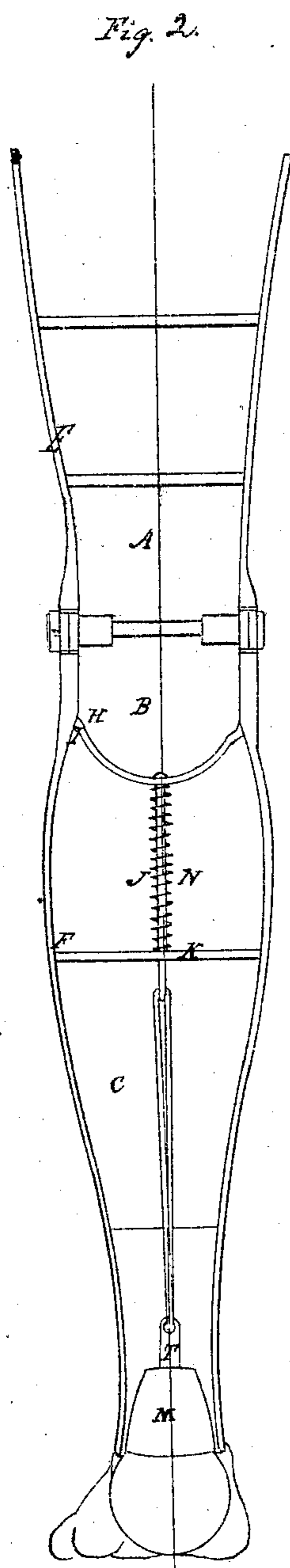
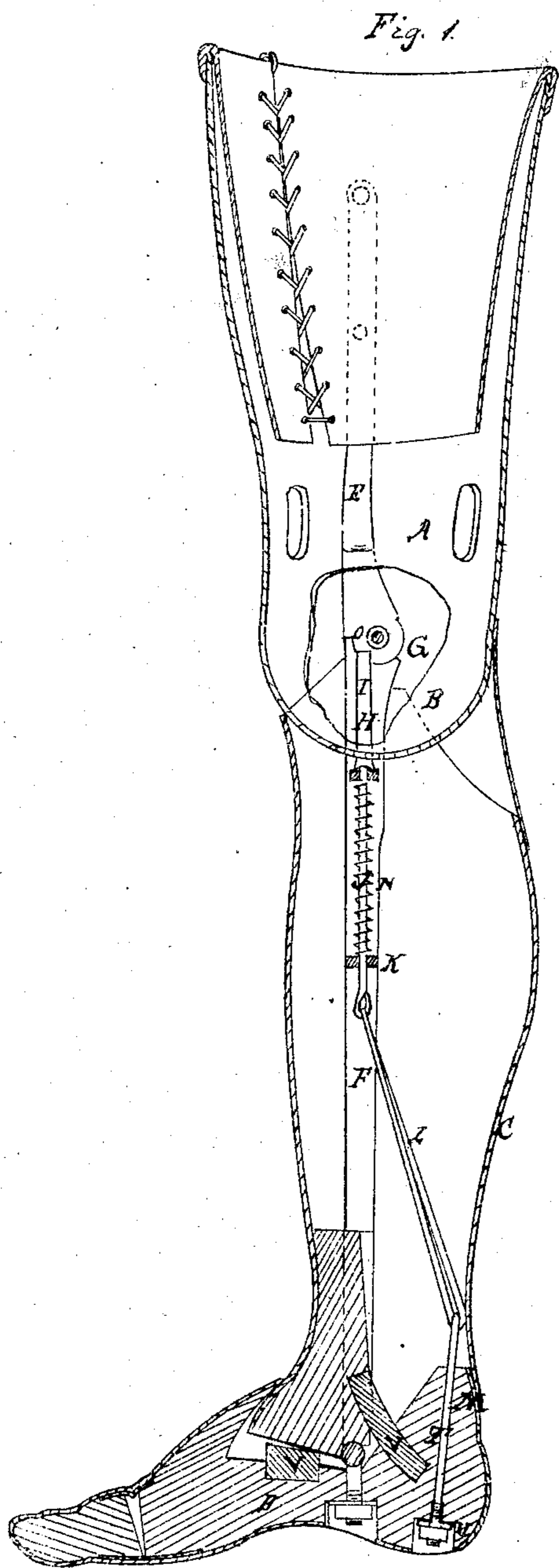


# A. Strasser.

## Artificial Leg.

N<sup>o</sup> 76267

Patented Mar. 31, 1868.



Witnesses.  
*Theo. Busche*  
*W. Braun*

Inventor.  
*A. Strasser*  
 Per *Munich*  
*Attorneys.*

# United States Patent Office.

ALBERT STRASSER, OF MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA.

*Letters Patent No. 76,267, dated March 31, 1868.*

## 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 I, ALBERT STRASSER, of Montgomery, in the county of Montgomery, and State of Alabama, have invented new and useful Improvements in Artificial Legs; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The present invention relates to artificial legs when the leg is amputated at or above the knee. Heretofore, in all artificial legs in such cases of amputation, there has been a great liability of the leg bending forward quickly at the knee, with nothing to prevent the same except the backward pressure of the stump on the artificial leg, which, requiring great leverage, was oftentimes injurious to the stump. It was also almost impossible for any person with a short stump to use an artificial leg as hitherto made, as such legs required the whole weight of the body to be brought forward in order to keep the leg from forward motion at the knee-joint, consequently producing an awkward stiffness in the walk, and also danger of falling.

By the construction of the artificial leg embraced in the present invention, all the above disadvantages are overcome, as will be obvious from the following detail description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying plate of drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a transverse vertical section of an artificial leg made according to the present invention, and

Figure 2 a central vertical section, taken in the plane of the line *xx*, fig. 1.

A, in the drawings, represents the part or section of the artificial leg which is designed to receive the stump, B the knee-joint, and C the part of the leg below the knee-joint, to the lower end of which the foot D is hung or hinged. The two parts A and C of the leg, are, by their respective frames E and F, hinged or jointed together with a stop-joint, G, by which the distance to which they can turn or swing, the one upon the other, is regulated and limited. H, a frame, arranged to slide by its two arms, I, in suitable grooves or ways of the frame to the part C of the leg below the knee, and by its stem J, passing through the cross-bar K of the frame F, connected by its string L to the rear portion M of the foot to the leg. N, a spiral or coiled spring around stem J to frame H, by means of which such frame is made to engage with the notches O of the frame, carrying the upper part A of the leg, which notches are in position suitable to hold the two parts of the leg when straightened out or in line with each other. By the stop-joint at the knee for the connection with the foot, the leg is allowed to bend only when it is required, and without any pressure of stump, and the leg cannot bend until the weight of the body comes upon the toe or front portion of the foot. For regulating the action of the sliding frame in the part of the leg, the eye-bolt T, to which it is secured in the foot, is passed through the heel of the same, and there secured by a screw-nut, U, by means of which, such eye-bolt fraction can be shortened or lengthened at pleasure. V, elastic India-rubber or other suitable cushions interposed between the part C of the leg and the foot, by means of which the motion of the sliding frame is rendered more accurate, and the leg given an elastic and natural motion.

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

The combination of the frames E F, hinged together with the stop-joint G, the sliding frame H, having arms I engaging with the notches O of the frame E, the cross-bar K, stem J, spiral spring N, strap L, and adjustable eye-bolt T, all constructed and arranged to operate as herein described for the purpose specified.

ALBERT STRASSER.

Witnesses:

I. E. ROBERTS,  
P. PETERSON.