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Patented Aug. 1, 1899.

R. M. CLARK.

FUSEE FOR RAILROAD OR OTHER USES.

(Application filed July 10, 1898.)

(No Model.)

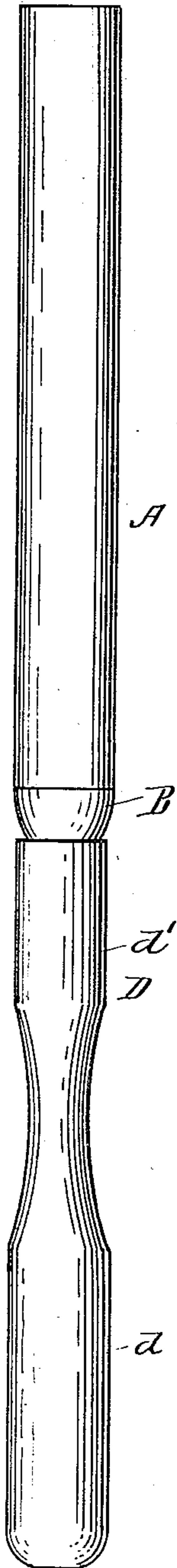


FIG. 1.

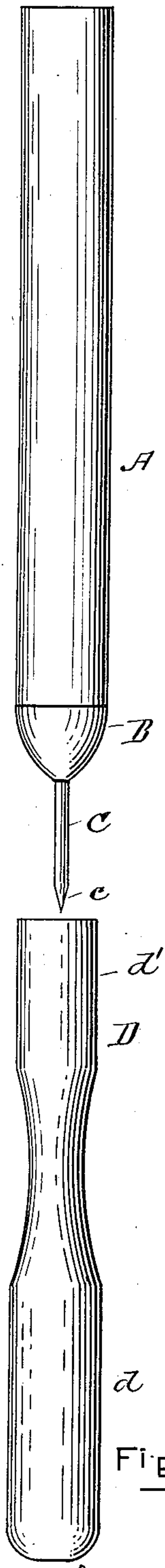


FIG. 2.

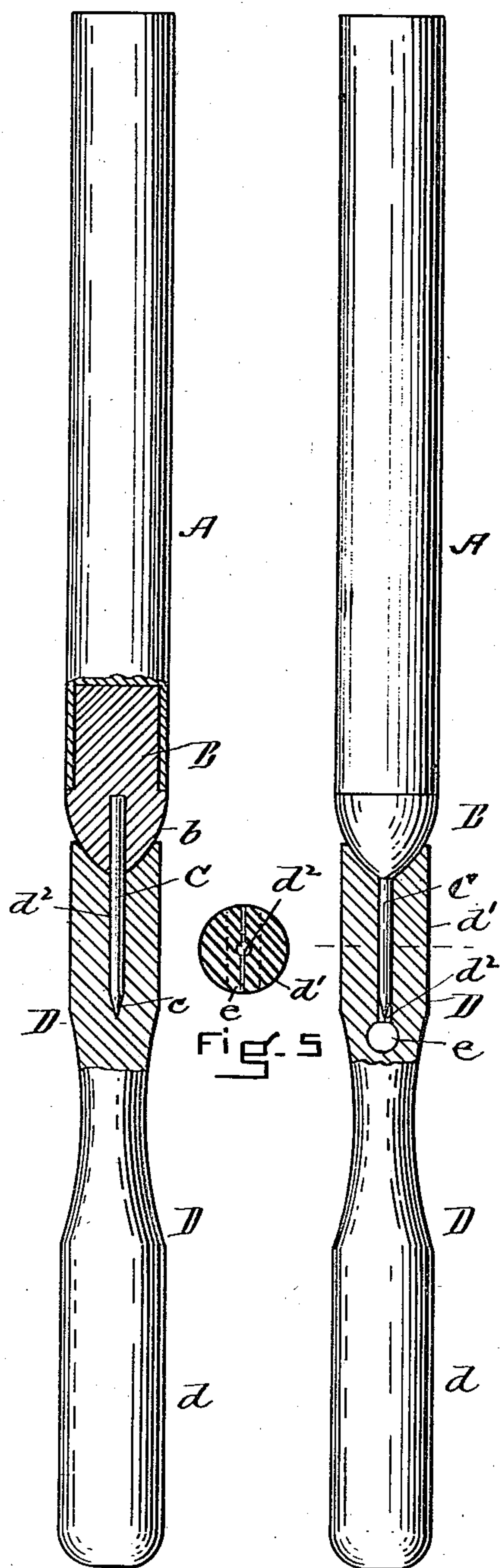


FIG. 3.

FIG. 4.

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## FUSEE FOR RAILROAD OR OTHER USES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 630,035, dated August 1, 1899.

Application filed July 10, 1896. Serial No. 598,624. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Newton, in the county of Middlesex and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fusees for Railroad or other Uses, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in explaining its nature.

Fusees for railroad and similar uses have generally consisted of a case containing illuminating ingredients or powder and a block inserted in its lower end carrying a metal spike, by which it may be attached to a sleeper or other support or stuck into the earth. It is often desirable, however, that the fusee be held by hand instead of being so attached or supported, and there is absent from it any means by which this may readily be done, the spike not affording any help in this direction, but rather being in the way, and also from the fact that as it is always uncovered it is to some extent a source of danger.

My invention consists in providing fusees of this character with a removable handle, which shall also act as a shield for the spike and from which the fusee and attached spike may be readily detached.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in elevation of my improvement. Fig. 2 is also a view in elevation, representing the handle as detached from the fusee. Fig. 3 is a view partly in elevation and partly in section, illustrating the section between the handle and the fusee. Fig. 4 is a view showing a slight modification in the construction of the handle, to which reference is hereinafter made. Fig. 5 is a view in section upon the dotted line of Fig. 4.

A represents a fusee-case. B is the wooden block at its lower end, and C is the metal spike, held by the wooden block and the point *c* of which is sharpened.

D is the removable handle and spike-protector. It has the handle-section *d*, and its upper end *d'* is shaped to receive the outer end *b* of the spike-holding block B. The said outer end may be the converse in shape of the end of the wooden block and may be large

enough to receive a small or any desired section thereof. There is also in the handle a hole *d*<sup>2</sup>, which extends inward from the end of the handle or from the recess therein, and which is as long or slightly longer than the exposed part of the spike C, and which is slightly smaller in diameter than the diameter of the spike in order that the spike may fit the hole with some degree of tightness, and thereby secure the fusee to the handle.

In Fig. 4 I have represented the end of the handle as slotted from its outer end to the hole *e*, and the spike-hole *d*<sup>2</sup> is made somewhat less in diameter than it otherwise would be, the insertion of the spike into the hole then causing the two parts to be slightly separated sufficient to exert a friction thereon. This provides a handle with a means for receiving spikes, which may vary somewhat in diameter, and also with a frictional holding capacity somewhat more reliable and greater than that obtained by a hole alone. The end of the handle may not be socketed to receive the end of the wooden block, although I prefer that it be so shaped.

To use the invention, the spike of the fusee is inserted into the hole *d*<sup>2</sup> and the fusee and handle then moved together until the wooden block at the end of the fusee comes into contact with the end of the handle. The fusee and the handle will then be united with sufficient friction to hold the fusee to the handle, while at the same time the fusee may be readily detached from the handle in order to expose the spike and permit its use in attaching the fusee to a fixed support. It will be seen, further, that the handle has at its end a cavity for receiving the rounded end of the fusee and that this removes the jaws of the holder from the strain of the spike, as the rounded end of the fusee is well seated in the said cavity.

It will be understood that these fusees are quite heavy and that the support for the same must be substantial. It will also be seen that the handle acts to protect and cover the spike when it is not used as a handle and in this way preserves it from being accidentally bent, so that the spike is always in a condition to attach the fusee to a sleeper or other support.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States—

1. The combination of a fusee for railroad  
5 and other uses having a rounded lower end and a metal spike held by said end and projecting therefrom, with a removable combined cover for said end and spike and handle having a long handle portion and at one end the cover  
10 and jaw comprising a cavity in the end for the reception of the rounded end of the fusee, and a spike-receiving hole extending from the inner end of said cavity, all as and for the purposes set forth.

2. A combined cover and handle for a rail- 15 road or similar fusee having a rounded end and a spike, made of wood, fashioned to provide a grasping-section for the hand and having one end provided with a cavity for receiving and holding the rounded end of the fusee, 20 and a spike-receiving hole extending from said cavity of smaller size than the size of the spike, and slits extending from said hole to the outer side of the handle.

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Witnesses:

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