

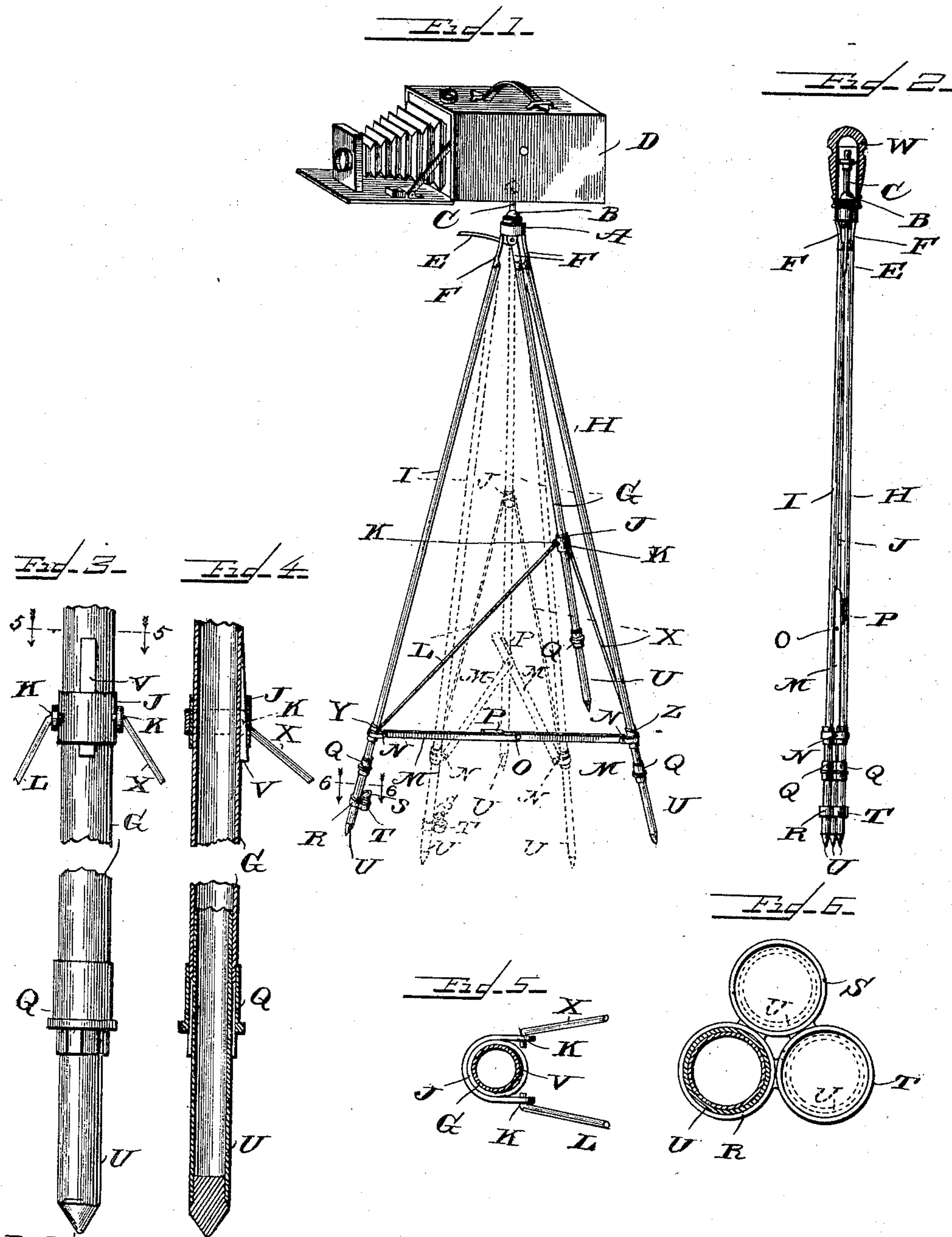
No. 697,147.

Patented Apr. 8, 1902.

C. W. HOWARD.  
TRIPOD OR STAND.

(Application filed Aug. 9, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES.

J. H. Glendinning

G. A. Pauberschmitt

INVENTOR

Clarence W. Howard

By Cyrus W. Rice.

Att.



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE W. HOWARD, OF KIRKWOOD, ILLINOIS.

## TRIPOD OR STAND.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 697,147, dated April 8, 1902.

Application filed August 9, 1901. Serial No. 71,453. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CLARENCE W. HOWARD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kirkwood, in the county of Warren and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Tripod or Stand, of which the following is a clear, full, and exact description.

My invention relates to tripods or stands adapted to serve as supports for photographic cameras, surveying instruments, and other apparatus, and has for its object to provide a simple construction by which the tripod-legs when spread may be securely braced and when folded may be securely fastened together. The mechanism in which I embody my invention and by which I accomplish these purposes will be hereinafter fully described and the features of novelty pointed out in the claims.

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 views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my tripod supporting a photographic camera, the dotted lines showing the tripod-legs partly closed together. Fig. 2 is an elevation of my tripod, showing the legs folded together, the camera being removed and a cap or handle placed on the head of the tripod. Fig. 3 is a detail of part of the tripod-leg G, showing the connection of the leg-bracing device therewith. Fig. 4 is a longitudinal section of part of the tripod-leg G, showing the wedge V, which binds the loose sleeve J tightly on the leg. Fig. 5 is a cross-section of the leg G, taken on line 5 5 of Fig. 3. Fig. 6 is a cross-section of the leg I, taken on line 6 6 of Fig. 1.

In my tripod the legs G, H, and I are preferably made of round metal tubing and preferably attached to the tripod-head A by spring members F. The head A has, preferably, the ordinary socket and ball B, carrying the shank C, to which the camera D is attached in the ordinary manner. The head may also be furnished with a cap or handle W to be attached to the head when the tripod is not in use, as shown in Fig. 2, preferably by being screwed on the head A. The legs G, H, and I are hollow and contain extension legs or rods U, which may be drawn out or in and are preferably held in place by loose sleeves Q, which when slid down on the legs compress the split

lower ends thereof tightly on the extension-rods.

My improved spreading-brace for the legs consists of a loose sleeve J on one of the legs G, to which sleeve are pivoted at K K the rods or arms L and X. The arm L is pivoted at its other end to the leg I at Y, and the arm X is pivoted at its other end to the leg H at Z. The arm M is pivoted at either end to the legs H and I, respectively, at N and N and is jointed in the middle by the hinge O, so that when the legs H and I are folded together the hinge is bent upward and when these two legs are spread apart the arm M is normally straight and level, the stop P preventing the hinge O from descending lower than the pivots N. When the leg G is folded toward the other legs, the sleeve J slides upward, and when the legs are spread this sleeve descends until it is stopped by a suitable stop on the leg G, preferably formed in the shape of the wedge V, which binds the sleeve tightly in position.

One of the extension-rods U has attached thereto and near its lower end a binding device R for securely holding the legs together when the tripod is folded, having the rings S and T, each ring adapted to tightly hold the lower end of one of the extension-rods of the other legs. When the legs are folded together, the extension-rods U in the legs G and H are pushed in and the extension-rod carrying the device R is drawn out of leg I sufficiently to throw the device R farther from the head A than the ends of the extension-rods in legs G and H. Then the extension-rod U being pushed in the leg I the rings S and T pass over and around the lower ends of the extension-rods of the other legs G and H, and thus all the legs are tightly held together.

I have given the preferred form of construction of my invention; but it will be understood that I do not confine myself to such specific construction above detailed, and shown in the drawings, but reserve the right to use any suitable construction to carry out my invention, particularly pointed out in the claims.

I claim—

1. A tripod or stand consisting of a head, legs, and a device for bracing the legs when spread which consists of a rod or arm pivoted



at one end to one of the legs and provided at its other end with a ring or sleeve loosely encircling one of the other legs and adapted to slide up and down thereon.

5 2. A tripod or stand consisting of a head, legs, and a device for bracing the legs when spread, which comprises a loose sleeve adapted to slide up and down on one of the legs, and a rod or arm pivoted at one end to said  
10 sleeve and at its other end to one of the other legs.

3. A tripod or stand consisting of a head, legs, and a device for bracing the legs when spread, which comprises a loose sleeve adapted to slide up and down on one of the legs,  
15 and rods or arms each pivoted at one end to the sleeve, one of the rods or arms pivoted at its other end to a second leg of the tripod, and the other arm or rod pivoted at its other  
20 end to the third leg of the tripod.

4. A tripod or stand consisting of a head, legs, and a device for bracing the legs when spread, which comprises a loose sleeve adapted to slide up and down on one of the legs,  
25 and rods or arms each pivoted at one end to the sleeve, one of the arms or rods pivoted at

its other end to a second leg of the tripod and the other arm or rod pivoted at its other end to the third leg of the tripod, and also a rod or arm pivoted at each end to the second  
30 and third legs of the tripod, and having a hinge in its middle.

5. A tripod or stand comprising a head; legs G, H, I; the leg I having the extension rod or member U telescoped in said leg I and  
35 slidable longitudinally therein; and on said extension-rod near its lower end a member comprising the rings S and T, said rings adapted to tightly inclose or enclasp the lower  
40 ends of the other legs G, H, when the legs are folded together and said extension-rod is pushed in, and adapted to release said legs G, H, when said extension-rod is drawn outward, substantially as and for the purpose  
45 described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

CLARENCE W. HOWARD.

Witnesses:

R. W. HOUSTON,  
R. D. TINKHAM.