

(No Model.)

C. A. WHITNEY.  
FURNITURE CASTER.

No. 351,418.

Patented Oct. 26, 1886.

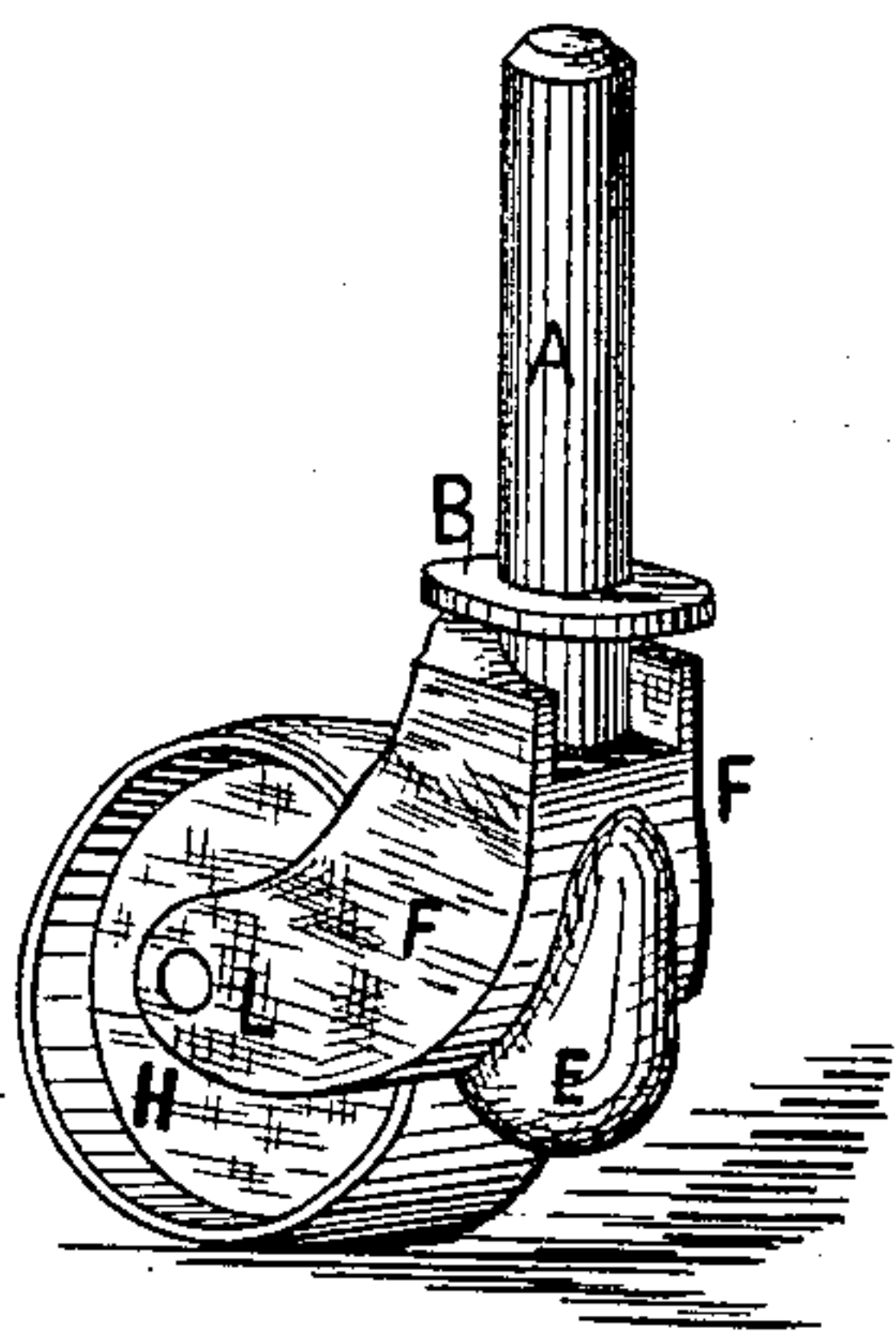


Fig. 1.

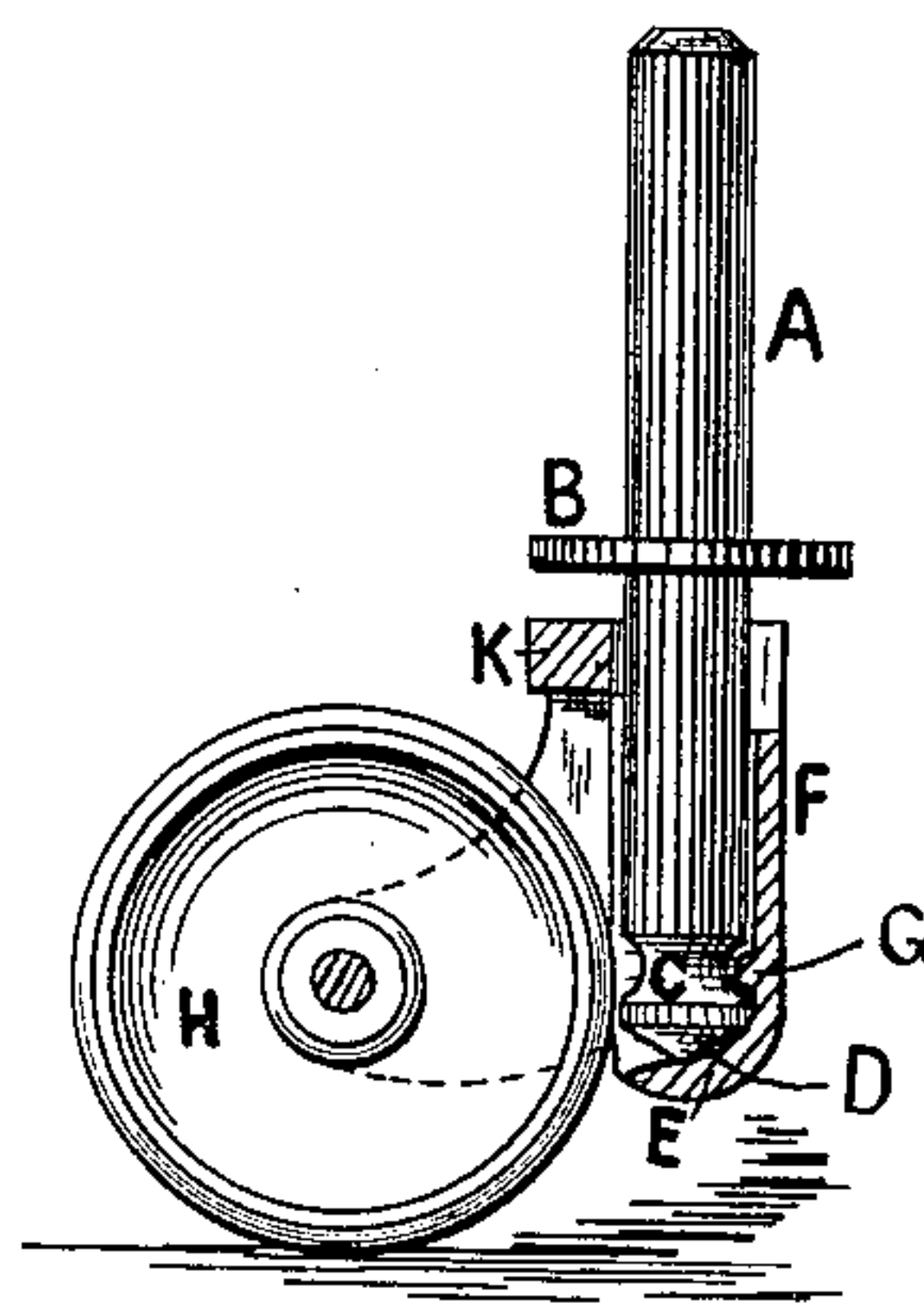


Fig. 2.

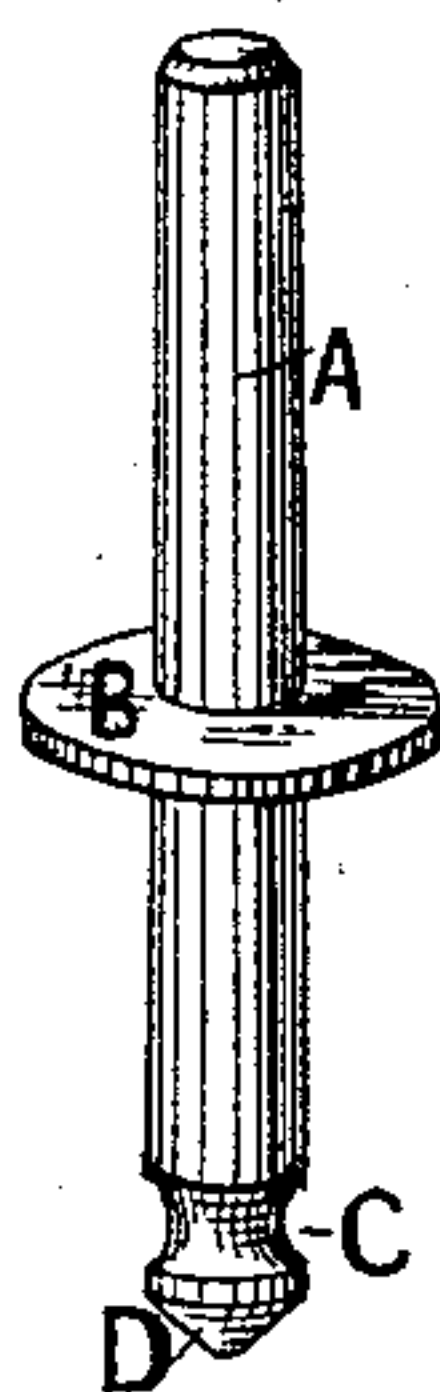


Fig. 3.

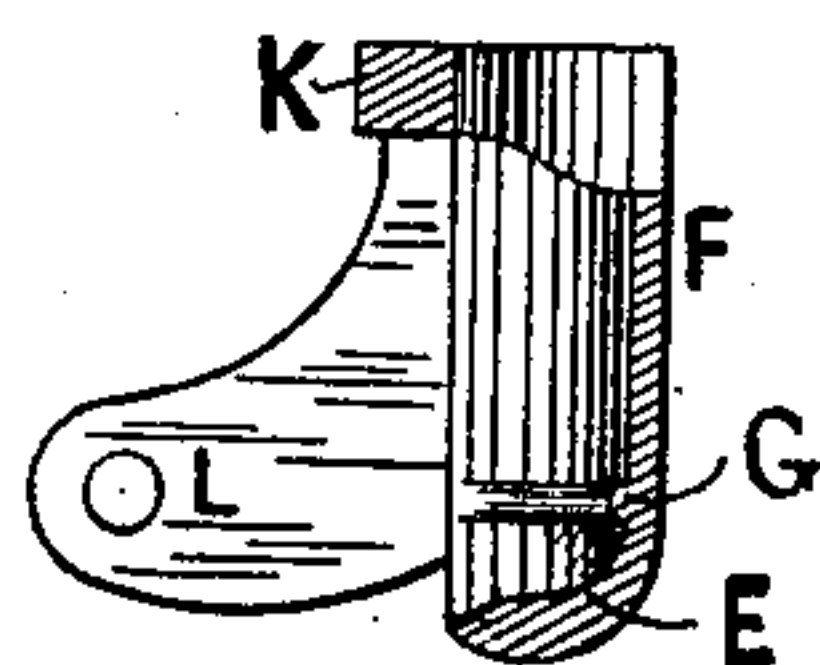


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. WHITNEY, OF WALTHAM, MASSACHUSETTS.

## FURNITURE-CASTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 351,418, dated October 26, 1886.

Application filed September 25, 1885. Serial No. 178,163. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. WHITNEY, of Waltham, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Furniture-Casters, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a cheap, simple, and durable furniture-caster, in which the friction will be very materially reduced, so as to cause the caster to more readily swivel or turn upon its vertical pivotal axis when applied to the legs of furniture than those heretofore constructed and now in general use; and it consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of the several parts of the caster, as hereinafter more fully described, and specifically set forth in the claim.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a caster constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 represents a vertical sectional elevation of same, with spindle and wheel in position in frame. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the spindle. Fig. 4 represents a vertical sectional elevation of the frame.

A represents the spindle having a washer, B, pressed or forced upon the same about mid-length thereof, and an annular concave groove, C, formed near the lower end thereof, and the extreme lower end, D, made conical or oval, forming a bearing for the said spindle at the lower rear portion, E, of the frame F, which is provided with a small rib, G, which enters the said annular groove C in the said spindle A when in position for use, and serves to retain it in place when there is no pressure upon the wheel H, journaled between the curved wings L of the said supporting-frame F. The periphery of the said wheel H extends to a point very near the lower end portion, D, of the said spindle, so as to prevent its lateral movement away from its seated bearing E when the parts are relieved from pressure or not in use. The surface of the spindle toward the said wings L, and just below the said washer or collar B, has a bearing against the upper end portion, K, of the said supporting-frame F when pressure is applied upon the caster-wheel journaled between the ends of the wings L, which con-

struction forces the lower end of the spindle into its seat E, and thus permits the caster-wheel H and frame to swivel or turn about the vertical spindle in an easy and frictionless manner, or very nearly so.

It will be seen from the above and understood that the said spindle is introduced into the top opening of the frame from the rear, opposite the projecting wings, on an angle, and carried downward and brought into a vertical position, with its lower end resting upon its seat. Then the wheel is placed in position between the wings, and the axle-journal is inserted through the openings or holes formed through the ends of the said wings horizontally, and through the hub of the said wheel, and riveted in position, as heretofore employed for the purpose, thus completing the caster ready to be applied to the leg of an article of furniture, which has a vertical hole formed in the lower end thereof to receive the upward end portion of the said spindle, which is to be driven therein by striking upon the bottom face of the rear seat portion, E, until the said washer B contacts with the lower end of the leg, as usual; or the upward end portion of the spindle may be screw-threaded, or adapted to be secured to the end of the leg in any well-known manner. It will be seen and understood that the said rib G is so formed as to be cast in one solid piece with the said frame F, thus simplifying the construction thereof.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

A furniture-caster consisting of the spindle A, having an annular groove, C, near the lower end, D, thereof, and a frame, F, provided with an interior rib, G, which enters said groove near the bearing E of the said spindle, and having wings L, between which the wheel H is journaled, whereby its periphery retains the said spindle in position when the caster is freed from pressure, as described.

CHARLES A. WHITNEY.

Witnesses:

SYLVENUS WALKER,  
WALTER WHITEMORE.