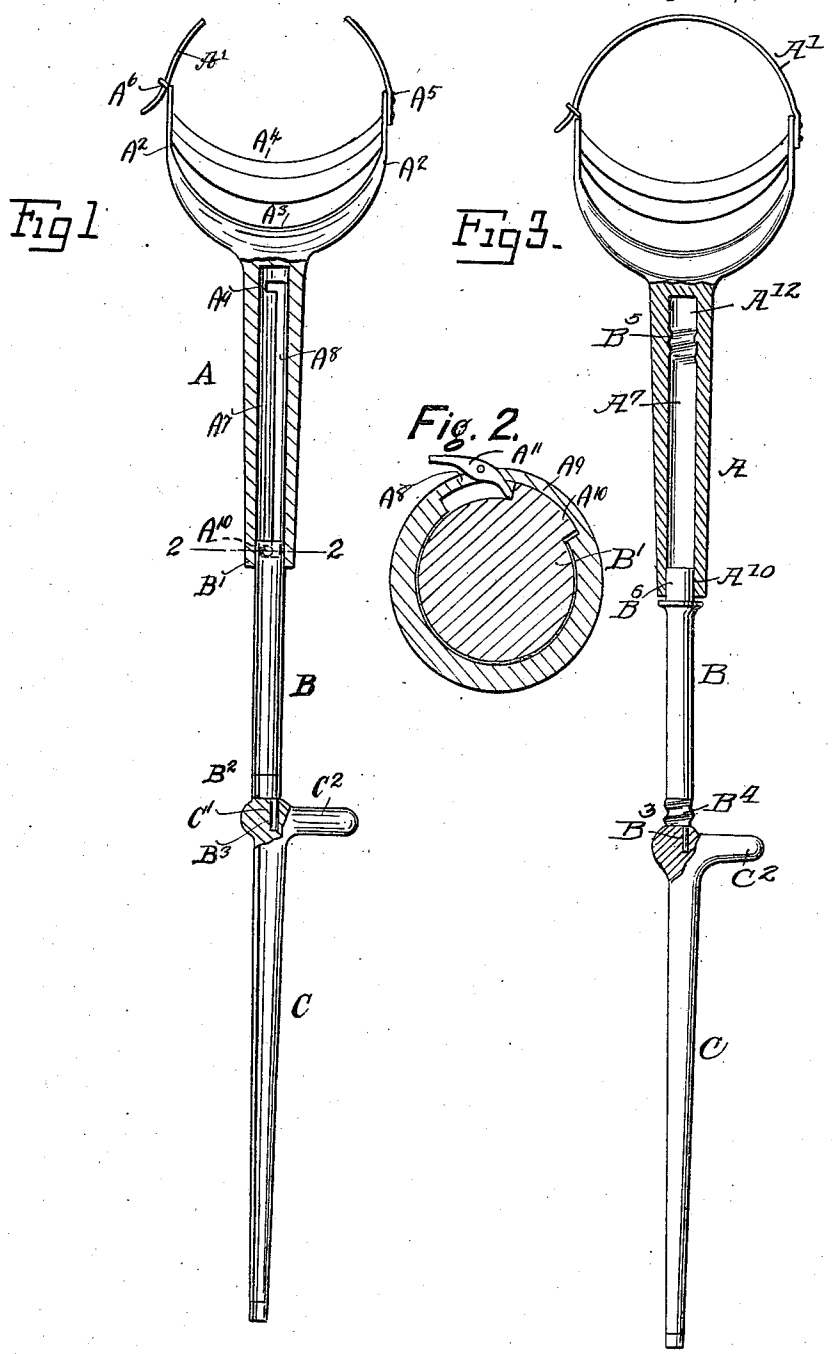


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P. R. WILDE.
CRUTCH.
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CRUTCH.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PERCY ROBERTS WILDE, of 23 The Circus, Bath, England, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Crutches, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in crutches of the type consisting of two telescoping sections and a yielding arm rest. Its object is to construct such a crutch capable of being used in conjunction with a walking stick, umbrella, or the like, and to this end the invention consists in providing means for enabling the lower part of the crutch to be detachably connected to the walking stick or the like which latter has its handle constructed suitably for the carrying out of this invention.

The invention further consists in the construction of the yielding arm rest of the crutch whereby any possibility of jar being felt by the user is completely eliminated, while a strap or the like is provided in combination therewith which is passed over the shoulder to prevent the shoulder piece slipping about and as a means of suspending the crutch so that when the crutch is removed from the walking stick it may hang pendant from the shoulder and not be in the way; all as hereinafter more fully described and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings Figure 1 is a sectional elevation of my improved crutch, Fig. 2 is a section on line 2—2 of Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation of a modification of my invention.

Referring to Figs. 1 and 2, A¹ is the shoulder strap, A² are the springs of the shoulder-piece A, to which the strap A¹ and the pad A⁴ for the arm-pit are attached the said pad being riveted, screwed, bound or otherwise secured to the springs; A³ is the forked spring crown of the section A. A⁵ is the fixed attachment of the shoulder-strap A¹ to the springs A². A⁶ is the buckle of the strap A¹, whereby it may be fastened or released. A⁷ is the interior space in the shoulder-piece A into which the lower section B may be telescoped when not required. A⁸ is a slot or recess cut vertically in the shoulder-piece A, and terminated at the top end in a lateral recess A⁹, and at the bottom in another lateral recess A¹⁰ to receive a projection or stud B¹ on the section B.

At the lower end of section B there is a band of suitable metal B² carrying a projection, pin or the like B³. This pin B³ fits into a recess, hole or slot C¹ in the top of a walking stick or umbrella, a walking stick C being shown in the drawing, and the arrangement is such that the lower extremity of the section B cannot pinch the hand of the user between it and the handle C² of the stick C. To this end the handle at the point of junction with the said section B is formed with a swelled or enlarged portion so that the hand naturally rests on the smaller laterally projecting part of the handle. The pin B³ may be round, oval, square, or of any other suitable form and is held in the recess of the walking stick or umbrella by friction or by any other suitable means. The slot or recess A⁸ inside of A allows of the travel of the stud or projection B¹ of the section B when closing or extending the crutch. The projection or stud B¹ rests in the recess A⁹ when the crutch is not in use, and in the recess A¹⁰ at the lower end of the slot A⁸ when the crutch is in use. A¹¹ is a snap or catch for locking the two portions A and B in their respective relative positions.

In Fig. 3 A⁷ is the space inside section A into which section B fits telescopically when not being used as a crutch. A¹² is a cylindrical portion of the internal space A⁷ for the reception of the pin B³. B⁴ indicates a few threads formed on the bottom end of the section B and adapted to engage with corresponding threads B⁵ formed inside the shoulder-piece A. The head B⁶ of section B fits into the space A⁷ at A¹⁰. The remainder of the section B is so shaped as to fit in the space A⁷ in A when the crutch is not in use.

Now, the manner in which this crutch is assembled and used is as follows:—Referring to the construction shown in Fig. 1, suppose it is required to use the crutch, the strap A¹ is fastened over the shoulder after the pad A⁴ has been placed under the armpit of the user, the strap A¹ is then fastened by its buckle at A⁶ the snap or catch A¹¹ is operated to release the section B then section B is given a slight turn which disengages the projection or stud B¹ from the recess A⁹, whereupon B is withdrawn from A, when B will come out no farther it is again turned so as to bring the projection or stud B¹ into the recess A¹⁰ wherein it is held by

the snap or catch A¹¹, thus locking the two sections A and B in a fixed relative position to each other; the pin, stud or projection B³ is now inserted into the hole, slot or recess C¹ in the head of the stick or umbrella, and the crutch is ready for use. To disassemble the parts the stud or pin B³ is withdrawn from the head of the stick C. B is then turned around, after the catch A¹¹ has been pressed in to release it, and pushed up into the recess A⁷, when it will go in no farther it is again turned so as to bring the stud or projection B³ into the recess A⁹.

Referring to the construction shown in Fig. 3; suppose it is required to use the crutch, the part B is simply withdrawn from the part A by giving it the required turn which disengages the threads B⁴ on the bottom of the part B from the corresponding threads B⁵ inside the part A; the part B is then reversed end-for-end and fitted into A so that the head B⁶ fits into the part of A at A¹⁰. The pin or projection B³ is then fitted into the recess, or hole, in the stick C, and the strap A¹ is fastened over the shoulder as described in regard to Fig. 1, the whole then being ready for use as a crutch. To disassemble the parts, the stick C, is removed from the lower end of B, B is then withdrawn from A, turned end-for-end and inserted into A till it will go no farther; B is then turned so as to engage the two or three threads B⁴ and B⁵ together, the user is then free to remove the shoulder strap A¹ or not, to sit down or assume any other position without being in any way incommoded by the crutch, and it may be invisible, hanging as it may, inside the coat or other garment.

I claim:—

1. A crutch having a head, consisting of forked springs, and a pad or arm rest suspended from and between said springs with a strap and buckle secured each to one of the springs as and for the purpose described.

2. A crutch, comprising two members, one of the members being tubular and adapted to receive the other member when the crutch is not in use, one of the said members being provided at one end with means for engag-

ing the handle of a walking stick or umbrella, to secure the same thereto.

3. A crutch, comprising two members, the upper member being tubular and adapted to receive the lower member when the crutch is not in use, the lower member being provided at one end with means for engaging the handle of a walking stick or umbrella to secure the same thereto, and means for locking the lower member in the upper member.

4. A crutch, comprising an upper and lower member, the upper member being tubular and the lower member held within the upper member when the crutch is not in use, the lower member being provided at one end with a pin adapted to enter a recess in the handle of a walking stick or umbrella.

5. In a crutch comprising two telescoping sections and a yielding arm rest, a single tube upper section having internal screw threads in its upper part, in combination with a single tube lower section formed with its upper end to fit frictionally in the lower end of the upper section and with its lower end with corresponding external screw threads to engage those in the upper section when turned end-for-end and slid telescopically within the said upper section, the said lower section being provided with a pin or piece projecting therefrom to fit frictionally in a recess in the handle of a walking stick, umbrella or the like, substantially as described.

6. In a crutch, a single tube upper section carrying a forked spring shoulder support and a strap and buckle secured thereto, a single tube lower section capable of sliding telescopically within the tubular upper section, means for holding the two sections temporarily in position relatively to each other, and a pin projecting from the bottom of the lower section, adapted to enter a recess in the handle of a walking stick or umbrella, as and for the purpose described.

PERCY ROBERTS WILDE.

Witnesses:

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