

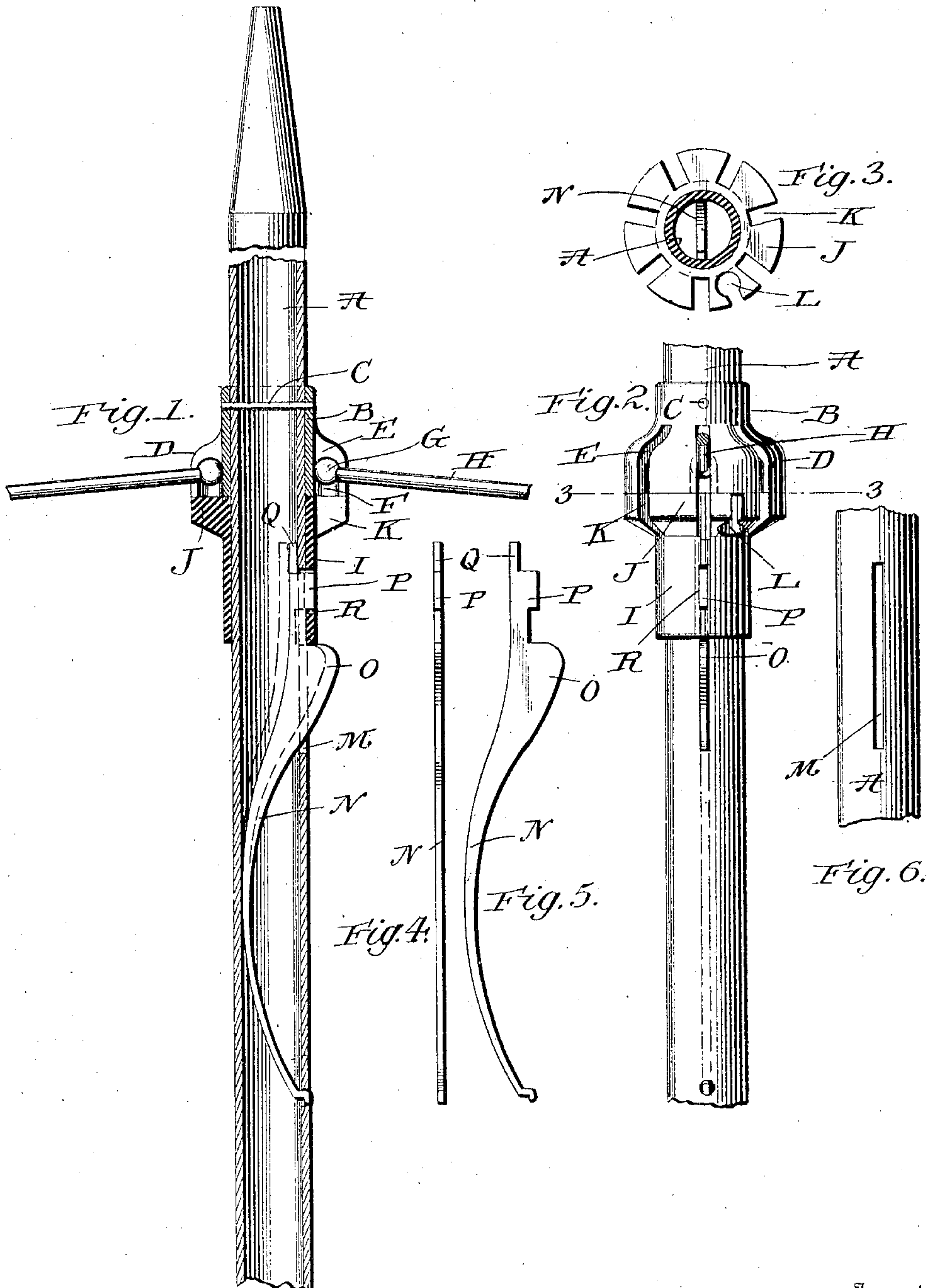
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W. E. MOULTON.

UMBRELLA.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WALTER E. MOULTON, OF PLAIN CITY, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THE MOULTON WIRELESS UMBRELLA COMPANY, OF PLAIN CITY, OHIO, A CORPORATION OF OHIO.

UMBRELLA.

No. 843,477.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WALTER E. MOULTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Plain City, in the county of Madison and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Umbrellas, of which the following is a specification.

My present invention pertains to top notches for umbrellas, the construction and advantages of which will be hereinafter set forth, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient top notch into which the ribs may be readily introduced and as readily withdrawn one at a time or simultaneously, as may be desired.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal sectional view of the upper portion of the staff and the top notch secured thereto; Fig. 2, a side elevation of the same; Fig. 3, a transverse sectional view taken on the line 3-3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, an edge view of the spring employed to hold the removable member of the notch in place; Fig. 5, a side elevation of the spring; and Fig. 6, a side elevation of a portion of the staff, showing the slot through which the upper portion of the retaining-spring protrudes.

Referring to the drawings, A denotes the staff formed as a hollow metallic tube, as is now usual in umbrella construction. Secured to the staff is the upper fixed member of the notch, comprising a tubular or cylindrical portion B, through which the rivet or securing-pin C is passed, and an enlarged body portion D, provided with a series of equally-spaced slots E. Sockets F for the reception of the heads G of the ribs H are formed in the body portion by drilling from the lower side thereof directly in line with the slots.

A sleeve I is mounted upon the staff below the fixed member, said sleeve being provided at its upper end with an outwardly-projecting flange or body portion J, having a series of radially-disposed slots K formed therein, said slots being the same in number as the slots in the upper or fixed member. The flanged portion J is also formed or provided with a notch or recess L, Figs. 2 and 3, which when the tubular member is rotated comes into alinement with one of the ribs and permits the same to be withdrawn without dis-

engaging or permitting the other ribs to move from their sockets.

The staff is provided with an elongated slot M, and a spring N, having a thumb-piece O, a locking projection P, and an upwardly-extending finger Q, is mounted within the staff. The lower end of the spring is riveted or secured in place at a point somewhat below the slot M, so that the thumb-piece O and projection P will normally extend through the slot M, the projection P entering a slot R, formed in the sleeve I, when the sleeve or removable member of the top notch is raised to the full extent and the opening therein brought in line with said projection P.

It will be noted upon reference to Figs. 1 and 5 that the thumb-piece O extends outwardly beyond the projection P to quite a distance. This enables the operator to depress the spring so as to withdraw the projection P from the slot R without difficulty, and at the same time the upper face of the thumb-piece will retain the sleeve from endwise movement and permit the same to be rotated about the staff in order to bring the recess L into alinement with any one of the rib-heads.

If it be desired to move the sleeve I endwise, this may be done by depressing the spring, so that the sleeve will ride over the thumb-piece, when, of course, any or all of the ribs may be removed. It is usually desirable, however, to remove only one rib at a time.

The upwardly-projecting finger Q bears against the inner face of the staff, as will be seen upon reference to Fig. 1, and serves to stiffen the spring and prevent it from buckling, and thereby withdrawing the projection P from the slot or recess R.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In combination with an umbrella-staff; a member fixed thereto, said member being provided with a series of radially-disposed slots, and a series of sockets formed in the under face of said member in line with the slots; a slotted retaining member mounted on the staff below the fixed member, said retaining member being formed with an opening in its side wall; and a retaining-spring mounted within the staff, said spring having a locking projection in line with the opening and likewise provided with a thumb-piece

which extends outwardly beyond the retaining member and locking projection, whereby the spring may be moved inward by pressure on the thumb-piece and the retaining member released so as to permit rotary movement thereof.

2. In combination with an umbrella-staff; a member fixed thereto, said member being provided with a series of radially-disposed slots, and a series of sockets in its under face in line with the slots; a retaining member slidably mounted upon the staff below the fixed member, said retaining member being formed with a series of radial slots and with an opening for withdrawal of a rib end; and

a spring located within the staff, said spring being formed with a locking projection adapted to enter a slot in the retaining member, and with a second projection or finger-piece which projects beyond the lower end of the retainer, whereby the retaining member may be freed so that it may be rotated while held against longitudinal movement.

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

WALTER E. MOULTON.

Witnesses:

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