A. ROLLAND & J. BARADEL.
Umbrella-Runner.

No. 207,898 Patented Sept. 10, 1878.

Fig 1

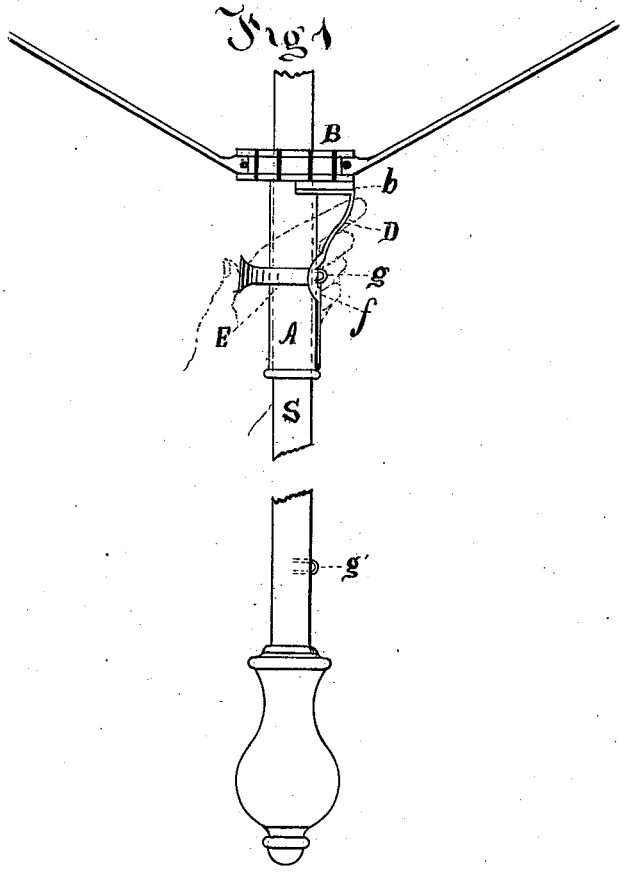



Fig 2

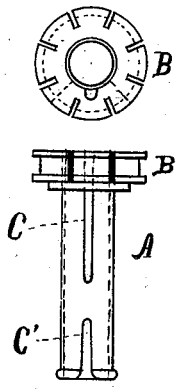
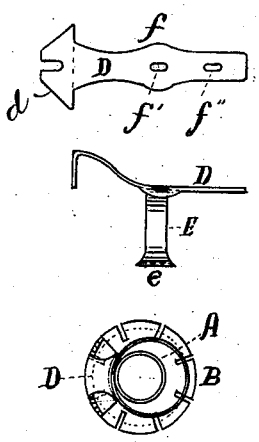



Fig 3

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## IMPROVEMENT IN UMBRELLA-RUNNERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,898**, dated September 10, 1878; application filed February 28, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, AUGUSTUS ROLLAND and JOHN BARADEL, both of the city of Reading, county of Berks, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Parasol and Umbrella Runners.

The improvement is fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a partial elevation of an umbrella-stick, showing the runner thereon and the mode of operating the same. Fig. 2 is an elevation of the runner-tube with the locking-spring removed. Fig. 3 is a front and side elevation and top plan of the spring and thumb-ring, which is fastened to the same.

Similar letters refer to similar parts.

There have been many attempts within the past few years to bring into use for both parasols and umbrellas a runner which would preserve the integrity of the stick by dispensing with the usual springs let into the stick, and upon or by which the runner was secured when in an open or closed position. To obtain this runners have been used upon which were mounted a flute-key or equivalent, with its upper end bent at right angles, which bent end was kept pressed against the stick by a spring under the lower or finger-piece end until in its movement it arrived at the terminating stops, when the bent end dropped into sockets provided for its reception, and thus secured the runner in place; or the same style of key has been used, having its upper end flattened out and provided with a hole, the movement of the runner being controlled by pins projecting from the stick, the upper end of the key being elevated to pass over the stops, when, upon the runner bringing up against them and pressure removed from the key, it drops over the pin, and thus secures the runner in place.

We do not in our invention follow either of these modes, but, using a simple spring with an annular thumb-piece mounted on a runner suitably formed, obtain the desired result, as we think, with the fewest pieces and in the most simple manner.

To enable those skilled in the art to understand and construct runners in accordance with our invention, we shall now more particularly describe the same.

Fig. 1 shows the runner mounted on a stick and in the act of being slid upon it for the purpose of opening or closing.

Fig. 2 shows an elevation of the runner A detached from the stick and the spring D removed, so as to show the formation of the runner. It will be observed that it is partially slotted from each end, and that the rib-ring is notched on a line with the slots C C′. This is done to permit the passage of the ring over the stop *g*, the termination of the slots C C′ in the runner A forming abutments for the stops *g g′*, which limit the motion of the runner A.

Fig. 3 represents a front and side elevation and top plan of the spring D, stamped out of steel in preference to any other metal, the end *d* being bifurcated and the enlargement *f* being made convex or corrugated, to give increased stiffness, the holes *f′ f″* being also punched at the same operation, the bifurcated end *d* being afterward bent at right angles for the purpose of being secured to the re-enforced part of the rib-ring B of the runner A, either with rivets or by soldering, as may be found best. The annular ring E, with its enlarged surface *e*, serves as a thumb-piece to raise the spring D, and is soldered to the spring, as shown. This ring may be of any material capable of being secured to the spring. The stops *g g′* are of the usual description, being a loop of wire driven into the stick.

Having fully described the construction of the various parts, we will now explain the mode of operating it.

The configuration of the spring D is such that, when secured to the runner rib-ring B, the enlarged portion *f* will lie close upon the runner-tube, while the holes *f′ f″* will lie over the slots C C′ in the runner A in such relation to the termination of the slots that when the runner is pressed against the upper stop, *g*, or pulled down against the lower stop, *g′*, the corresponding hole *f′* or *f″* in the spring will, on being released from the pressure of the thumb, fall over the stop *g* or *g′*, and thus secure the runner in either an open or closed position. The umbrella or parasol handle being held in

the right hand, the left hand is placed upon the runner, the forefinger at or upon the rib-ring B, with the thumb upon the enlargement or thumb-piece of the ring E. A slight pressure of the thumb will raise the spring from the stop *g* or *g'*, and, releasing the runner, permit its movement in either direction upon the stick S.

We claim—

1. A runner, A, with a permanent rib-joint ring, B, re-enforced at *b* for a seating for the spring D, when provided with slots C C' for a short distance from each end, the termination of the slots forming abutments against which to lock the stop *g* or *g'* on the umbrella or parasol stick S, the rib-ring B being notched, so as to pass over the stop *g*.

2. The spring D, with the bent bifurcated end *d*, the enlarged convex and corrugated portion *f*, and the holes *f' f''*, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. The annular ring E, with its enlarged surface *e*, when attached to the spring D, for the purpose of raising the same clear of the stops *g* or *g'* by the pressure of the thumb or finger on the ring at *e*, as shown and described.

4. The combination of runner A, spring D, and ring E, when constructed and arranged as shown, and for the purpose described.

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