

G. L. RIDSDALE.
Artificial Limb.

No. 197,741.

Patented Dec. 4, 1877.

Fig 1.

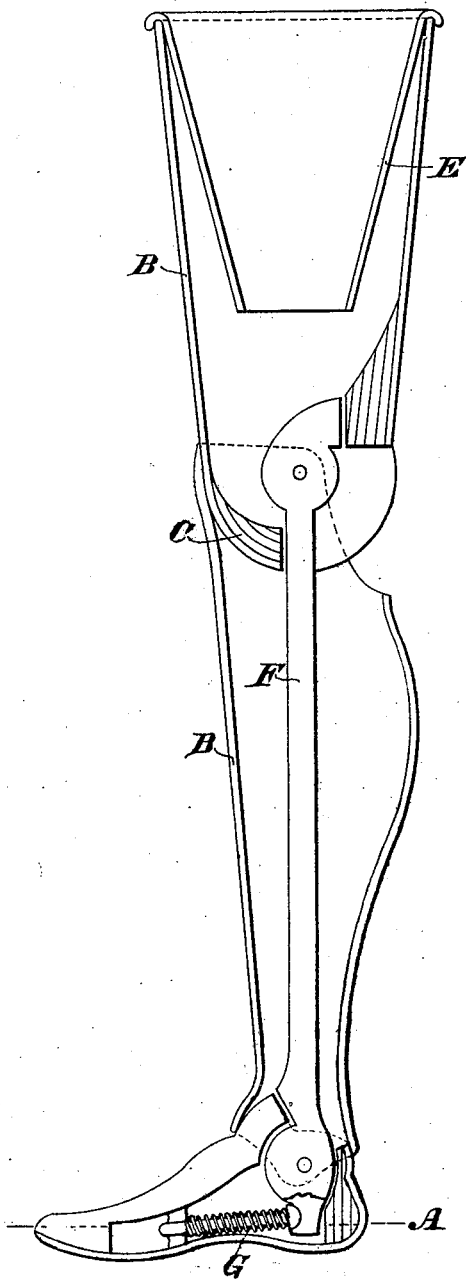


Fig 2.

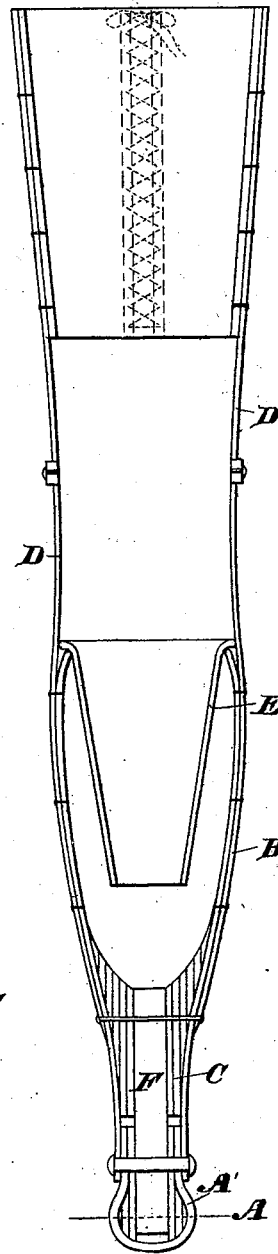


Fig 4.

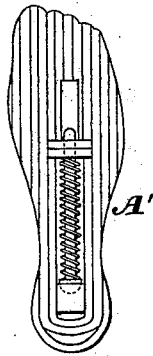
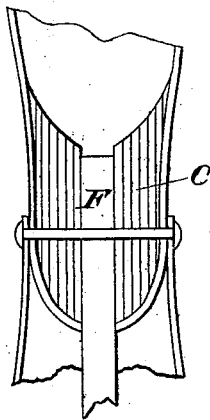


Fig 3.



WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE L. RIDSDALE, OF MARINETTE, WISCONSIN.

IMPROVEMENT IN ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **197,741**, dated December 4, 1877; application filed July 20, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE L. RIDSDALE, of the town of Marinette, county of Oconto, State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Construction or Manufacture of Artificial Limbs, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

The object of my invention is to manufacture the feet of artificial limbs at less expense and in a more durable, convenient, and elastic form, by the use of thick leather, commonly called sole-leather, in their construction.

Figure 1 is a full-length section of artificial leg, as used in thigh amputations. Fig. 2 shows front section of knee-joint in same. Fig. 3 shows section of leg as used in amputations below the knee; and Fig. 4 shows section of foot at line A A, Figs. 1 and 3.

The foot portion is made solid (with the exception of an opening left to receive a spring) by pegging, fastening, or sewing pieces of sole-leather together on edge lengthwise of the foot, as shown in Fig. 4, and at A A in Figs. 1 and 2, and then covering with this leather.

The other portions of the leg are also made of sole-leather, shaped upon lasts or blocks, and sewed strongly together in any convenient way, form, or manner to suit circumstances, as shown at B B B in Figs. 1 and 3.

The parts C C C, in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, are made solid by securing together several layers or strips of sole-leather to form a joint, and for strength to receive rivets or bolts, &c.

D D, in Fig. 3, are steel joints, commonly used in all cases of amputation below the knee.

E E are sockets, (made to fit stump of leg,) which being also of leather, can at any time be made smaller, to accommodate the shrinkage of the stump, thus overcoming one great objection to limbs made of other material.

I do not claim the piece of wood F F F in Figs. 1, 2, and 3, or the spring G, as shown in Fig. 1, or the method of combining them, nor do I claim broadly making an artificial limb of leather, for I am aware that is not new; but

What I claim as my improvement in the construction of artificial limbs of leather, is—

An improved foot for artificial limbs, composed of the united strips of sole-leather A, covered in the usual way with a thin leather cover, A', substantially as described.

GEORGE L. RIDSDALE.

Witnesses:

AMOS HOLGATE,
H. O. FAIRCHILD.