

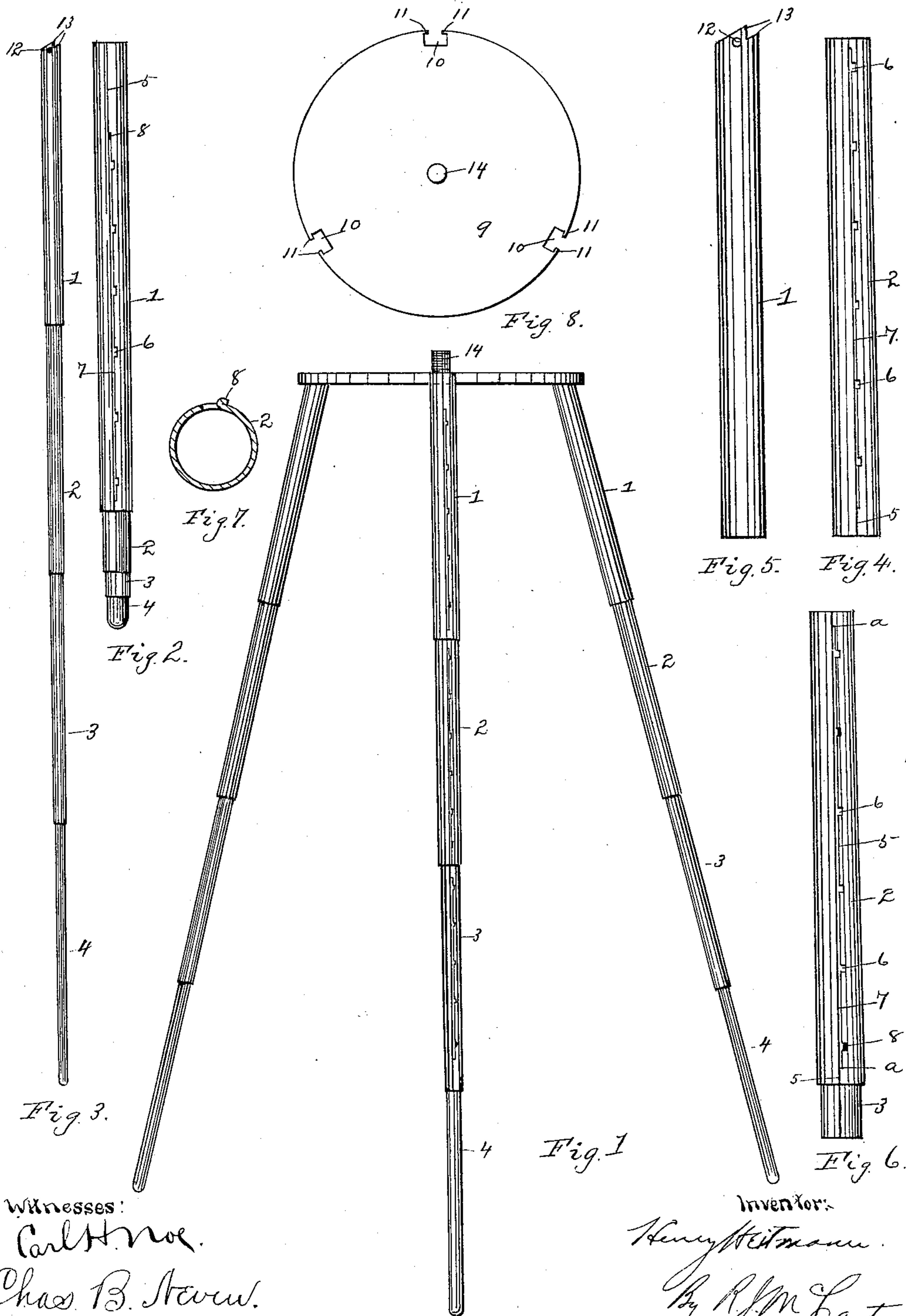
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H. HEITMANN.
TRIPOD.

(Application filed Feb. 23, 1899.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses:
Carl H. Roe.
Chas. B. Stearns.

Inventor:
Henry Heitmann.
By R. M. Larty,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY HEITMANN, OF MIAMISBURG, OHIO.

TRIPOD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 633,284, dated September 19, 1899.

Application filed February 23, 1899. Serial No. 706,475. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY HEITMANN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Miamisburg, in the county of Montgomery and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Tripods; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which 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 figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in photographers' tripods; and the object thereof is to provide a tripod that is very light and may be conveniently carried about the person and at the same time is very strong and durable.

The parts comprising the tripod are devoid of clamps or screws and may be easily connected and disconnected.

A further object of the invention is to provide a tripod having the above advantages that may be made and sold at a minimum cost.

In a detailed description of my invention reference is made to the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved tripod. Fig. 2 is an enlarged view of one of the telescopic legs. Fig. 3 is a view of one of the legs extended. Fig. 4 is a view of one of the upper telescopic sections. Fig. 5 is a view of one of the uppermost sections. Fig. 6 is a view of two sections, one of which has the button or projection and the other the engaging notches. Fig. 7 is an end view of one of the sections having the button or projection. Fig. 8 is a plan view of the table or head.

In the following specification similar reference characters indicate corresponding parts.

The legs are in several sections each, and consist of telescopic tubes 1, 2, 3, and 4, made of cold-drawn steel tubing, one tube fitting and sliding within the other. The legs made in this manner are very light and combine a proper amount of strength, so that they can be carried without in the least being burdensome. Each of the said tubular sections has a longitudinal slit 5 on one side and a series of notches 6 extending into the metal on one side of said slit. 7 designates a deeper cut

in the edge of the metal, extending from where the slit 5 terminates at *a a*, Fig. 6, and providing space for the buttons 8 to move in when adjusting the legs. The said buttons or projections 8 are formed on the upper portion of said tubes, with the exception of the uppermost tubes, and are made by cutting a tongue in one of the slitted edges and bending it over, as shown in Fig. 7. The said buttons or projections move in the slot of each upper adjacent tube when lengthening or shortening the legs, and the said buttons may be interlocked with the notches 6 by turning the sections having the notches until the buttons enter said notches. The tubes interlocked in this manner are prevented from slipping up or downward and are held securely at any desired position.

9 designates a table or head, which consists of a metal disk or plate having three openings 10 in its edge, into which the uppermost sections 1 of the legs are placed. When the said openings are formed, there are provided at the entrances thereof two inwardly-projected prongs 11, which narrow the said entrances, as shown. The said prongs project in about one-sixteenth of an inch each. The uppermost sections 1 of the telescopic legs have openings 12 on each side in line with each other, and a portion of said upper sections is cut out to provide shoulders 13, which fit against the under side of the table and against the edge within the openings 10 when the said sections are connected to said table. This connection is effected by contracting or pressing the upper ends of the sections together sufficiently to allow said ends to enter the openings 10 far enough to permit the prongs 11 to enter the openings 12 in said sections. In this position the ends of the legs thus compressed are allowed to expand and the legs become securely held by the prongs 11. The shoulders 13 fit against the under side and edge of the table. The legs connected in the manner described are allowed to spread out as may be desired, but after they are drawn toward each other and strike a certain angle they are held in position firmly with the lower shoulder 13 against the lower side of the table. In the center of the table there is a metal screw 14, to which the camera may be secured.

A tripod constructed in accordance with the foregoing description is very light and when set up is very rigid and strong. The construction is totally devoid of any clamps or screws and is therefore easily adjusted and put into position. Each leg may be drawn out or pushed in to the desired length, thus enabling artists to place the tripod partly on the sidewalk and partly in the gutter, or on a hillside it can be made to stand straight and the table occupy a level position by an easy adjustment.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. In a tripod, the combination with a table, of legs consisting of telescopic sections each of the top sections having a pivotal connection with the table, and all of the upper sections being provided with slots and notches, a button or projection on the upper portions of each of the sections below the top sections adapted to engage with the notches on each

adjacent upper section, and shoulders on the top section adapted to engage with the table to limit the swinging movement of the legs.

2. A tripod, comprising a table, telescopic legs, the top section of said legs having a pivotal connection with the table, the top and adjacent sections being provided with longitudinal slots with notches extending therefrom, buttons or projections on the upper portions of the sections below the top sections adapted to engage with the notches in the upper adjacent sections to lock said sections in position.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY HEITMANN.

Witnesses:

R. J. McCARTY,
W. B. NEVIN.