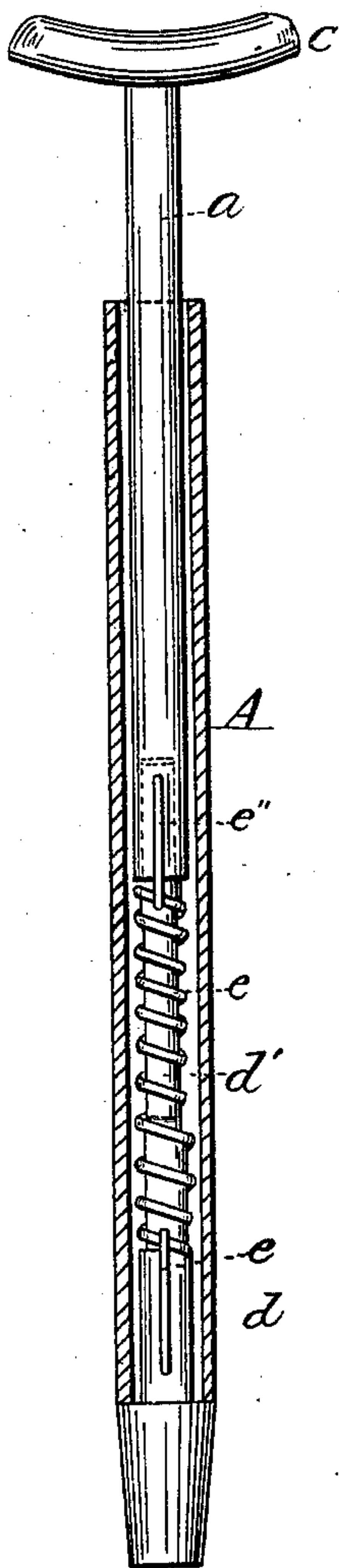


J.A. Lobb,

Crutch,

No 77,824,

Patented May 12, 1868.



Witnesses

C.F. Brown
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Inventor,

John H. Lobb,
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United States Patent Office.

JOHN A. LOBB. OF INDEPENDENCE, MISSOURI.

Letters Patent No. 77,824, dated May 12, 1868.

IMPROVEMENT IN CRUTCHES.

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, JOHN A. LOBB, of Independence, in the county of Jackson, and State of Missouri, have invented a new and improved Crutch; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification, of which—

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical central section.

This invention consists of an arrangement for imparting elasticity to a crutch, to the end that it may be more comfortable in use than the common rigid form, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A represents the staff of a crutch, of wood or other suitable material, made hollow for a portion of its length, from the top, say one-third. *a* represents a bar, attached to the head-piece *c*, said bar being made small enough to enter the orifice in the staff A, and being itself hollow for a portion of its length, from the bottom, say, also, one-third. *d* represents a plug, the lower end of which is of similar size as the bar *a*, for, say, one inch, while the upper portion is sufficiently small to enter the orifice in the bar *a*. A part, *d'*, of this smaller portion, next the lower end *d*, is made sufficiently large to act as a stop, and is of a length corresponding to that of the spiral spring, *e*, placed around the smaller portions of the plug *d*, and attached by clamps *e' e''*, at its ends, to the plug *d* and the bar *a* respectively.

It will be seen that, when the bar *a*, with the plug *d* and spring *e* attached, is inserted in the orifice of the staff A, so far that the plug rests on the bottom of the said orifice, a yielding elastic support is given to the head-piece *c*, by means of which the jar incident to the striking of an ordinary staff upon the ground is materially abated.

The plug *d* insures the just action of the spring, preventing it from receiving damage, especially under pressure heavy enough to force the lower end of the bar *a* down into contact with the stop *d*, as, when this is done, the spring is wholly relieved from strain.

The clamps *e' e''* are easily adjusted, their ends being merely bent down at right angles, forming prongs. One prong of each clamp is inserted in a hole, made for the purpose in the wood, and the other placed over one of the convolutions of the spring.

By giving the latter one or two turns, the clamp is firmly secured in its place, and by turning the spring in the opposite direction, the clamp is loosened and may be removed, whereupon the spring may also be removed.

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

1. The hollow staff A, in combination with the hollow bar *a*, the plug *d*, and the spring *e*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The hollow bar *a*, in combination with the plug *d*, the spring *e*, and the clamps *e' e''*.

JOHN A. LOBB.

Witnesses:

O. P. W. BAILEY,

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