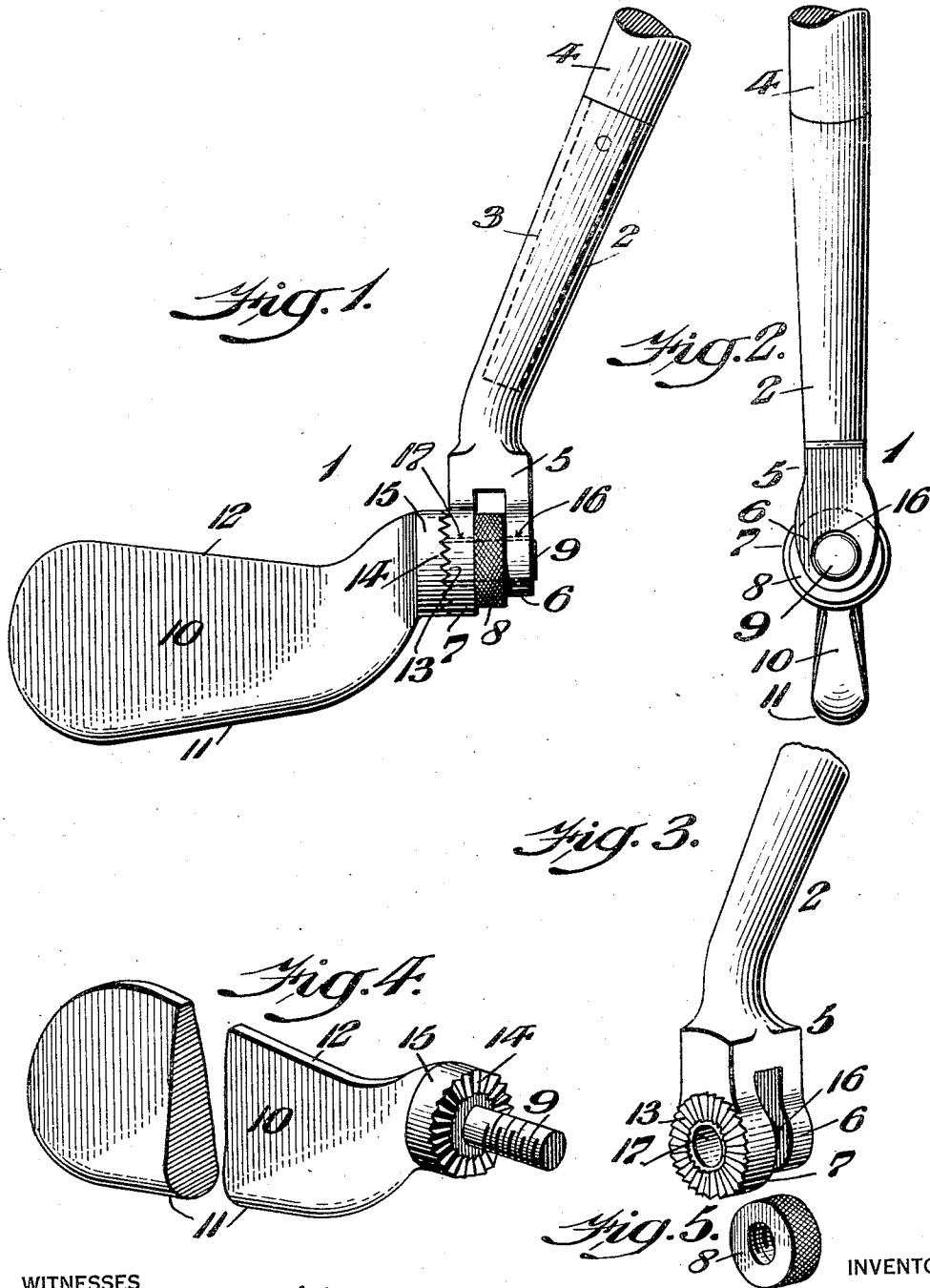


W. F. BREITENBAUGH.
ADJUSTABLE GOLF CLUB.
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 16, 1915.

Patented Apr. 27, 1915.

1,137,457.



WITNESSES

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ADJUSTABLE GOLF-CLUB.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM F. BREITENBAUGH, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city and county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Adjustable Golf-Club, of which the following is a specification.

In playing the game of golf, it is customary for each player to provide himself with a considerable number of iron golf clubs, which differ among themselves principally in respect of the angles at which the faces of the heads or driving surfaces are set with respect to the handle or the shank attached to the club head, it being usually customary for the golfer to carry in his bag a cleek, mid-iron, mashie, niblick and a putter, which usually entails the employment of a caddie or attendant to carry the same around the course. The above-mentioned golf clubs differ from each other mainly in respect to the angles with which the club heads or driving surfaces are set with respect to the handle. It frequently happens that in cold weather, a golfer may be desirous of playing around a course with but a single iron club, as a cleek or mid-iron, since when the ground is frozen, injury to the wooden clubs is liable to result, but in playing with a single club, as is well-known, lies may be encountered, from which it is difficult with the use of a single club to extricate the ball unless the club can be adjusted to such conditions. It is also essential and desirable for a golfer to provide himself with a left-handed club or a club which can be readily and instantly manipulated so as to be employed as a left-handed club, in order to extricate the golf ball from lies which may be inaccessible to the right-handed club.

It is further desirable in an adjustable golf club of the character of my invention, that the connection between the club head or body proper be made directly with the shank or socket which receives the wooden shaft in such a way that a maximum degree of rigidity and immovability may be maintained between the club head and its adjuncts in the various adjusted positions, and it is further desirable that the entire device be free from springs, protuberances, bosses, pins and other attachments on the club head, since the same are liable to readily get

out of order, and, in addition, to affect the balance of the club.

To the above ends my invention consists of a novel construction of a golf club having an adjustable head, the inclination of which can be varied to form an effective club of any desired type, novel means being provided whereby the various positions of the head can be readily and easily attained, and by which also the head will be held with entire rigidity in any position to which it may be adjusted.

It further consists of a novel construction of an adjustable golf club head which when employed as a putter, can be used in one or the other of its extreme positions, whereby either the thickest or the thinnest edge of the club can be rested on the ground, according to requirements, so that the desired cut may be imparted to the ball in the act of putting.

It further consists of novel means for adjusting the golf club head so that the same can be used as a right-handed or left-handed club, according to requirements.

It further consists of a novel manner of effecting the desired union between the golf club head and its adjuncts, and of novel locking means therefor, whereby the head of the club can be instantly adjusted to the desired angle during the period that the player is walking to the ball or taking his stance for the next shot.

It further consists of other novel features of construction, all as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

For the purpose of illustrating my invention, I have shown in the accompanying drawing one form thereof which is at present preferred by me, since the same will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, although it is to be understood that the various instrumentalities of which my invention consists can be variously arranged and organized and that my invention is not limited to the precise arrangement and organization of these instrumentalities as herein shown and described.

Figure 1 represents a side elevation of an adjustable golf club embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents an end view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the socket member in detached position. Fig. 4 represents a perspective view of the

club head in detached position. Fig. 5 represents a perspective view of the nut employed.

Similar numerals of reference indicate corresponding parts in the figures.

Referring to the drawings:—1 designates my novel construction of adjustable golf club, the same comprising the socket member 2, in which the shank 3 of the shaft 4 is inserted, the lower portion of said socket terminating in the slightly offset bifurcation or fork 5, composed of the members 6 and 7, the diameter of the member 6 being slightly less than the member 7, so as to permit the nut 8 to be manually rotated by the fingers of the user, said nut being located between the members 6 and 7 and in engagement with the threaded stem 9, which projects from the club head 10, which is thicker at its bottom or sole 11 than at its top 12.

13 designates serrations or ratchet teeth on the face of the member 7, which are juxtaposed to and in engagement with the serrations or ratchet teeth 14 on the boss 15 of the head 10.

It will be understood that the holes 16 and 17 in the forked members 6 and 7 respectively are unthreaded, being merely drilled therein, so that the threaded stem 9 can freely move longitudinally therein, during the manipulation or tightening of the nut 8 thereon in the adjustment of the head 10 to the desired angle.

It will now be apparent from the foregoing that by manipulation of the nut 8, which can be readily done with the fingers of the user, the adjustment of the club head 10 with respect to the socket 2 can be readily effected and the head quickly and readily adjusted in position, so that the club can be used as a cleek, mid-iron, mashie, mashie niblick, niblick or putter.

When it is desired to use the club as a putter, the parts can be utilized in the position seen in Fig. 1, or, if desired, the head 10 can be turned in a reverse position, the user of the club, of course, slightly altering his stance or shifting his grip on the club, if he so desires.

I desire to call special attention to the fact that by the employment of the continuous series of ratchet teeth 13 and 14, I am enabled to adjust the club head in a multiplicity of different positions, so that the same may be adapted to any lie in which a golf ball may be found. The adjustments of the club head can be immediately attended to by the mere manipulation of the nut 8, and said adjustments can be made during the period between the different shots which the player may make going from the tee to the putting green.

By locating the nut 8 in the position seen in Fig. 1 between the members 6 and 7, it will be apparent that the nut can not be lost

or disengaged, and by making the member 6 of less diameter than the nut, the latter will be readily accessible at all times for the purpose of manipulation and adjustment.

I am aware that it has heretofore been proposed to employ adjustable golf heads wherein the head member has a single lug adapted to interlock with a plurality of recesses in the socket member, but none of these devices will permit the various degrees of adjustability of which my device is capable, and, furthermore, in the various devices of the prior art with which I am familiar, the same are complicated by the employment of springs, pawls, pins and the like, which are inconvenient to manually adjust when desired, and, in addition, these various prior devices are of such a nature that they tend to destroy the balance or "feel" of the club. Furthermore, in certain of these prior devices, it has been necessary to employ bosses or protuberances extending longitudinally of the club head, which are liable to destroy the balance thereof, all of which objections are obviated in my construction.

It will now be apparent that I have devised a novel and useful construction of an adjustable golf club embodying the features of advantage enumerated as desirable in the statement of the invention and the above description, and while I have in the present instance, shown and described a preferred embodiment thereof which will give in practice satisfactory and reliable results, it is to be understood that the same is susceptible of modification in various particulars without departing from the spirit or scope of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

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

1. In an adjustable golf club, a socket bifurcated at its lower portion, the bifurcated members having holes therethrough, a club head having a threaded stem thereon located in said holes, a nut engaging said stem and located between said members, and serrations common to one of said members and the contiguous portion of said head.

2. An adjustable golf club, comprising a socket bifurcated at its lower portion, the bifurcated members having holes therethrough and the outer one of said members being of less diameter than the other, a club head having a threaded stem thereon located in said holes, a nut rotatably engaging said stem and contained between said members, and ratchet teeth common to one of said members and the contiguous portion of said head.

3. An adjustable golf club, comprising a socket bifurcated at its lower portion, the bifurcated members having holes therethrough and the outer one of said members

being of less diameter than the other, a club
head having a threaded stem thereon located
in said holes, a nut rotatably engaging said
stem and contained between said members,
5 and ratchet teeth common to one of said
members and the contiguous portion of said
head, said head being thicker at its base

than its top, and said nut being of greater
diameter than said outer bifurcated member.

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Witnesses:

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