a wooden stick with a metal covering, besides being much heavier, as it requires a larger amount of metal, also requires paint or varnish, which wears off in time, giving an unsightly appearance, and a metal handle is also cold and uncomfortable for the hand.

The hole in the wooden stick A need not be made throughout the entire length of the

stick. The only opening in the stick for the insertion of the tube B may be at the ferrule end, which will permit any form or shape of handle to be used, and the ferrule then retains and conceals the metal core.

Canes and similar articles may be formed in the same manner with a metal core.

The wooden case A and metal tube B may each be a single and continuous piece, and the notch *a*, to which the ribs are attached, and the cap *b*, may be put on over the entire stick and secured by pins in the ordinary way; but the disadvantage of this method, as well as with the ordinary umbrellas now in use, is that the umbrella is too large around at the notch, presenting a clumsy and unsightly appearance, especially so when the umbrella-case is on.

Now, it is very desirable that the ribs of the umbrella, when folded, shall lie close around the umbrella-stick, so that the periphery of the umbrella may be as small as possible, and so that when the umbrella is closed and folded or put in its case it will present a slender and graceful appearance. Attempts have been made to accomplish this by cutting a groove around the ordinary wooden umbrella-stick at the place where the notch for the ribs is to be placed, and by making the notch separable, so as to insert it therein; but this construction is very objectionable, as it renders the umbrella weakest just at the point where it needs the most strength, and as the notch must be made separable to be inserted in the groove, it also is too much weakened. Now, my combined wooden and metallic stick permits the accomplishment of this desired result in the most perfect manner with none of the objectionable features named. To accomplish this I make the wooden casing A in two parts, *c d*. The metal rod or tube B is first inserted and secured in the handle end *c* of the wooden case; then the notch *a*, with the ribs attached, is placed on over the metal core, and then the ferrule end *d* of the wooden case is put on over the end of the metal core B and secured; or, to permit the notch to be placed still farther within the stick at this point, the tubing B may be made in two pieces, to correspond to the two parts of the shell, and a

smaller interior core may be inserted in the tubing B, to which the notch may be attached. If additional strength is required at the point where the notch is, the core B may be made
5 at this point thicker and stronger.

It is evident that a wooden stick with a metal covering, or a metal stay inserted in a groove along its side, could not be furnished with a notch in this manner, as the strength
10 of a stick so constructed lies in the exterior part and not in the interior.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. In an umbrella-stick, the combination of an outer shell in two parts, the notch fitting

between said parts, and the central metal rod
15 or tube connecting the two parts of the same and extending throughout their lengths, substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

2. The stick composed of an exterior wooden
20 shell and an interior metal tube, substantially as and for the purpose herein specified.

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

JAMES THOMAS SMITH.

Witnesses:

H. A. HALL,

J. H. BLACKWOOD.