

No. 620,684.

Patented Mar. 7, 1899.

M. H. VANEVERA.
ADJUSTABLE HANDLE BAR FOR BICYCLES.

(Application filed Feb. 24, 1896.)

(No Model.)

Fig 1.

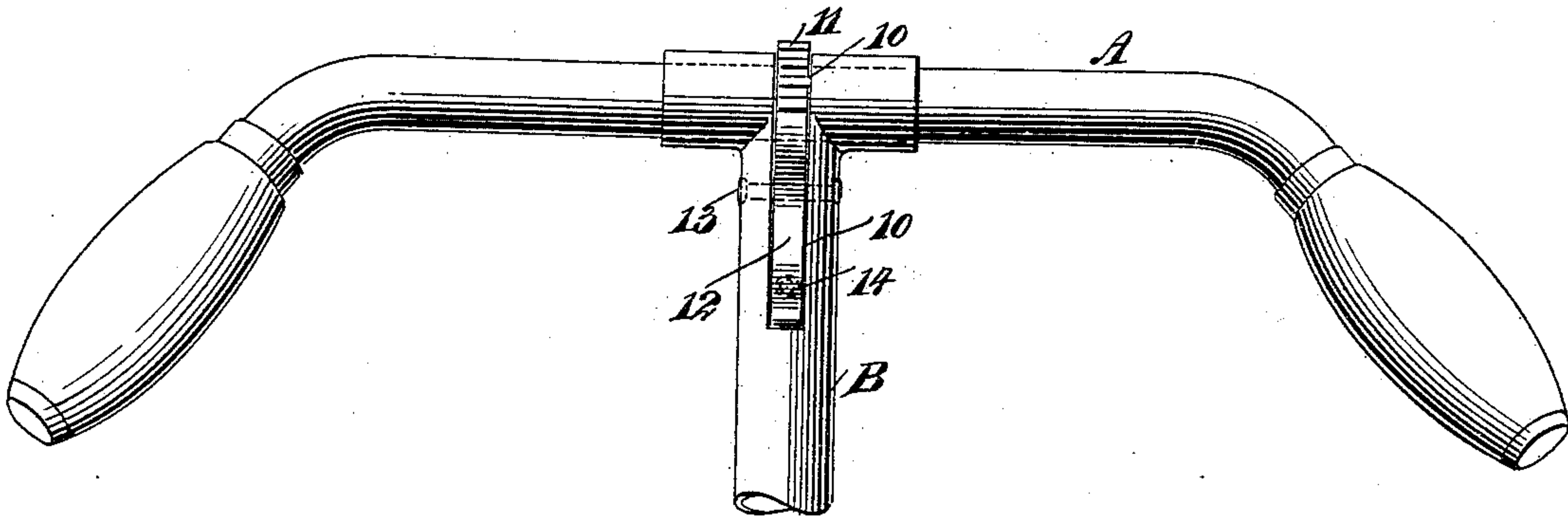


Fig 2.

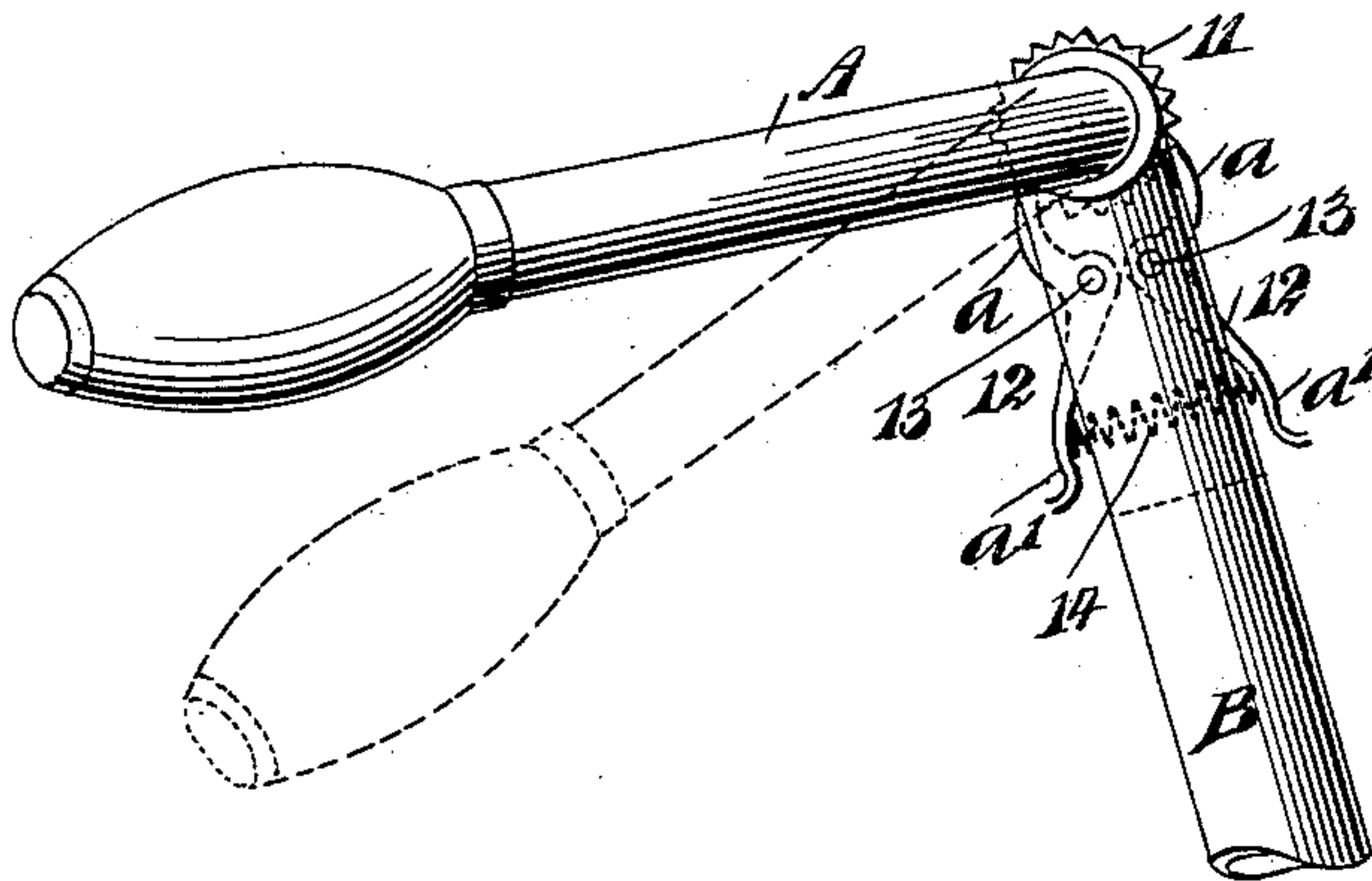


Fig 3.

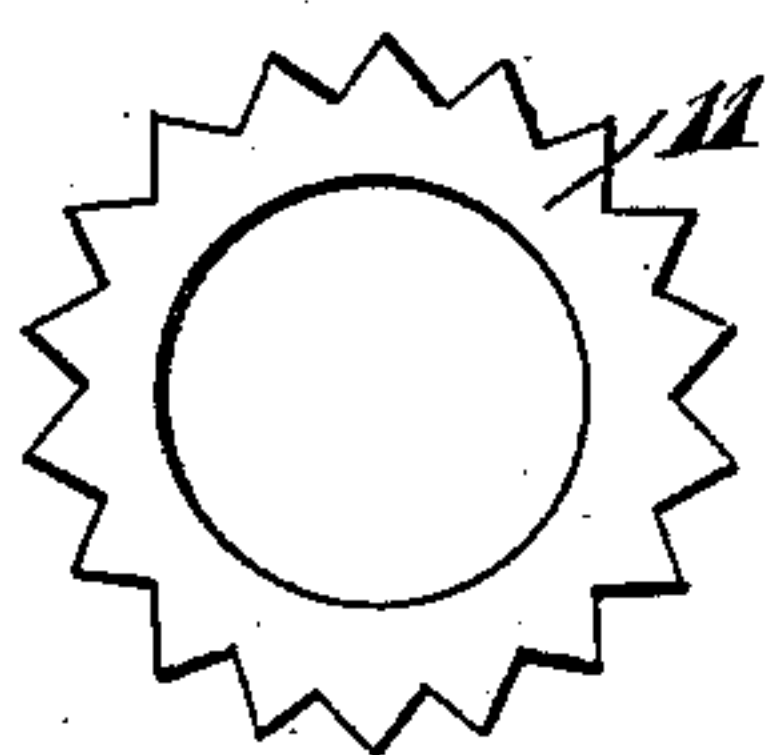


Fig 4.

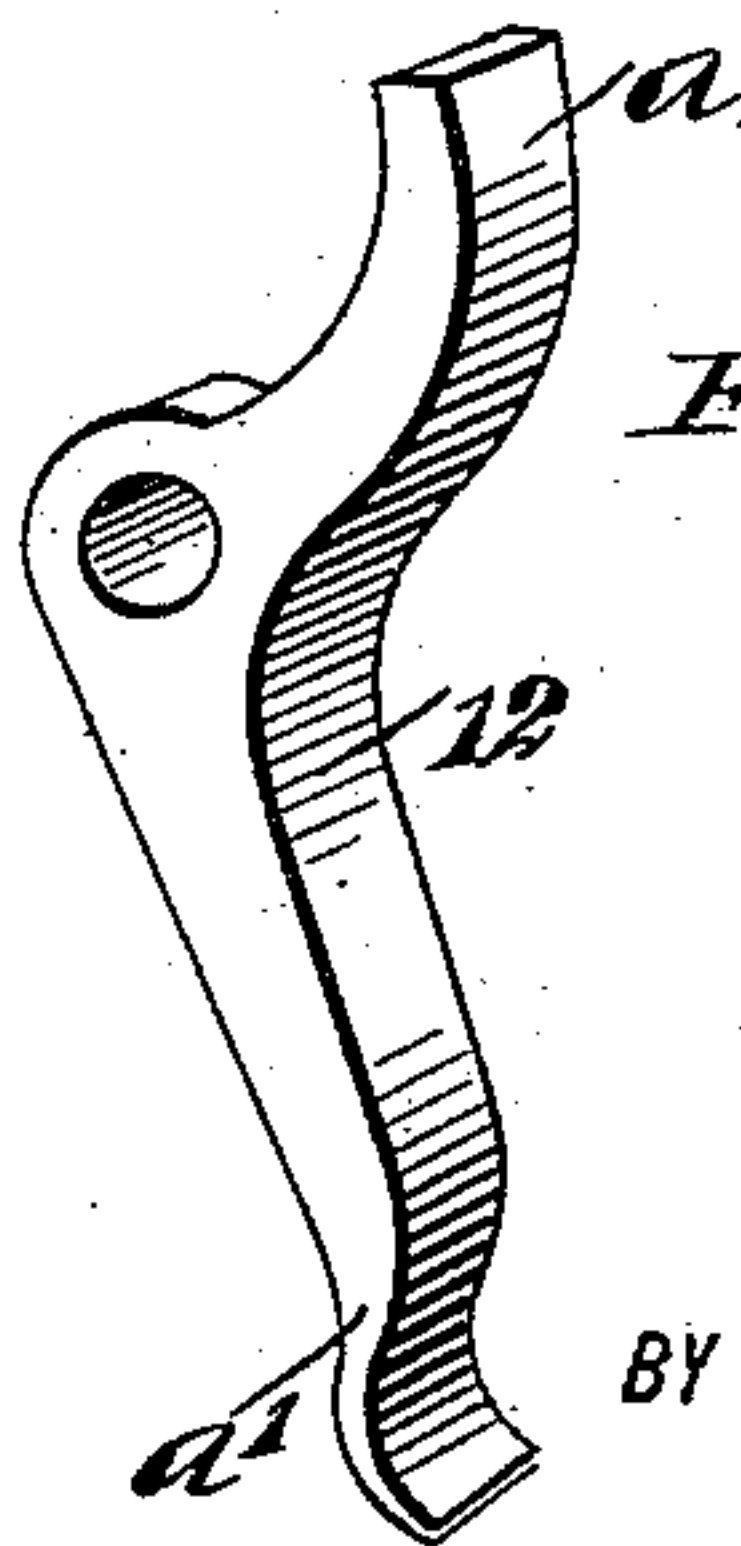


Fig 5.

WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORGAN H. VANEVERA, OF LITTLE FALLS, NEW YORK.

ADJUSTABLE HANDLE-BAR FOR BICYCLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 620,684, dated March 7, 1899.

Application filed February 24, 1896. Serial No. 580,426. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORGAN H. VANEVERA, of Little Falls, in the county of Herkimer and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Adjustable Handle-Bars for Bicycles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to provide a simple and convenient means for adjusting the position of the handle-bar of a bicycle or like machine without the necessity of the rider removing his hands entirely from the handle-bar or in any manner interfering with the progress of the machine when in motion.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of the several parts, as will be hereinafter fully set forth, and pointed out in the claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the handle-bar of a bicycle, illustrating the improvement applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a side view of the handle-bar. Fig. 3 is a side elevation of the ratchet used in connection with the handle-bar. Fig. 4 is a front view of the said ratchet, and Fig. 5 is a perspective view of a pawl adapted for use in connection with the ratchet.

In carrying out the invention the horizontal portion A of the handle-bar is loosely mounted in the stem B, the mounting being accomplished in any well-known manner, and the said stem is provided with a slot 10, extending through its horizontal and likewise through its vertical member, as is best shown in Fig. 1. In the upper portion of this slot 10 a ratchet-wheel 11 is keyed, pinned, or otherwise secured on the horizontal portion of the handle-bar, so that the ratchet-wheel will turn with the said part A. A pawl 12 is located at each side of the vertical member of the stem, in the lower portion of its slot 10, the said pawls being pivotally mounted on pins 13, passed through the stem and through suitable openings in the pawl, the lower ends of the said pawls being normally separated or forced outward by means of an interposed spring 14, whereby the upper ends of the pawls will be held in engagement with the

toothed surface of the ratchet-wheel 11, as shown in Fig. 2. The pawls may be of any desired construction, but preferably they are made as shown in the drawings, in which they comprise each a curved upper head-surface *a* and a shank-section *a'* at an angle to the upper head surface or section, the opening for the reception of the pivot-pin of the pawl being at the junction of the two sections. In operation when it is desired to shift the horizontal portion A of the handle-bar in a vertical direction one hand is slipped from the bar and used to compress the shank portions of the pawls 12, thereby carrying the said pawls out of engagement with the ratchet-wheel 11. With the other hand the part A of the handle-bar is rocked in its bearing, and when the desired elevation or position is obtained the pawls are released and will automatically return to locking engagement with the ratchet-wheel, holding the handle-bar in its adjusted position.

The advantage gained by the use of this invention is that the rider of the bicycle can change his position and change the handle-bars to any desired or convenient position while the machine is in motion and without dismounting therefrom, the said changes being accomplished so easily that the rider may effect them while riding at full speed.

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

A handle-bar for bicycles and the like, comprising a stem having its upper portion slotted at opposite sides, a horizontal part mounted to turn in the upper portion of the stem and provided with an annular series of ratchet-teeth alined with the slots in opposite sides of the stem, pawls pivoted in the stem opposite each other and in a position to engage the teeth on the horizontal portion, said pawls having their ends projecting from the slots at opposite sides of the stem, and means to hold the pawls normally engaged with the teeth, substantially as set forth.

MORGAN H. VANEVERA.

Witnesses:

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A. H. BELLINGER.