

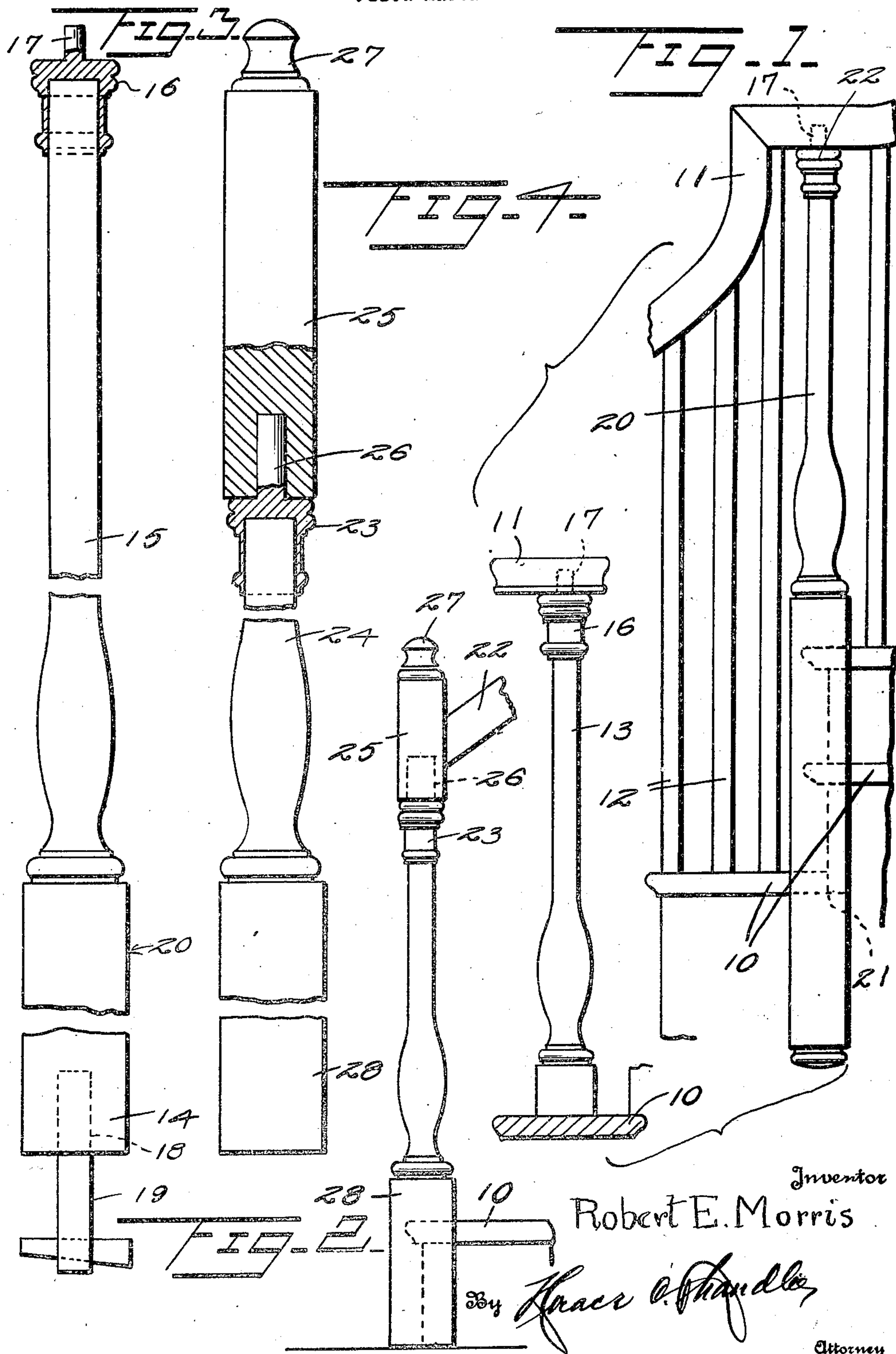
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NEWEL POST

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NEWEL POST.

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This invention relates to new and useful improvements in stairs, and particularly to railings or balustrades therefor.

Balustrades as now generally used, are designed for the particular stairway, and it is necessary to design a special form of newel post for the lower end of the stairway, and also for the landings. Sometimes, in fitting these newels in place, it is necessary to cut off end portions, which destroy the symmetry, and render it difficult to fit them in their proper places.

It is therefore the principal object of the present invention to provide a newel post, which is so formed that the stair builder can easily fit such post in any portion of the stairway where it is required.

Another object is to provide a newel post which is formed in sections which permits the post to be placed at the bottom of the stairway, at landings, or to be placed beneath the hand-rail of the balustrade by merely cutting off a portion of one of the sections, and then fitting the top portions and caps thereon, without destroying the contour of the post.

Other objects and advantages will be apparent from the following description when taken in connection with the accompanying drawing.

In the drawing:

Figure 1 is a side elevation of a portion of a stairway showing the use of the newel beneath the hand-rail.

Figure 2 is a side elevation of a portion of a stairway showing the newels projecting above the hand-rail.

Figure 3 is an enlarged vertical sectional detail view of the lower newel of the stairway of Figure 1.

Figure 4 is an enlarged vertical sectional view of one of the newels of the stairway of Figure 2.

Referring to the accompanying drawing, and particularly to Figures 1 and 3, 10 represents the series of steps of the stairway, while 11 represents the hand-rail and 12 the balusters. The newels are represented, as a whole, by the numeral 13.

Upon particular reference to the sectional view, Figure 3, it will be seen that the newel post comprises a rectangular base portion 14, from the upper end of which extends the ornamental spindle portion 15. Fitted on the upper end of the portion 15 is an ornamental

cap member 16, the upper end of which is provided with a projecting dowel 17, for entrance in an opening formed in the lower face of the hand-rail 11. The lower end of the base portion 14 is also formed with an opening 18, in which is placed a dowel 19, for entrance in a suitable opening which the stair builder forms in the bottom step of the stairway. The newel post, shown at 20, in Figure 1, is arranged on a platform, in the stairway, or on the floor above. This newel 20 has a much longer base portion than the newel on the bottom step of the stairway, and this is properly cut to fit the side of the stairway, as shown at 21. The upper end of the newel 20 is also provided with a cap 22, which properly fits beneath the hand-rail 11. It will be noted that the spindle portion 15 is of uniform diameter throughout the greater portion of its length, such portion being preferably at the upper end so that should it become necessary to cut off a portion of this end, to render the newel of the proper length to fit between the stair tread and the hand-rail, the cap 16 will properly fit thereon.

When it is desired to use the newel in connection with a hand-rail, such as shown at 22, in Figure 2, wherein said newel extends above the rail, the stair builder fits a cap 23 on the upper end of the spindle portion 24, after such spindle has been cut off at its upper end to the desired degree, and then attaches a short rectangular section 25 to the upper end of the cap. This connection between the cap 23 and the section 25 is made by providing the upper end of the cap with a dowel 26, which enters an opening in the lower end of the section 25. The upper end of the section 25 may have any desired ornamental device, such as the knob 27, which is formed integrally with such section. The base section 28, of this newel is cut to fit the side of the stairway, as in the other form, in view of the fact that the steps and landings are similarly constructed. The lower end of the base section 28 may be fitted in the lower step tread, as shown in Figure 2, or may rest on such tread, as shown in Figure 1.

It will also be understood that the spindle portions of the newels may be cut off to any degree desired, and rectangular sections attached to their upper ends may be of any desired length, commensurate with the proportions and designs of the balustrade and stairway, in connection with which it is used.

While I have shown the invention as practiced in connection with newel posts, it will be understood that the balusters may be similarly formed, but of smaller dimensions, than the newels.

From the foregoing it will be readily understood that the stair builder carries a large number of newels of stock sizes, and then cuts and assembles the different sections according to the type of stairway or hand-rail with which they are to be used, the only operation necessary to fit a newel being to cut off the spindle to the required distance, so that the cap, and upper rectangular section may be fitted thereon, for seating within the balustrade. By forming the spindle portion of the newel of uniform diameter for a considerable portion of its length, permits the easy and quick fitting of the newel in the balustrade.

It will be further noted that the device is convertible from a starting newel to a landing newel. In the use as a starting newel the upper section 25 is employed, while in the use of the post as a landing newel, the dowel of the cap 23 fits within an opening in the lower face of the hand-rail of the balustrade.

What is claimed is:

1. A convertible landing and starting newel post, comprising a body having a base

portion and a spindle portion rising from the base portion, a cap removably engaged on the upper end of the spindle portion and having a dowel extending upwardly from its upper end for engagement in an opening in the lower face of the hand-rail of a balustrade, and an upper newel post section having a socket in its lower end for the reception of said dowel, whereby the post serves as a landing newel when engaged with a hand rail and as a starting newel when carrying said section.

2. A convertible starting and landing newel post comprising a body including a base portion and a spindle portion formed integrally therewith and rising therefrom, said spindle portion being normally of a predetermined length and of uniform diameter throughout the greater portion of its length, said spindle portion being capable of reduction in length to adapt the newel to different stairway conditions, a cap adapted to be fitted on the upper end of the said spindle portion and having a dowel for engagement within an opening of the hand-rail of a balustrade when used as a landing newel, and an additional balustrade section having a socket in its lower end for reception of said dowel when the post is used as a starting newel.

In testimony whereof, I affix my signature

ROBERT E. MORRIS.