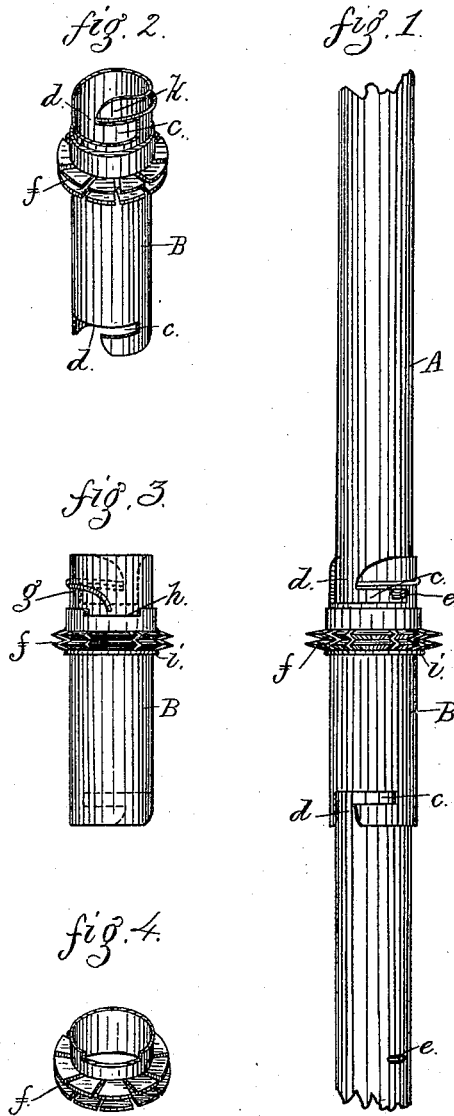


J. M. BURKERT.  
Umbrella-Runner.

No. 169,084.

Patented Oct. 26, 1875.



Witnesses

Geo. T. Smallwood Jr.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. BURKERT, OF SAVANNAH, GEORGIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN UMBRELLA-RUNNERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,084**, dated October 26, 1875; application filed August 28, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN M. BURKERT, of Savannah, county of Chatham, State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Umbrella or Parasol Runners; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practice it.

Figure 1 illustrates my invention applied to an umbrella-stick; Fig. 2, a perspective of the runner detached; Fig. 3, an elevation showing its opposite side, and Fig. 4 the crown-piece detached.

A represents the stick of an umbrella, and B my improved sleeve or runner applied thereto. This runner has not the usual longitudinal slit therein, as I use no wire spring in my stick requiring such a slit; but it has, near both its upper and lower ends, a horizontal slot or slit, *c*, opening out into a mouth or entrance slot or slit, *d*. These slits, which are in the nature of bayonet-joints, are intended to engage, respectively, with the pins *e*, driven into the stick or stock of the umbrella, there being, as will now be seen, no necessity for weakening the stick by cutting any grooves or slits therein for springs, as no springs are used or needed. The grooved crown-piece *f*, to which the stretchers of the umbrella are connected, is not, as in ordinary umbrellas, secured rigidly to the runner; but, on the contrary, it surrounds it loosely, so that either may be turned around a short distance relatively to each other, in order to permit the locking or unlocking of the sleeve or runner upon the pins *e*. A pin or stop, *g*, on the runner, entering a short notch or rabbet, *h*, on the edge of the crown-piece, properly limits the extent of this turning motion, and a rib, *i*, or a pin or pins on the opposite edge of the crown-piece, prevents its slipping out of place on the runner.

When the umbrella is open, and it is desired to close it, the turning of the handle to release the joint will be sure to let the runner fall at once, as there is nothing to obstruct its sliding freely down the stick. This is of itself a great improvement over the old con-

struction, as it entirely gets rid of the frequent catching of the spring against the runner, preventing the closing of the umbrella until after repeated efforts and the taxing of one's patience.

My device is simple, cheap, durable, and unusually efficient, and it effects much saving in wear and in cost of repairs.

The bayonet slot or joint in the runner may vary in form from that shown in the drawings, so long as it effects the desired purpose of holding the parts to their opened or closed position, and that portion of the metal which is marked *k* may, if desired, be strengthened or re-enforced.

The stop *g* is a portion of the same strip or wire which is extended and brazed or secured to the interior of the tongue of the upper bayonet-joint, to re-enforce and strengthen it, and this strip thus serves the double purpose of a stop and of a strengthener, and at the same time avoids the defective practice of inserting a pin in a weak hole in the thin metal of the runner, and which is readily forced out by any undue demand upon it.

I do not claim a runner or slide composed of an inner and outer case, the one sliding on the other, and through the notch-ring of which a stud for interlocking with a bayonet-joint must first pass, and in which a pin on the inner case projects through a slot in the outer case, to limit the rotation; nor do I claim a loose ring recessed in the body of the runner, and located beneath the strengthener-ring, the latter being secured to the runner at its top, and the runner having no bayonet-joints; nor do I claim a spring of any sort in connection with the runner, as I am aware that such constructions have been heretofore made or devised.

I am also aware that umbrella-runners have been made having bayonet-slots to engage with studs on the stick, and having the notch-ring placed loosely to rotate thereon and below the upper bayonet-joint, obviating the necessity of having the stud pass through the notch-ring; but

What I do claim is as follows:

1. The runner B, having bayonet-slots *d* *c* and stop *g*, and provided with the revolving

crown-piece *f*, having a rabbet, *h*, all combined and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The described runner-tube, having its upper bayonet-notch re-enforced by a strip or wire brazed or secured to its outer surface, such strip or wire having one of its ends extending downward, as shown and described,

and serving, also, as a positive stop to limit the rotary movement of the runner within the crown-piece or stretcher-ring.

JOHN M. BURKERT.

Witnesses:

DE LACY CHANDLER,  
JULIUS KAUFMANN.