

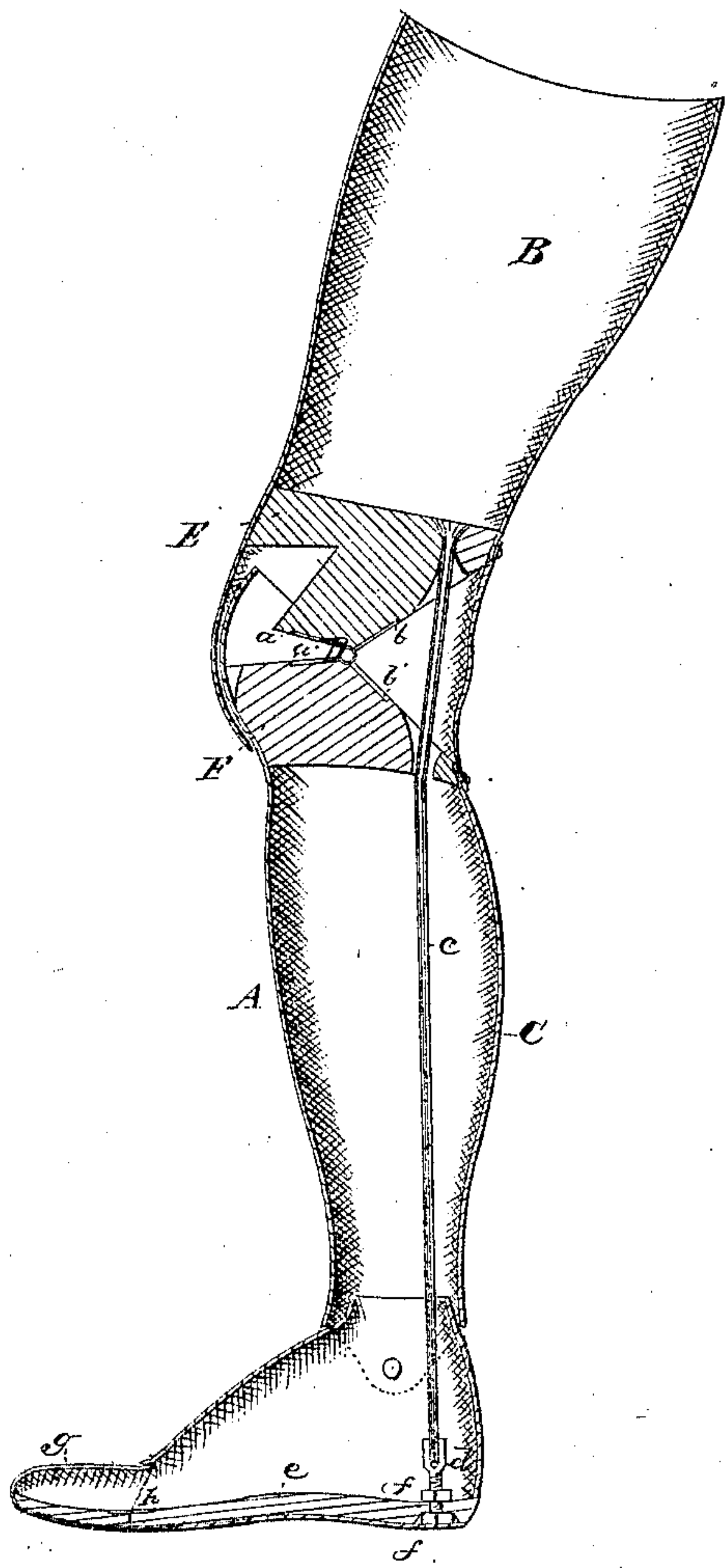
J. Monroe,

Artificial Leg,

No. 44,644,

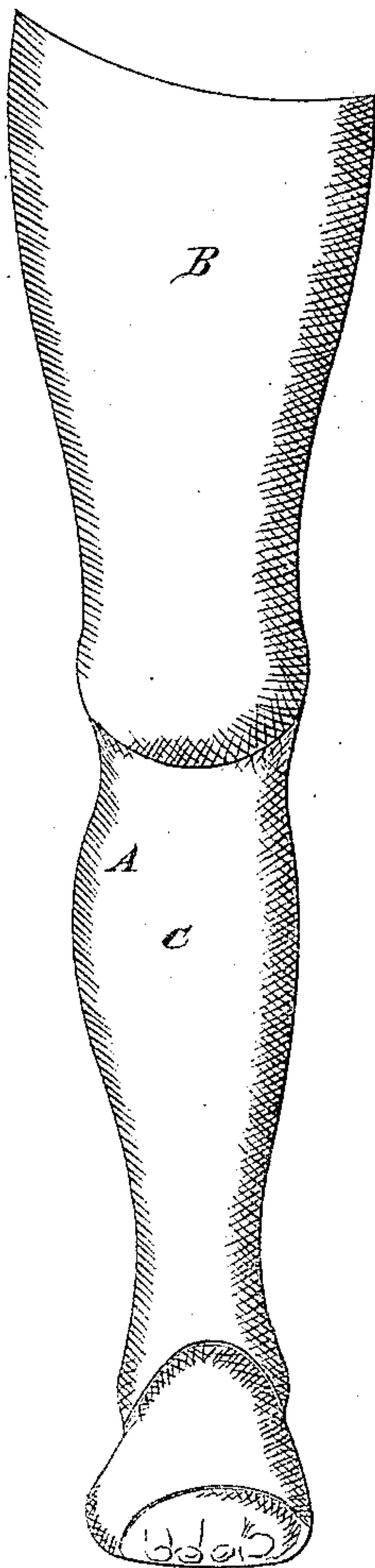
Patented Oct. 11, 1864.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses
Geo. W. Reed
W. Hauff.

Fig. 2.



Inventor.
Joshua Monroe.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSHUA MONROE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN ARTIFICIAL LEGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 41,644, dated October 11, 1864.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSHUA MONROE, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Artificial Limbs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal vertical section of my invention. Fig. 2 is a front elevation of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

This invention consists in the employment or use of rawhide for the manufacture of artificial limbs, in such a manner that a light, strong, and durable limb can be produced, which can be readily lengthened or shortened to suit patients of different stature, and which can be fastened to a stump with ease and facility.

A represents the leg, the several parts of which are made of rawhide. The hide is soaked in water until it becomes soft. It is then bent over a suitable mold, and the ends are fastened together by means of wooden pegs or rivets, or in any other convenient manner. The cup B or the upper part of the artificial thigh may be left unfastened at the edges, so that the same can be opened or closed and adapted to the stump of a patient.

When rawhide is used for an artificial hand, the fingers are molded in a partially-closed position over a mold of plaster-of-paris or other fragile material, so that when the hide has set the mold can be easily broken and re-

moved in pieces. A limb made of rawhide has incalculable advantages. It is lighter than any limb heretofore made, it is strong, durable, and elastic, and it can easily be made long enough for the largest person and cut off to suit patients of different stature, so that when a patient comes he can be suited in a few hours.

The rawhide can be easily brought in the form shown in the drawings, so that the two parts B C of the leg work one over the other like a natural knee-joint, and that all the internal mechanism can be readily fastened to blocks of wood inserted in the tubes and fastened by means of wooden pegs or screws.

A single tendon, *c*, extends from the thigh of the artificial leg down to a socket, *d*, which is secured in the sole *e*, and which can be lengthened or shortened by means of two nuts, *f*, so that the tension of the tendon can be regulated at pleasure.

The toe-piece *g* is attached to the sole by means of a hinge or hinges, *h*, and it fits into the inside of the foot instead of being cut off to make room for a piece of leather or india-rubber, as usual.

The ankle joint is intended to be strengthened by means of a block of wood rising from the sole.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The employment or use of rawhide in the manufacture of artificial limbs, substantially in the manner herein specified.

JOSHUA MONROE.

Witnesses:

J. W. COOMBS,
GEO. W. REED.