

HENRY C. MARSTON.  
Improvement in Stair Rods.

No. 121,641.

Patented Dec. 5, 1871.

FIG. 1.

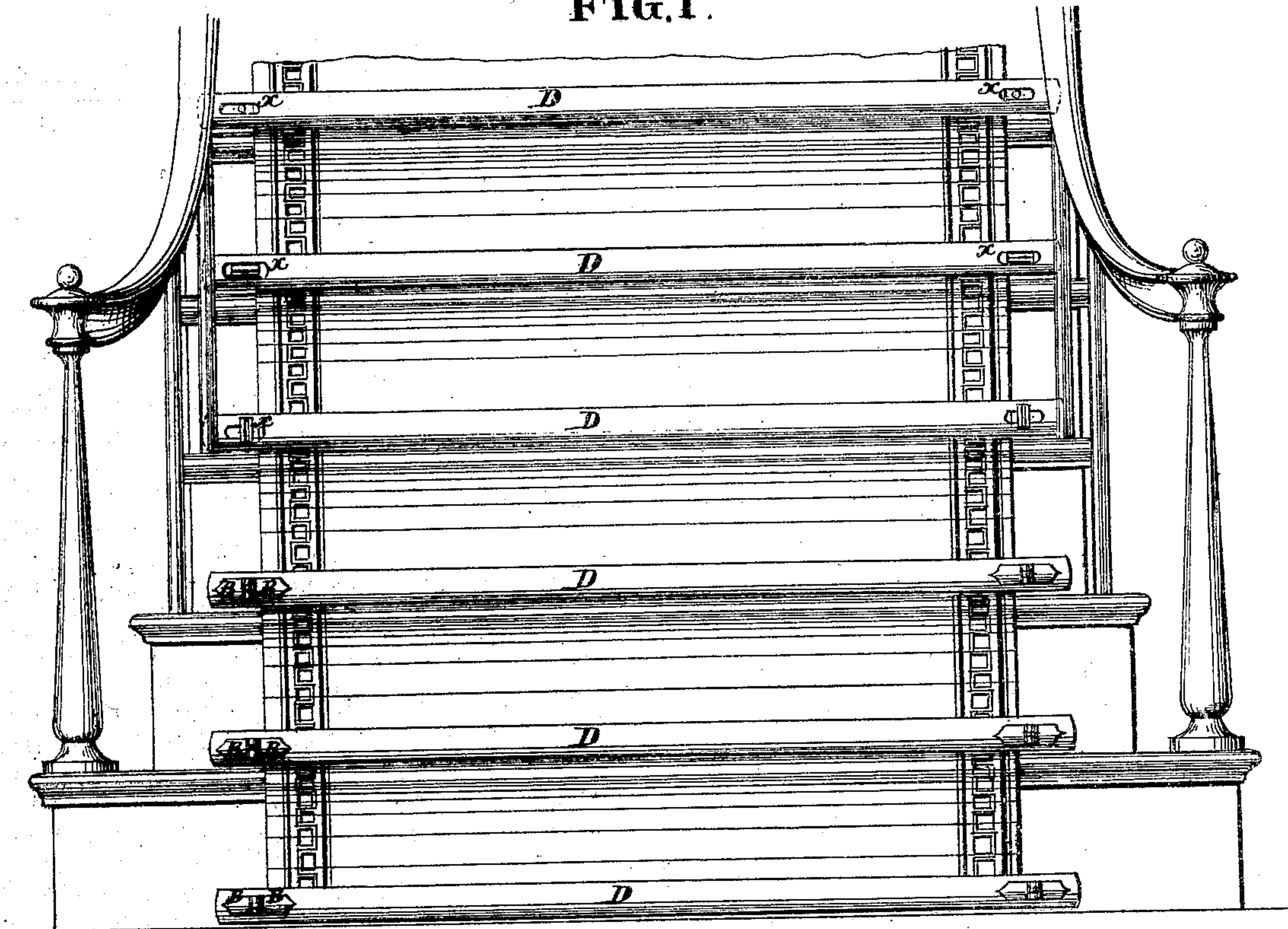


FIG. 2.

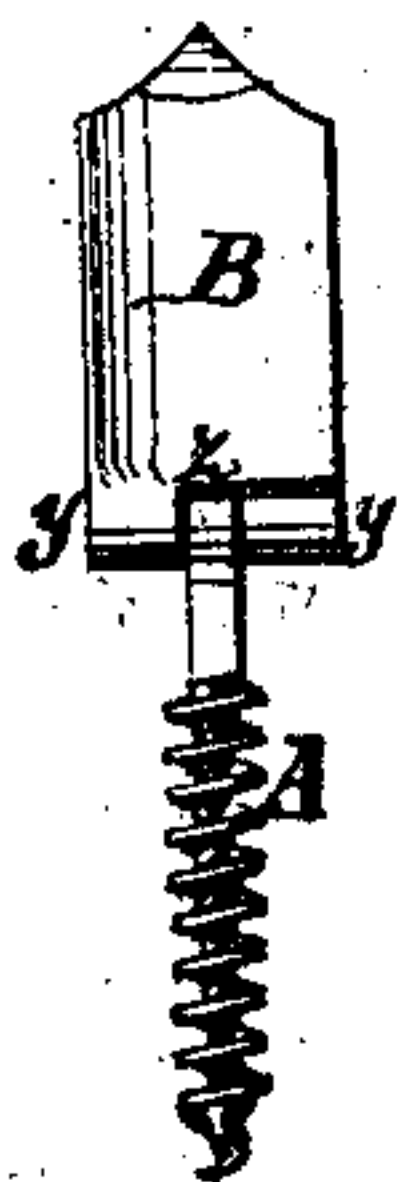
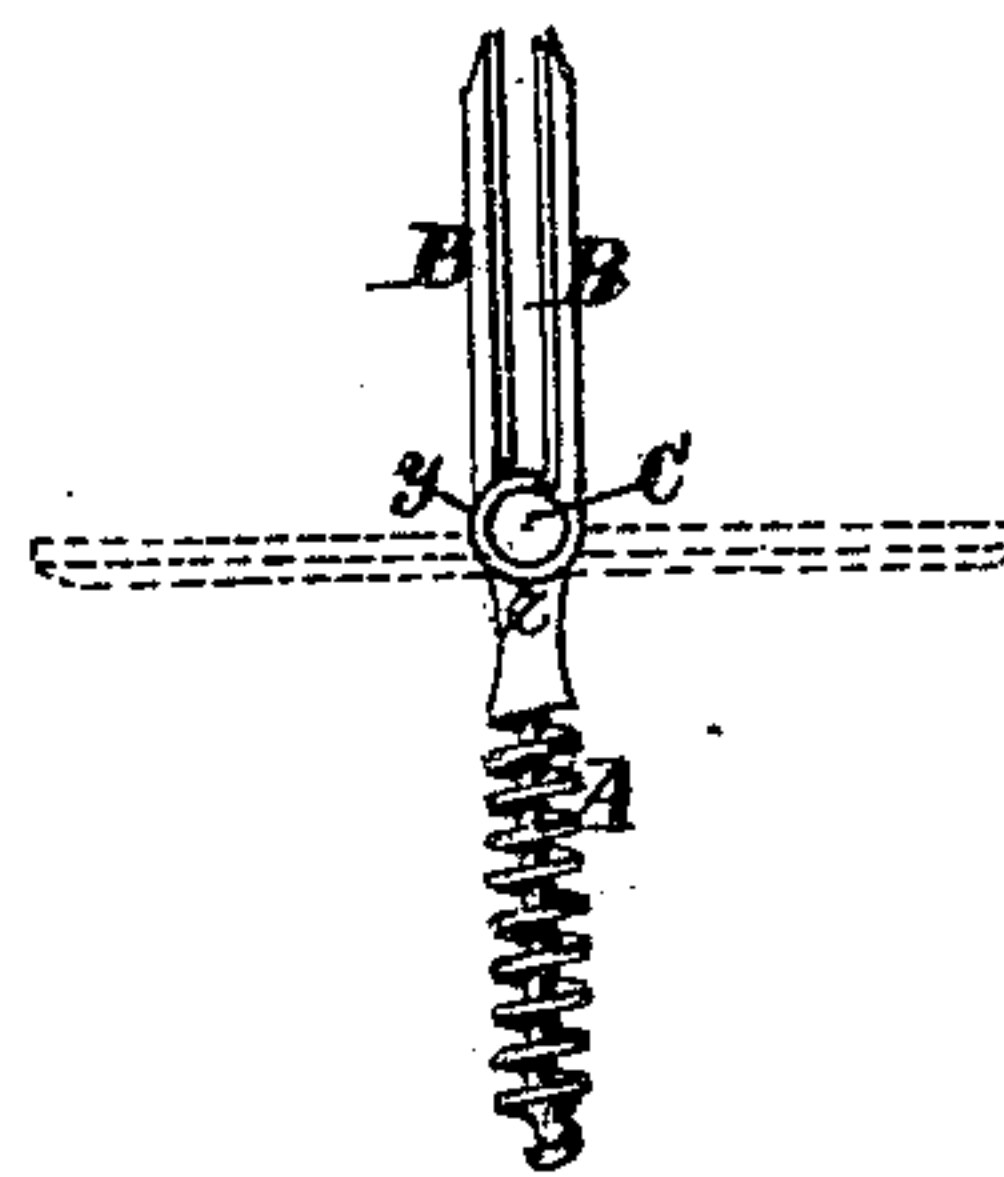


FIG. 3.



ATTEST.

Geo L. C. Win  
Walter Allen

INVENTOR.

Henry C. Marston  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY C. MARSTON, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND FRANKLIN W. BROOKS, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN STAIR-RODS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 121,641, dated December 5, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY C. MARSTON, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Stair-Rod Fastenings, of which the following is a specification:

The device is of that form of stair-rod fastening composed of turn-buttons or screws in the faces of the steps or slots in the rods. The buttons pass through the slots when in one position, and, being given a quarter turn, secure the rods by crossing the same. In my fastening the screws are provided with ornamental heads, each consisting of a pair of folding leaves, adapted to completely mask the slots.

Figure 1 is an elevation of a flight of stairs provided with rods and fastenings therefor, illustrating my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are elevations of one of the fastenings on a larger scale.

In carrying out my invention I make a wood screw, A, with a small ring or sleeve, z, at its upper end, and two leaves, B, with matching sleeves y, and unite the three by a pintle, C, passing through the said sleeves and riveted or otherwise secured. The leaves B are thus hinged to the screw A so as to be folded together in line with the screw, or outward at right angles thereto, as required. The stair-rods B are made with the usual slots x, adapted to receive the heads or buttons formed by the leaves B when folded together and turned in line therewith. The rods being thus applied, the heads or buttons are

given quarter turns, which bring them across the slots and secure the rods. The leaves are then separated and folded down on the rods and over the slots, which they thus serve to mask. This additional manipulation is readily accomplished, and will not occupy any appreciable time.

The different positions of the leaves are clearly represented in Fig. 1 and by full and dotted lines in Fig. 3. The outer surfaces of the leaves may be ornamented in any way, or the leaves may simply be made of some tasteful outline, as represented. I propose nickel-plating the whole for increased effect. The parts may be made of any suitable metal, and cast or swaged, as preferred. The heads or buttons thus formed are larger than could otherwise be employed, and their manipulation by the fingers is consequently facilitated. They are as strong as could be otherwise made, and add to rather than detract from the appearance of the rods secured by them. The attachment by screw is unessential.

What I claim in this, my invention, is—

The stair-rod fastening herein described, consisting of a screw, A, and a pair of leaves, B, forming the button or head thereof, united by sleeves z y and pintle C, substantially as shown.

HENRY C. MARSTON.

Witnesses:

OCTAVIUS KNIGHT,  
WALTER ALLEN.

(24)