J. W. RICKS.

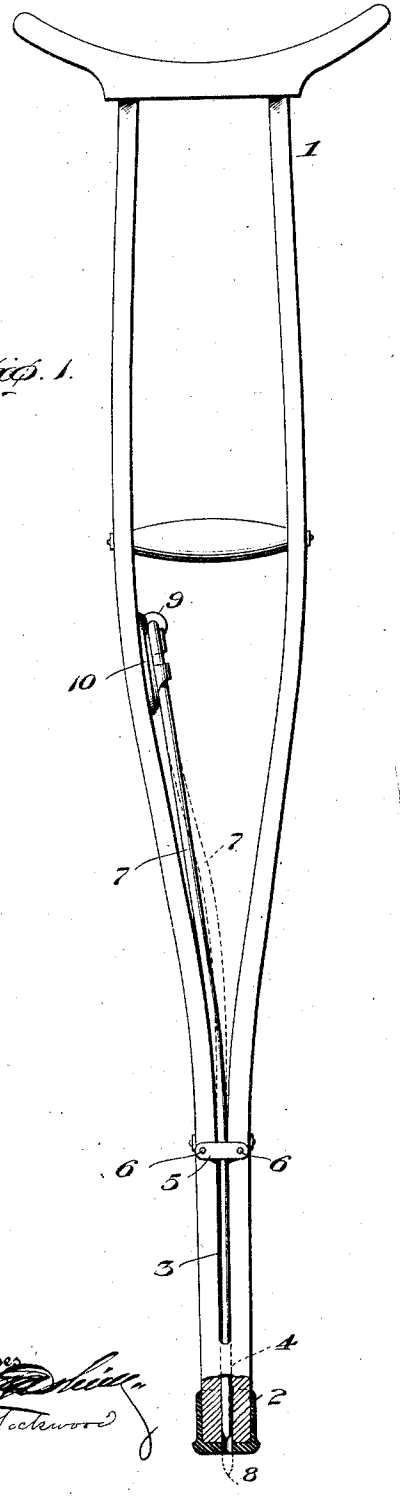
ATTACHMENT FOR CRUTCHES.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 20, 1908.

909,129.

Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

Fig. 1.



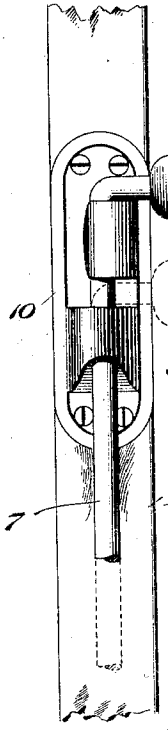
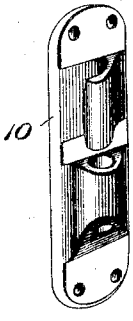


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



Witnesses

T. J. Lockwood

Inventor

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By

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. RICKS, OF GLOVERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

ATTACHMENT FOR CRUTCHES.

No. 909,129. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Jan. 5, 1909.

Application filed January 20, 1908. Serial No. 411,689.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. RICKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Gloversville, county of Fulton, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Crutches, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to attachments for crutches.

The object of the present invention is the provision of a novel anti-slipping attachment for crutches, wherein improved means for holding the anti-slipping rod will be provided, enabling the user to quickly and easily project or retract said anti-slipping rod and cause its retention in either position.

One embodiment of the invention is that described fully hereinafter and set forth in the appended claim and which is shown in the accompanying drawings wherein:—

Figure 1 is a side view of a crutch provided with my invention, certain parts being in section and dotted lines representing the flexed position of the rod; Fig. 2, an enlarged detail view of the locking device for securing the rod in retracted or projected position, full lines representing the retracted position of the rod and dotted lines its projected position; and Fig. 3, a perspective detail of the keeper or the rod.

The numeral 1 designates a crutch of the usual or ordinary construction provided, if preferred, with a rubber tip 2 for its lower end, said tip not being essential, however. One side of the crutch is grooved at 3 and this groove is extended into an aperture 4 which runs through the end of the crutch and through the rubber tip 2, if the latter be used, said groove being bridged by one or more plates 5 secured by screws 6.

The numeral 7 designates a rod of more or less springy or resilient property which lies in the groove 3 and the aperture 4 and is adapted to be reciprocated therein, said rod being retained by the plate 5. The tip 8 of the rod is pointed and its upper end is provided with a finger piece 9, said upper end being slidable in a keeper 10. The finger piece 9 may be locked in either of the positions shown to retract or project the tip 8 so that the attachment may be brought into use or rendered inactive by the user.

When the crutch is to be used indoors or on surfaces which are not slippery or icy, the attachment will be retracted and the end of the crutch used in the ordinary manner but if the crutch is to be used on an icy pavement or a slippery surface, the point 8 can be projected and locked in this projected position by engagement of the finger piece 9 with its keeper 10, the said point 8 affording means whereby the tip of the crutch is prevented from slipping in any manner whatsoever. As shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, the springy or resilient property of the rod permits it to flex or yield under the weight of the user, thereby acting as a cushion to relieve the user of any unpleasant jar.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

The combination with a crutch, of a slidable rotatable rod having a prong located adjacent the end of the crutch, said rod being slidably mounted on the crutch and provided with a laterally extending locking member, and a keeper through which the rod is slidable and in which it is rotatable having independent devices at different heights thereof for engagement by the locking member aforesaid to hold the prong in either retracted or projected position.

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

JOHN W. RICKS.

Witnesses:

CHARLES R. WALTAMATH,

WILLIAM S. CASSEDY.