

Carleton & Goss,

Artificial Leg.

No 62,731.

Patented Mar. 12, 1867.

Fig. 2

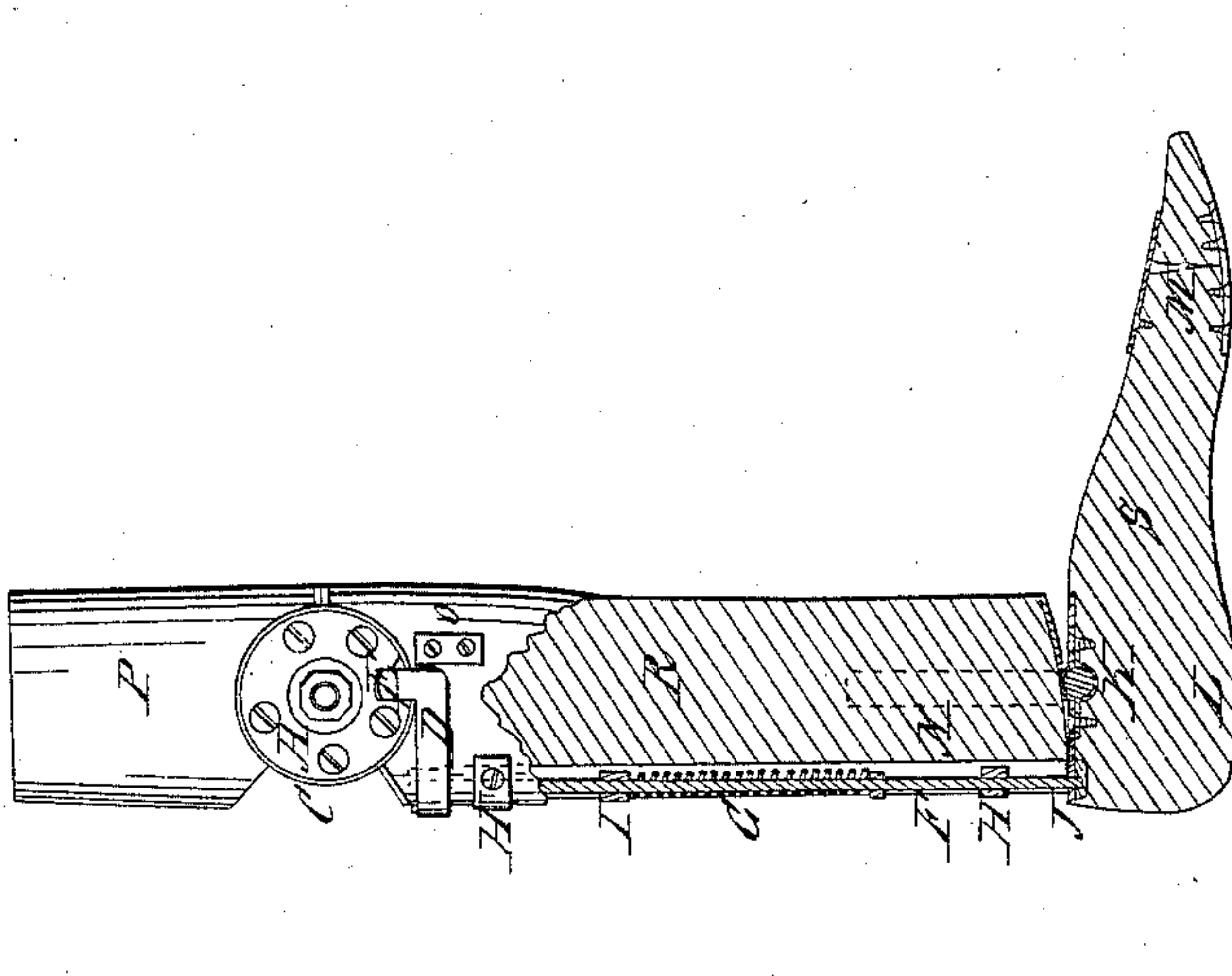
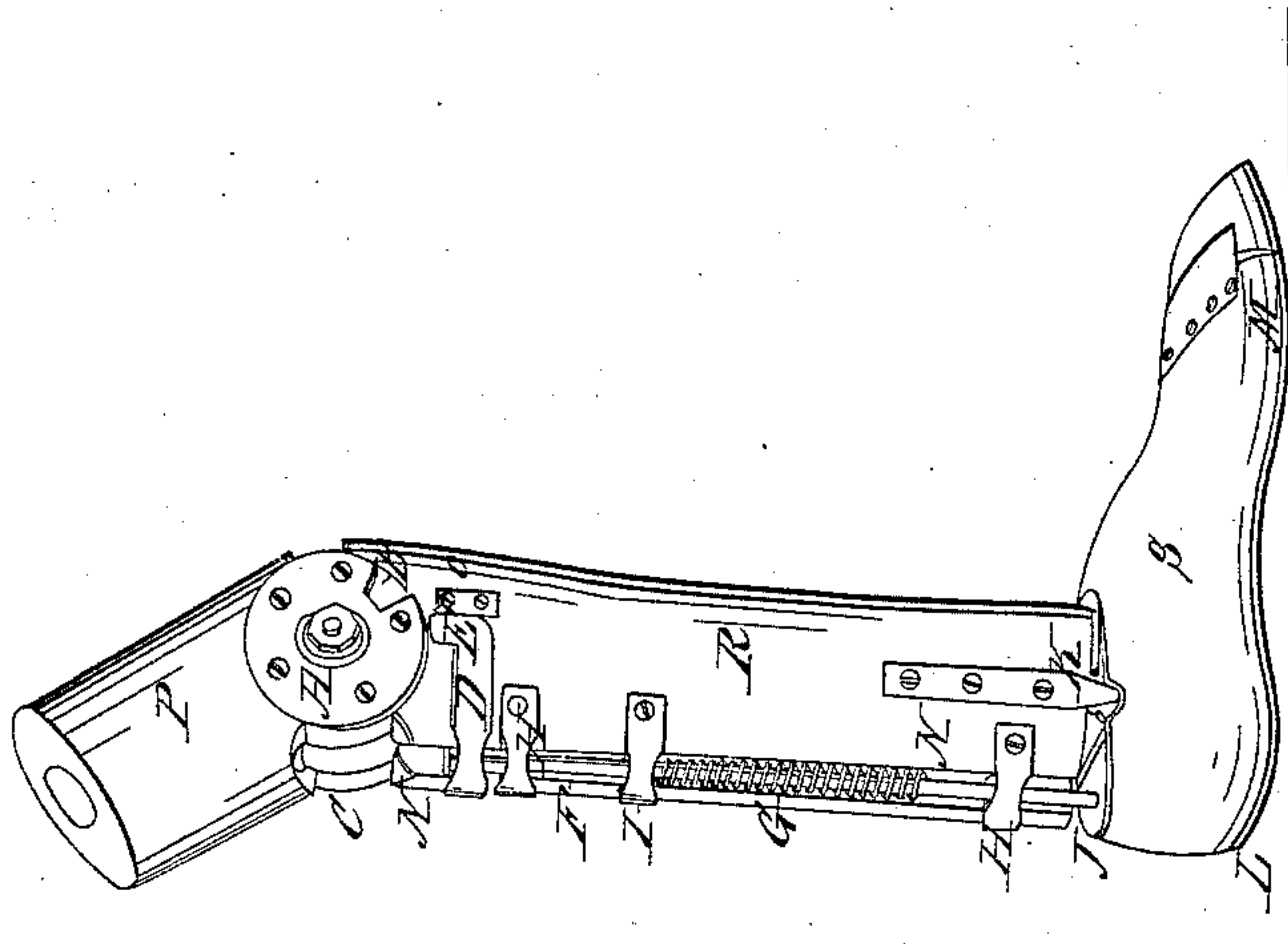


Fig. 1



Witnesses

Geo W Tenille

J H Randall

Inventors

Enoch Carleton
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United States Patent Office.

ENOCH CARLETON AND ELI GOSS, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 62,731, dated March 12, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN ARTIFICIAL LEGS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, ENOCH CARLETON and ELI GOSS, both of Portland, in the county of Cumberland, and State of Maine, have invented a new and improved form of Artificial Leg; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 is a perspective view; and

Figure 2 a side elevation and section.

A is a circular plate, of steel or other metal, attached to P, which is the upper part of the leg, (constructed of wood, cork, or other light substance,) and is connected to R, the lower part of the leg, by the common knee-joint C at the knee. B is a slot in the plate A. D is a band of steel, or other metal, attached to and operated by the rod (of steel or other metal) F, which rod is enclosed and held in the spiral spring G, and, passing through the guides H H and I and the plate J, rests upon the heel L. E is a lip at one end of the band D, resting against the guide O. K is a hinge-joint, uniting the parts R and S, or leg and foot. M is the toe. N N is a groove, enclosing the spring G and rod F. The spring G rests or presses against the guide I.

By pressing upon the heel at L the rod F is driven up, and pushes the lip E into the slot B, and the knee-joint is then immovable or stiff and firm, as shown in fig. 2. When the pressure is removed from the heel to the toe, as is naturally done in preparing to swing the leg forward, the spring G, by its downward pressure, withdraws the lip E from the slot B and liberates the knee-joint, which leaves the leg swinging freely, as shown in fig. 1.

What we claim as our invention, is—

A knee-joint, made stiff when the weight is borne upon the leg by means of a movable rod or bolt, attached to the leg externally or internally, bearing upon the heel, and extending upward into a catch or slot upon the leg above the knee-joint, which rod is worked by means of a spiral or other spring in such a manner that when the weight is removed from the leg the rod is forced downward by the spring out of the slot or catch, thus liberating the joint and leaving the lower leg free and swinging, and, when the weight is placed upon the leg by bearing upon the heel, the rod is pushed upward into the slot or catch, and the knee-joint thus held stiff while the weight is borne upon the leg.

We do not claim as new the knee and ankle joints themselves, nor the spring, bolt, or catch, but the rendering of the knee-joint stiff or limber at pleasure by means of a spring, rod, and catch, applied as above described.

ENOCH CARLETON,
ELI GOSS.

Witnesses:

PERCIVAL BONNEY,
GEO. VERRILL.