

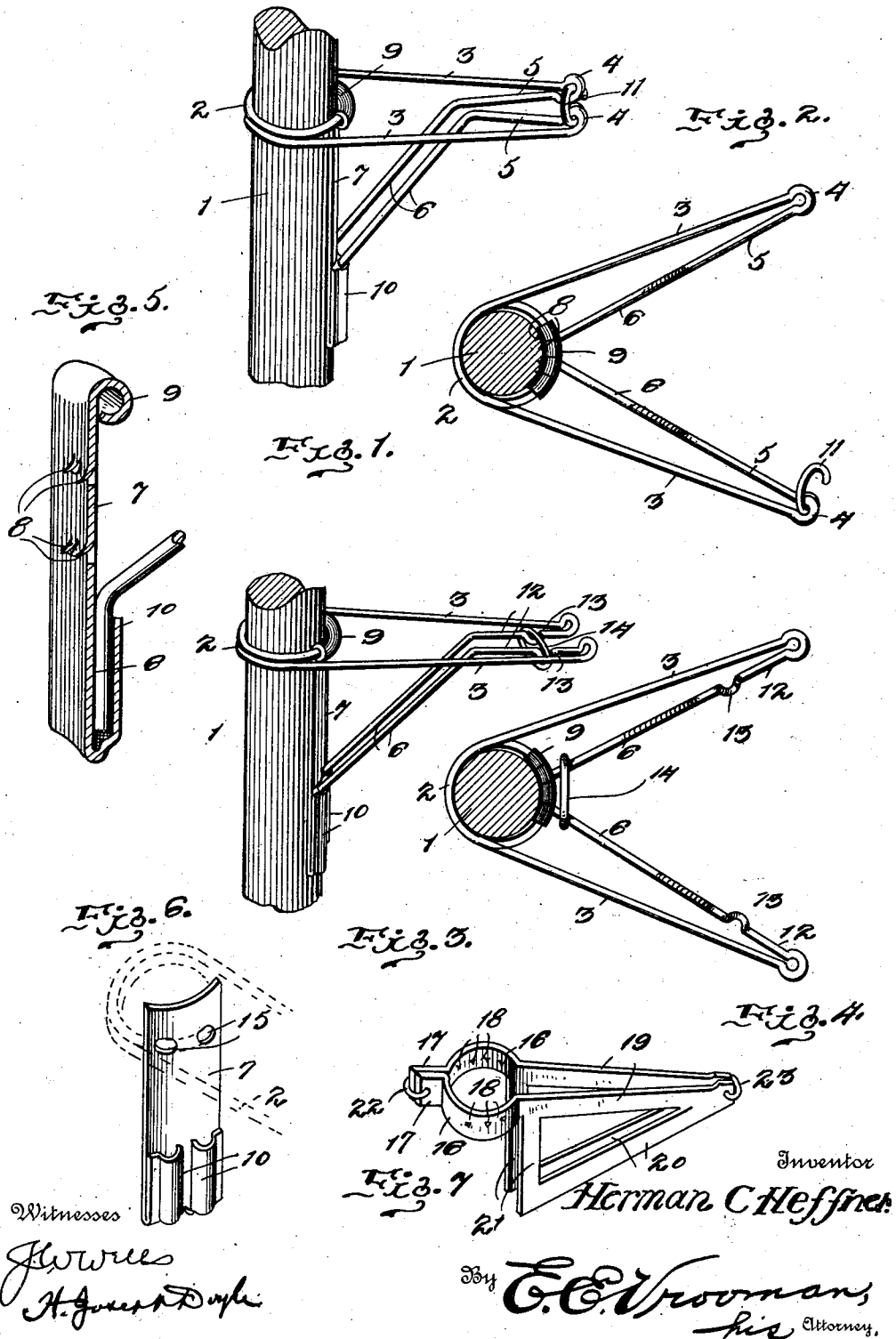
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STILT.

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986,057.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HERMAN C. HEFFNER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Martinsburg, in the county of Berkeley and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Stilts, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to stilts and the principal object of the same is to provide a novel foot rest therefor that may be adjusted relatively to the standard and which will automatically clamp itself to the standard when in its adjusted position.

In carrying out the objects of the invention generally stated above it will be understood, of course, that the essential features thereof are necessarily susceptible of changes in details and structural arrangements, certain preferred and practical embodiments of which are shown in the accompanying drawings, wherein:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a foot rest constructed in accordance with this invention and shown clamped to a standard. Fig. 2 is a top plan view, the foot rest being in position to be adjusted. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 1 but showing a variation of the invention. Fig. 4 is a view similar to Fig. 2 of the structure shown in Fig. 3. Fig. 5 is a detail view of a clamping plate employed in connection with the structure shown in the foregoing figures. Fig. 6 is a detail view of a modified clamping plate. Fig. 7 is a detail view of a modified foot rest.

Referring to said accompanying drawings by numerals, and more particularly to Figs. 1 and 2 thereof, 1 designates a stilt standard which may be of a cylindrical or any preferred cross-sectional contour. The improved foot rest is formed of a single length of resilient metal which is coiled to provide a spring 2 at one end that embraces said standard and from which the parallel spaced foot-receiving arms 3 project, and upon which the tension of said spring is being constantly exerted to cause them to swing in opposite directions. The outer ends of said arms terminate in loops or eyes 4, and from said loops the material is returned parallel with, but spaced from said arms to provide clamping members 5 which terminate in inclined brace arms 6. A clamping plate 7 is employed in connection with the improved

foot rest, said plate being shaped to conform to the contour of the standard 1 and provided with integral penetrating spurs 8 for engagement therewith. The upper edge of said plate is rolled outward as indicated at 9 and engages one convolution of the spring 2, and the bottom edge of the plate is up-turned to provide relatively spaced parallel sockets 10 for the reception of the free ends of the brace arms 6. Said sockets are arranged longitudinally of plate 7 and are deep enough to prevent the ends of brace arms 6 being jarred therefrom. A hook 11 is carried by the loop or eye 4 of one arm 3 and is adapted to engage the loop or eye of the other arm to retain said arms in close proximity and thereby tighten spring 2 about standard 1.

It will be understood, that with the parts of the invention in the position shown in Fig. 1, the spring 2 is tightly coiled about standard 1 so that the upper portion of plate 7 is held in binding engagement with said standard. And that when the weight of the user is applied to arms 3, said plate will be forced against the standard with sufficient pressure to cause the spurs 8 to penetrate the standard, and thereby retain the foot rest and standard in rigid relation. To adjust the foot rest, hook 11 is released from one of the arms 3, whereupon said arms will spring to the position indicated in Fig. 2 causing spring 2 to release its pressure upon standard 1 so that the foot rest may be readily adjusted.

In Figs. 3 and 4, the clamping arms 12 are provided with crimps 13 which form keepers for the ends of a loop 14 for holding the foot rest in position to tighten spring 2 about standard 1. To release said spring, said loop 14 is released from said keepers and caused to slide down brace arms 6, as indicated in Fig. 4. In all other respects this form of the invention is the same as that disclosed in Figs. 1 and 2.

In Fig. 6, the rolled upper end of plate 7 is omitted and in place thereof openings 15 are formed through the upper portion of the plate through which one convolution of spring 2 passes.

In Fig. 7, the foot rest is formed of two duplicate sections adapted to engage the standard 1. Said sections are formed of resilient metal having a collar section 16 at one end from one end of which a flat ear 17 projects. Said collar sections are shaped to

conform to the contour of one-half of a standard and are provided with integral standard-engaging penetrating spurs 18. Said collar sections are integral with the straight outwardly projecting foot supporting arms 19 from which the inclined brace arms 20 project, said brace arms connecting with the straight pendent standard-engaging members 21 which project at right angles to said collar sections and arms 19. Bars 17 are held in pivotal engagement by the link 22, and the outer ends of arms 19 are detachably connected by the link 23. In this form of the invention the collar sections 16 are placed around the standard 1, and by fastening the arms 19 together at their outer end by the link 23, said sections are caused to have a binding engagement with the standard 1 with the penetrating spurs 18 entering the standard. To adjust the foot rest, arms 19 are released and the resiliency of the metal causes the arm to spring apart, thereby releasing the collar sections from the standard.

It will be seen from the foregoing that in all forms of the invention, the foot rest automatically locks to the standard when the members thereof are in connected relation so that said standard and foot rest are relatively immovable, but that by releasing said members, the rest may be readily adjusted relative to said standard.

What I claim as my invention is:—

1. A foot rest for standards comprising a foot-receiving portion formed of a single length of resilient material having a spring at one end for engaging a standard and brace arms projecting from the other end, and a clamping plate adapted to be held in contact with said standard by said spring and brace arms.

2. A foot rest for standards comprising a foot-receiving portion composed of a pair of parallel arms, a spring carried thereby for

engaging a standard, a clamping plate carried by said spring, braces connecting said arms to said plate, and means for detachably connecting said arms to tighten said spring about said standard.

3. A foot rest for standards formed of single length of resilient material having a standard engaging spring at one end and parallel arms projecting therefrom, a clamping plate having its upper portion engaging said spring, said plate provided with lower sockets, braces projecting from said arms and entering said sockets, and means for connecting said arms to tighten said spring.

4. As a new article of manufacture, a foot rest for standards composed of a pair of foot receiving arms, a spring connecting said arms at one end and adapted for engagement with a standard, a clamping plate provided with penetrating spurs, said plate adapted to be clamped to a standard by said spring and said foot portion, and means for connecting the free end of said arms to tighten said spring.

5. A device of the character described comprising a resilient body adapted to adjustably engage a standard, foot-receiving members carried thereby, and means for relatively adjusting said members to regulate the tension of said body about a standard.

6. A device of the character described, comprising a resilient body adapted to adjustably engage a standard, foot-receiving members carried thereby, and means carried by one member and adapted to engage the other member to adjust the tension of said body about a standard.

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

HERMAN C. HEFFNER.

Witnesses:

E. N. FIERY,
F. E. WILSON.