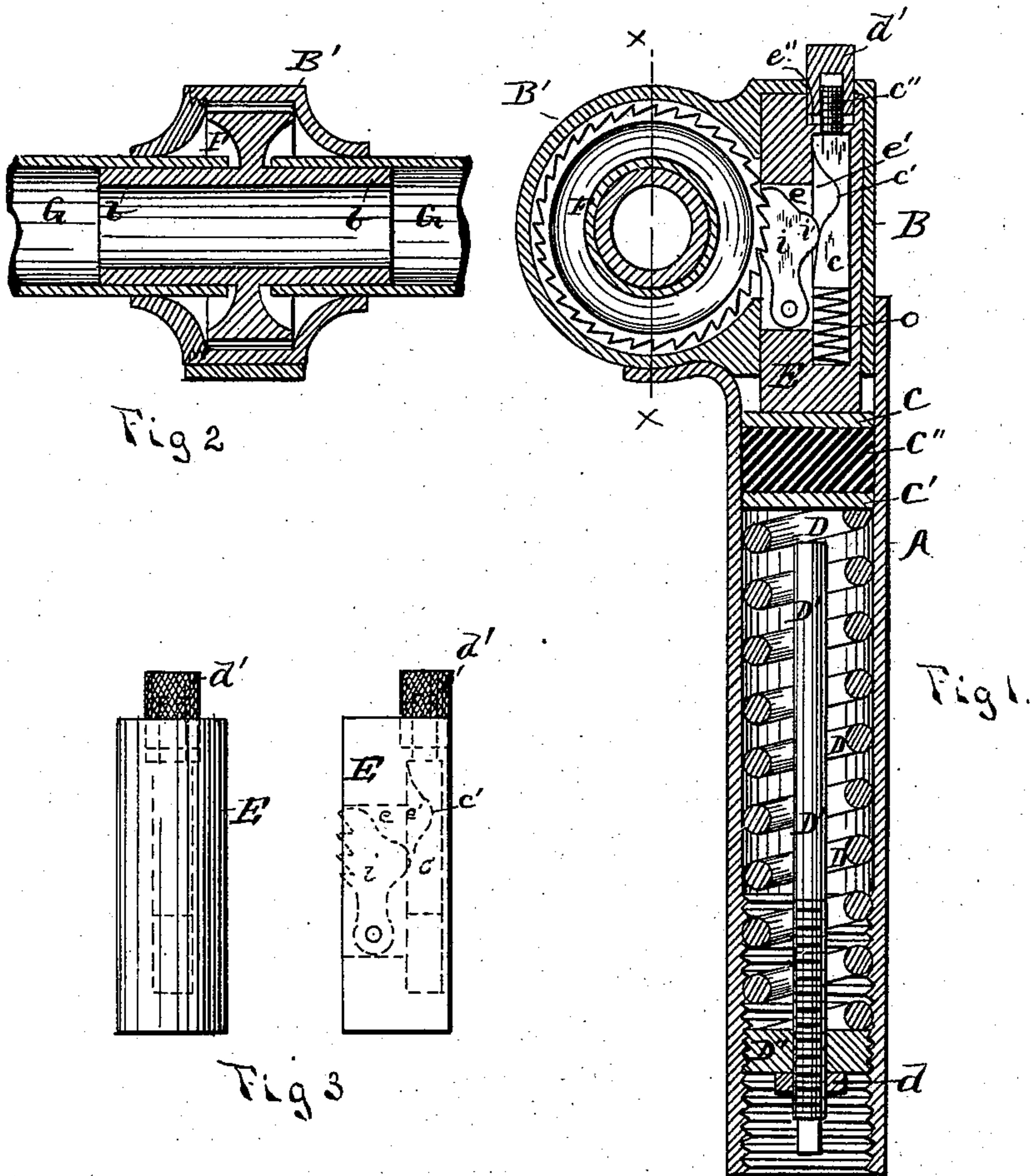


(No Model.)

V. E. RUMBARGER.  
BICYCLE HANDLE BAR.

No. 564,108.

Patented July 14, 1896.



Witnesses  
J. Longenecker.  
H. B. Steier

Inventor  
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his Attorney.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VICTOR E. RUMBARGER, OF DAYTON, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
HIRAM G. PROTSMAN, OF SAME PLACE.

## BICYCLE HANDLE-BAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 564,108, dated July 14, 1896.

Application filed March 9, 1896. Serial No. 582,379. (No model.).

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, VICTOR E. RUMBARGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dayton, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bicycle Handle-Bars; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to bicycle handle-bars, and is a further improvement of the mechanism shown and described in United States Letters Patent granted to myself January 14, 1896, No. 553,178.

The object of the invention is to reduce the number of parts shown therein and otherwise increase the utility of the original mechanism.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section through the stem and head. Fig. 2 is a section on the line  $xx$  of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a rear and side elevation of the plunger.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

A designates the upright tubular stem. B is a forging comprising the head, which is curved rearwardly, as at B', and brazed to said stem.

C and C' designate washers which inclose a rubber or elastic cushion or washer C'' in the upper end of the stem. These parts rest upon the upper end of a helical spring D, which is inclosed in the stem and surrounds a screw-threaded rod D'. The lower end of this rod is inclosed by an externally-threaded nut D'' that engages with screw-threads on the interior of the stem, and by means of which various adjustments of the spring may be had.

It will be noted that the rod D' and the helical spring D are subjected to two independent adjustments. The rod, to limit the movement of the handle-bars by the washers coming in contact therewith, and the said spring may be adjusted by the nut D'' to regulate the tension thereof.

d is a jam-nut engaging with lower end of said rod and maintaining said rod in a proper position. The rod D' in the present instance preferably terminates below the washers.

E designates a plunger that is supported on said washers. This plunger has recesses  $e$  and  $e'$ , in the former of which a ratchet-pawl  $i$  having a rearward projection  $i'$  is pivoted. This pawl normally engages with a ratchet-wheel F inclosed in the head B'. As shown in Fig. 2, the said ratchet-wheel has lateral, tubular extensions  $b b$ , to which the handle-bars G G are brazed.

c is a locking-bar inclosed in the opening  $e'$  and resting upon a coil-spring o. This bar has an inwardly-curved recess  $c'$  and its upper end terminates in a screw-threaded stem  $c''$ . The normal position of this bar is shown in Fig. 1, where it will be noted it locks the ratchet-pawl in engagement with the wheel. Any jolting or sudden motion that may be given the handle-bar will consequently be transferred to the spring and elastic cushions, substantially as described in my former patent.

d' is a cap loosely fitting in the upper end of the head in an opening  $e''$  and having a screw-threaded engagement with the upper end of the locking-bar c. By pressing upon this cap the recessed portion of said bar may be brought in line with the ratchet-pawl and the latter permitted to drop away from the ratchet-wheel. The position of the handle-bars may then be adjusted if desired and the ratchet-pawl returned by allowing the locking-bar to return to its normal position. As this cap d' is shown in Fig. 1 there is some space between its lower end and the metal surrounding the screw-threaded stem of the locking-bar. When in this position the said locking-bar may be moved down by pressing upon the cap, but in order to prevent any accidental pressure upon said cap it may be screwed down upon the stem until its lower end comes in contact with the lower terminal of the opening  $e''$  in which it is placed.

Having fully described my invention, I claim—

1. In a bicycle, the combination with the head and stem, and a ratchet-wheel inclosed in said head, of a slotted plunger in the rear

of said wheel, a ratchet-pawl pivoted in said plunger, a vertically-movable locking-bar inclosed in said plunger in the rear of said ratchet-pawl, a cap inclosing the upper end  
5 of said locking-bar and projecting above the head, and an elastic support for said plunger, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

2. In a bicycle, the combination with the  
10 head and handle-bar stem, a ratchet-wheel inclosed in said head, and adjustable elastic cushions inclosed in said stem, of a slotted plunger mounted, supported on said elastic cushions adjacent to the said ratchet-wheel,

a ratchet-pawl pivoted in said plunger, a  
15 spring-controlled, vertically-movable locking-bar having a recess mounted in said plunger in the rear of the ratchet-pawl, and a cap attached to the upper end of said locking-bar and loosely fitting in an opening in  
20 said head, substantially as and for the purposes specified.

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

VICTOR E. RUMBARGER.

Witnesses:

R. J. McCARTY,

HIRAM G. PROTSMAN.