

(No Model.)

C. DEGENHART.
FERRULE FOR CANES, &c.

No. 281,245.

Patented July 17, 1883.

FIG. 1.

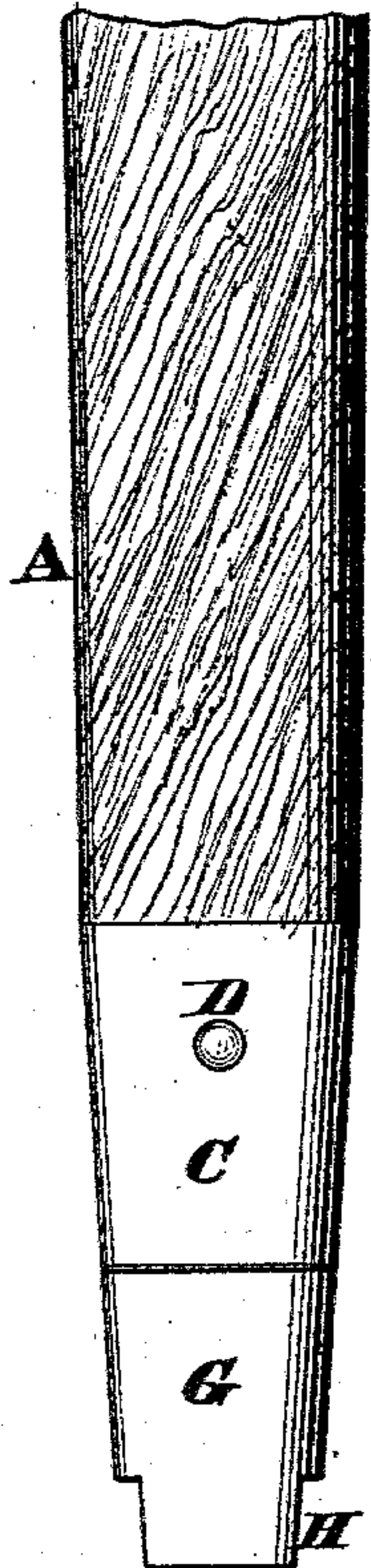
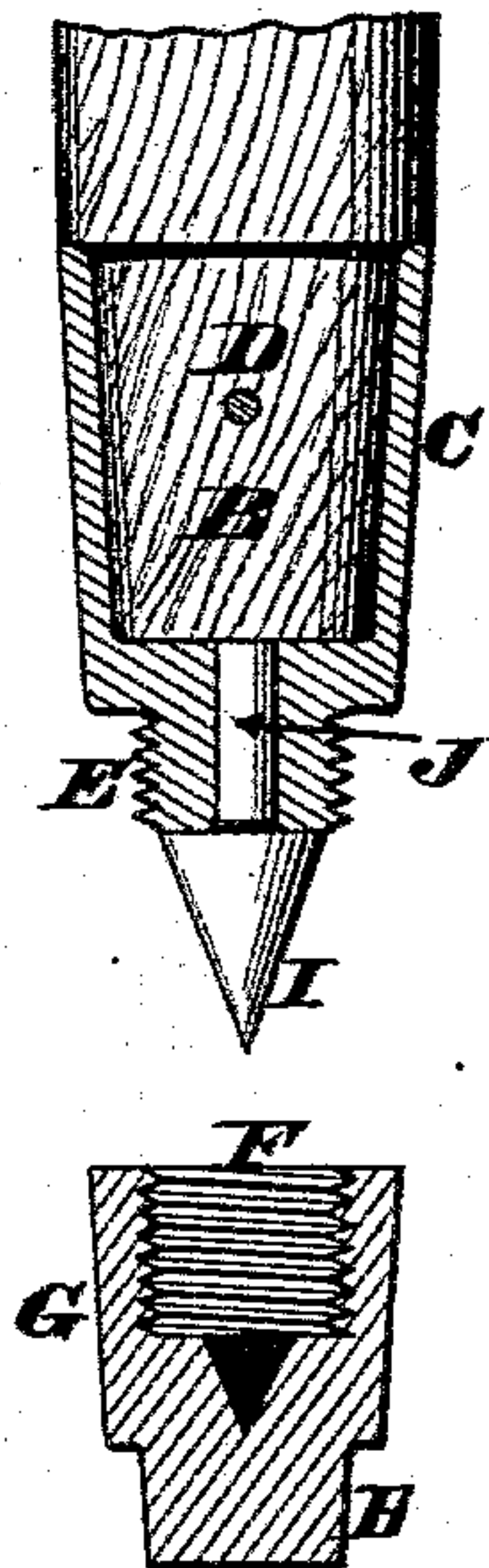


FIG. 2.



Attest.
S. S. Carpenter.
George I. Haven

FIG. 3.

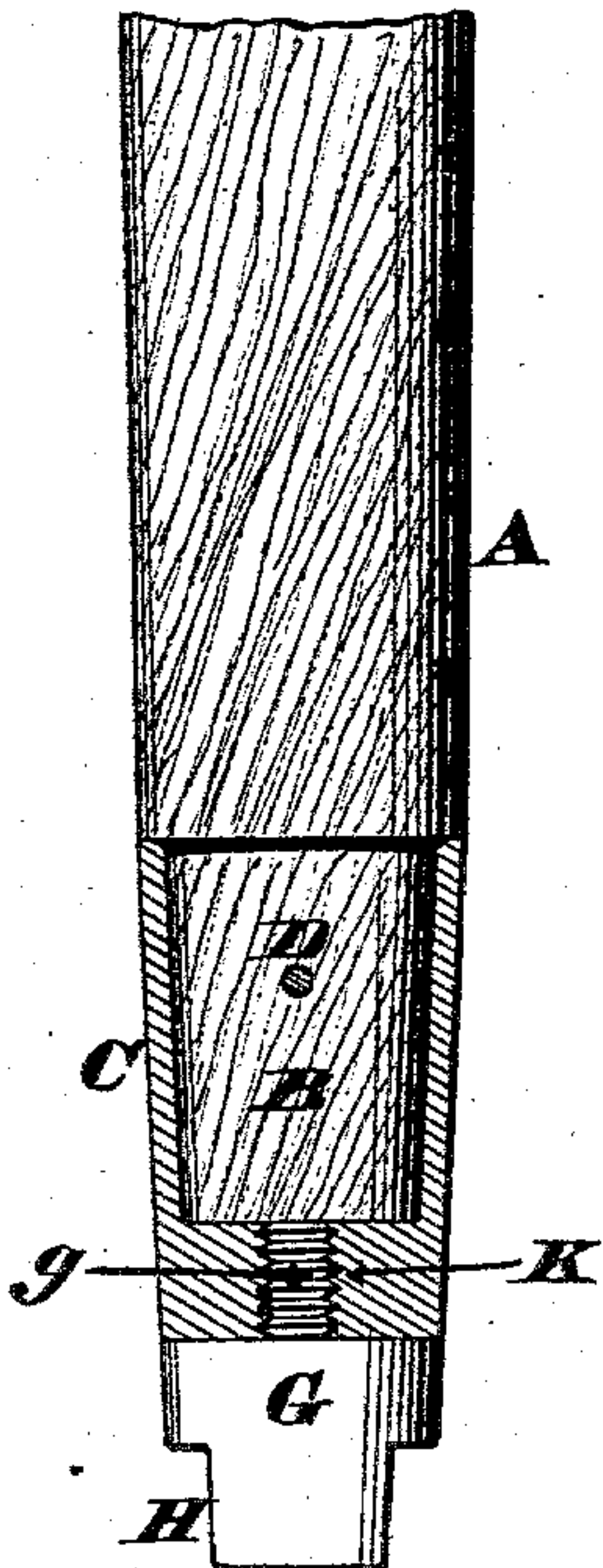


FIG. 4.

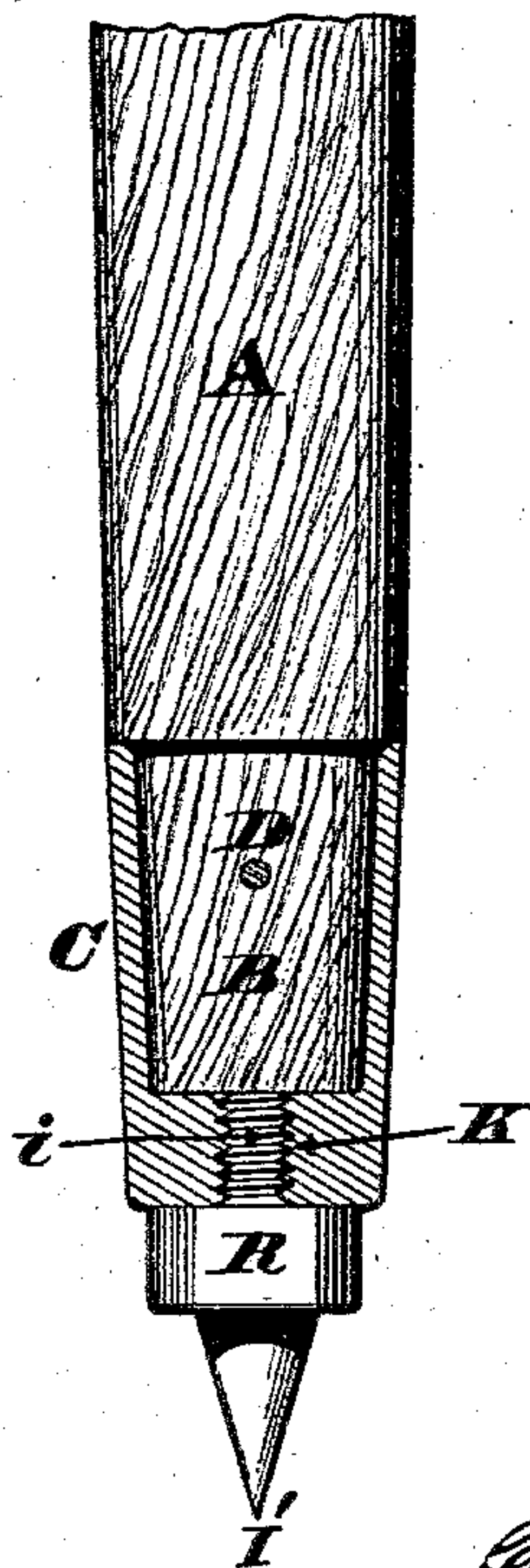
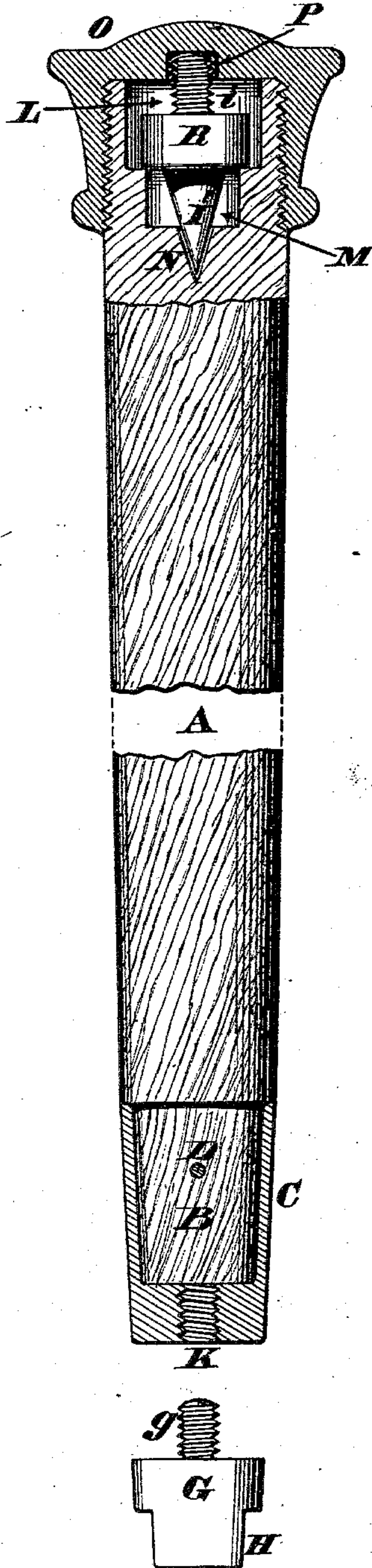


FIG. 5.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES DEGENHART, OF COVINGTON, KENTUCKY.

FERRULE FOR CANES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,245, dated July 17, 1883.

Application filed February 2, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES DEGENHART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Covington, in the county of Kenton and State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Ferrules for Canes, Umbrellas, &c., of which the following is a specification.

This is an improvement on those cane-ferrules which are provided with a hard bearing-point, capable of being concealed when desired, and of being exposed for the purpose of obtaining a secure hold on pavements, &c., when the latter are covered with ice and snow.

My invention consists in providing such ferrules with a screw-threaded shoe made wholly of metal and solid at its lower end, in order that it may afford a durable bearing for the cane or crutch when the point is concealed, said point being preferably a fixture to the ferrule, as hereinafter more fully described. The point, however, may be temporarily screwed into the ferrule, and when not in use can be housed within a chamber at the upper end of the cane, said chamber being concealed by the head of the cane or other support, as hereinafter more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 represents a portion of the lower end of a cane provided with my improved ferrule, the shoe being engaged with the latter. Fig. 2 is an axial section of the device, the shoe being shown detached from the ferrule. Fig. 3 represents a modification of the device, the shoe being applied thereto. Fig. 4 shows the same modification of the ferrule, but having the detachable point screwed into it. Fig. 5 represents this modified form of the device applied to a cane having a chambered head, the point being inclosed within the latter and the shoe detached.

A represents the lower portion of an umbrella, cane, walking-stick, crutch, or other similar support, the tenon of which, B, is secured in the ferrule C either with a rivet, D, or by being screwed therein. The ferrule is of any suitable size and shape, and terminates at its lower end with an externally-threaded neck, E, adapted to engage with the female screw F of the metallic shoe G, the latter having a "square," H, wherewith it is readily turned either to the right or left.

I is a sharp conical point, made of steel or other hard metal, said point having a stem or shank, J, that is driven firmly into an axial hole of the neck E.

During the summer the metallic shoe G H is screwed onto the ferrule C, thereby concealing and protecting the point, as seen in Fig. 1; but when the sidewalks become slippery said shoe can be readily unscrewed from the neck after grasping the square H with the fingers, which removal of the shoe leaves the point I free to be inserted in the snow and ice, so as to obtain a very secure hold therein, and thus prevent the user of the cane falling and injuring himself. This effective position of the point is seen in Fig. 2.

In the modification of my invention as illustrated in Figs. 3, 4, and 5 the neck E is omitted from the ferrule, and the lower end of the latter has a female thread, K, tapped in it, which thread receives either the threaded shank *g* of the metallic shoe, or a similar shank, *i*, of the detachable point I'. Furthermore, when this modification is used, I prefer to provide the upper end of the cane A with two communicating chambers, L M, and a central pit, N, which chambers are concealed by the screw-threaded or other detachable head or cap, O, the latter having a small socket, P, in its under side, as seen in Fig. 5. R is the square of the detachable point I'. In the ordinary use of this modification of my invention the screw-threaded shank *g* of the shoe G is engaged with the female screw K of the ferrule, as seen in Fig. 3, the detachable point I' *i* R being housed within the chamber L M at the upper end of the cane, as represented in Fig. 5. Reference to this illustration will show that the square R and point I' occupy, respectively, the chambers L M and pit N, while the stem *i* of said point enters the socket P of cap O. Consequently said point is not liable to be lost, and when it is to be applied to the cane the shoe G and cap or head O are unscrewed, the point I' *i* R withdrawn, and its shank *i* engaged with the female thread K, as seen in Fig. 4. The portions H G of the shoe can now be respectively seated in the chambers M L of the cane, and the shank *g* of shoe be caused to enter the socket P.

Whichever form of my invention may be adopted, it is apparent the device has as fin-

ished an appearance as an ordinary ferrule, and in case the shoe G should become worn or battered up by constant use, a new one can be readily applied, thereby obviating the necessity of throwing away the old ferrule. It is further apparent that as the point I is at all times housed in, except in slippery weather, there is no danger of its being unnecessarily worn by constant contact with pavements, &c.; hence said point will retain its effective condition for a long time; but as soon as it becomes blunt it can be readily sharpened up, or a new one may be substituted therefor.

I am aware that it is not new to house a crutch-point within a metallic guard having at its lower end an india-rubber buffer, as such a device is seen in the patent issued to A. Bickel, May 16, 1865. Therefore my claim is not to be construed as an attempt to cover every form of guard for such points, but is expressly limited to the within-described shoe, made wholly of metal, having a female screw at its upper end, and being solid at bottom, to afford a durable

bearing for the crutch or cane when the point is concealed.

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I claim as my invention—

1. In combination with the cane-ferrule C, having a male screw, E, and point I, the shoe G, made wholly of metal and provided at top with a female screw, F, said shoe being solid at the bottom, to afford a durable bearing for the crutch when said point I is concealed, as herein described.

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2. The cane A, having at its lower end a threaded ferrule, C K, for the engagement of shoe G or hard bearing-point I, and at top the communicating chambers L M, for the reception of said shoe or point, said chambers being closed with the detachable head O, substantially as described.

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In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

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CHARLES DEGENHART.

Witnesses:

JAMES H. LAYMAN,
SAML. S. CARPENTER.