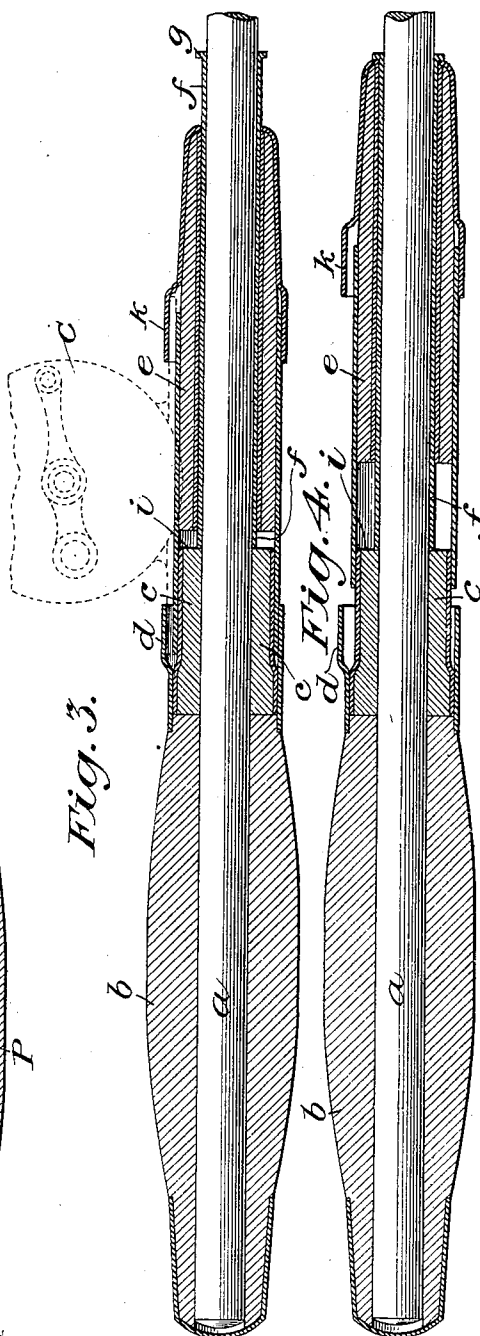
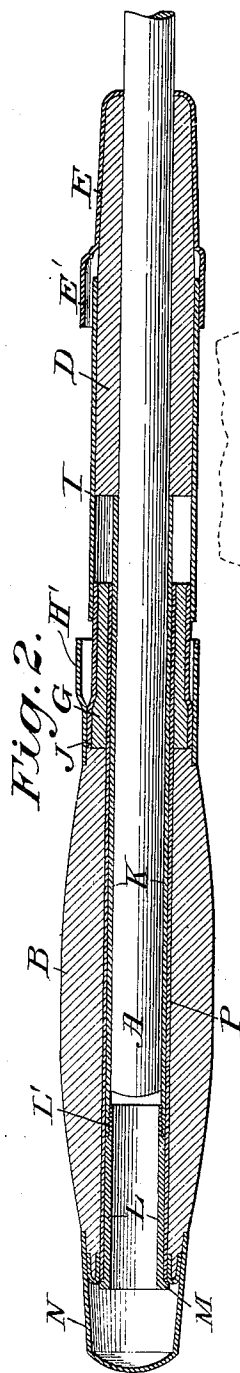
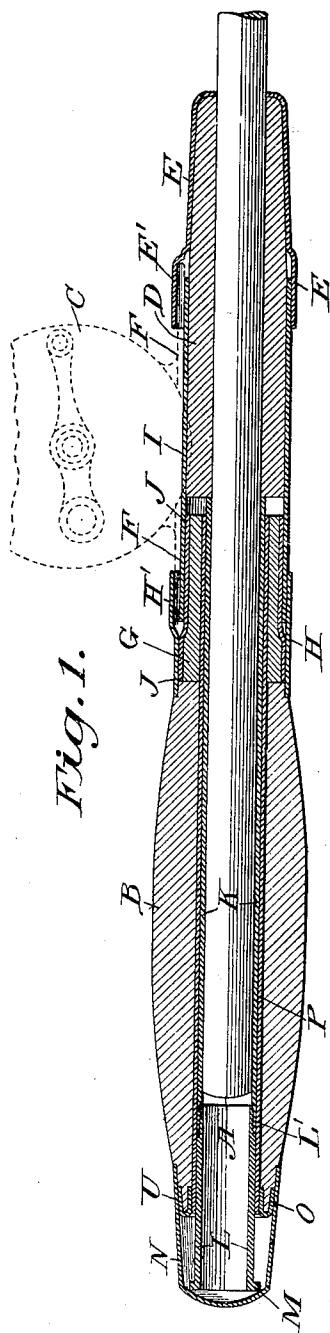


W. SHAKESPEARE, JR.
FISHING ROD.

(Application filed Jan. 13, 1900.)

(No Model.)



Witnesses
C. W. Smith.
Edgar P. Mead.

By *William Shakespeare Jr* Inventor
his Attorney
Phillips Booth

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, JR., OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN.

FISHING-ROD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 651,148, dated June 5, 1900.

Application filed January 13, 1900. Serial No. 1,400. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, Jr., a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Kalamazoo, in the county of Kalamazoo and State of Michigan, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Fishing-Rods, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 illustrates a sectional view of the butt or handle end of a fishing-rod embodying my invention in a form in which the handle is the part that slides for the purpose of clamping the reel, the parts being in the position they assume when the reel is clamped. Fig. 2 is a view similar to Fig. 1, the parts being in their extended position. Fig. 3 illustrates a modified construction in which the section of the butt which is immediately in advance of the handle is the part that slides for the purpose of clamping the reel. Fig. 4 is a view the same as Fig. 3, the parts being in their extended position.

The present invention I use in conjunction with an improved reel recently patented to me. The two when taken together constitute, as I believe, the most convenient, practical, and easily-operated apparatus of the kind known. The present invention, however, is adapted to use with all forms of reel now in use, so far as I am aware, because in them all the base-plate is present whereby the reel may be attached to the rod, the same substantially as that employed by me upon my recently-patented reel.

Prior to this invention reels have ordinarily been attached to the rods by entering one end of the curved base-plate of the reel under a ledge-like or undercut ring or band upon the pole and then by sliding a ring along the pole in such manner as to overlap and confine the other end of the base-plate. This old means of securing the reels is frequently unsatisfactory for a number of reasons, among them the following: The friction between the ring and the pole, which may be occasioned by the presence of grit, corrosion, or by contraction consequent upon cold air, is frequently such that it is very difficult to slide the ring over the base-plate of the reel, because there is no possibility of applying much pressure to the ring, as it is necessarily thin

and has no considerable projection beyond the sides of the rod, so that it requires a very tight grip upon it or the use of an instrument of some sort to slide it. This is particularly the case when the ring is in its position locking the reel in place. It very often happens under these circumstances that it is impossible to slide the ring backwardly for the release of the reel. On the other hand, it sometimes happens that a ring will become so loose that it will fail properly to grip the reel and maintain its proper place.

Under my invention the foregoing objections are overcome in a manner which by actual test has been found very practical and satisfactory.

Referring first to Figs. 1 and 2, A is the lower section of the rod; B, the hand-grip or handle, usually made of cork or equivalent material. C is the reel. (Shown in dotted lines.) D is a shell or tubular section, of wood or other material, to which a ferrule E is attached, and this in a part of its circumference is thrown outwardly, as at E', to form one of the ledges under which the base-plate F of the reel passes. G is another tubular section, which may be of wood or other suitable material, to which a collar or tubular section H is attached, which has at one part in its circumference a ledge H', corresponding to the ledge E' of the ferrule E. I is a metallic tube which incloses the part D, having projection toward the hand-grip or handle B, as shown. J is a tube which incloses the part G and is deflected inwardly throughout a portion of its length, so as to pass within the tube I. K is a tube which surrounds the lower portion of the rod A and is immovable thereon. L is a section of tubing threaded to the tube K, as shown, having an annular rib or flange M on its end. N is a ferrule attached to the end of the hand-grip as a finish therefor, and O is a U-shaped annular metallic part which incloses the end of the hand-grip for protecting the same. P is a tube which extends from the end of the handle forwardly to the end of the tubular section G, whereby that section and the hand-grip are maintained in proper relative position, so that the handle and the said section G may slide along the tube K, being stopped in forward movement by the abutment of the parts G and D against

one another and from too great movement in the other direction by the flange or stops M on the tube L. The operation is as follows: The rod A is immovable relative to the section D and the inner tube K; but the handle B and the section G, with all parts connected with them, are adapted to move longitudinally of the tube K and its extension L to the extent indicated in the drawings—that is to say, when the parts are in the position shown in Fig. 2 they are extended and the reel may be put in place, the front end of the curved or partially-cylindrical base-plate being inserted under the ledge E' and then laid flat upon the exterior of the tube L. Then the handle end, carrying the ledge H' with it, will be pushed forwardly over the lower end of the base-plate of the reel, thus locking it firmly in position. The reel in place is indicated in Fig. 1.

In Figs. 3 and 4 I illustrate a modified construction of the apparatus. In it the front section, which carries the forward ledge, is the part which moves, the other ledge and the handle or grip being rigidly connected with the rod. The parts are substantially the same as before, with the following exceptions: The rod *a* is rigidly connected, as shown, to the grip *b* and tubular section *c*. The ledge *d* is attached to these parts the same as before. Between the front section *e*, however, and the rod *a* there is a tube *f*, which has a flange or stop *g* at its front end, and within the tubular section *e* there is a metallic lining or tube *h*, adapted to slide upon the tube *f* to the extent of the unoccupied space between the shoulder *i* and the stops or flange *g*. The operation is substantially the same as before, excepting that the front section *e*, which carries the front ledge *k*, is the part which slides, whereas the hand-grip carrying the ledge *d* is stationary relative to the rod.

It will be obvious to those who are familiar with this art that various modifications may be made in the construction of the apparatus without departing from the essentials of the invention, and particularly that it is not necessary under all circumstances that the sliding surfaces should be metallic—in other words, that there should be a tube within a tube in all cases. I prefer this construction because thereby the action of a lubricant, if used, is more successful, and also atmospheric conditions (heat or cold, wet or dry) are not so apt to affect the movements of the parts; but obviously the same invention may be employed with these metallic surfaces omitted wholly or partially. Also it is not necessary that the tubular sections G and D and *c* and *e* should be employed. I prefer to do so and also to make them of wood, because thereby a stronger and more resisting material is afforded for the tubes which are adjacent to and more or less engage with these parts than would be afforded by the cork handles B or

b, respectively. I prefer to make the hand-grip of cork or equivalent material; but if the handle be made entirely of wood then obviously it may extend throughout the length of this section of the rod, or other material may take the place of these tubular sections referred to, or the sections may be omitted altogether, the part of the rod where they are now shown being made entirely of metallic tubes or equivalent construction.

When in the claims hereof I refer to a "movable tubular section," I do not mean to include the mere rings, bands, or clamping-ferrules such as have been heretofore used for holding the reel, since it is the purpose of this invention to improve upon just such devices and to obviate the objections incidental to their use. By the expression "tubular section," therefore, in the claims I mean a tubular part having length several times greater than diameter, so that it will afford a substantial surface or area whereby it may be grasped by the hand of the operator to manipulate or twist it during its adjustments.

Having described my invention, I claim—

1. A fishing-rod the butt of which is composed of tubular sections, one of which is immovable and the other adapted to slide upon the rod, and a clamping device on the adjacent ends of each of said sections adapted to hold the reel, for the purposes set forth.

2. A fishing-rod having at or near the butt thereof a tubular section immovably connected to the rod, a hand-grip or handle longitudinally movable relative to the rod, a clamping device carried by the hand-grip, and another clamping device on the said immovable section, said clamping devices when moved toward each other being adapted to hold the reel, for the purposes set forth.

3. A fishing-rod the butt of which is composed of tubular sections, one of which is immovable and another adapted to slide upon the rod, a clamping device on each of said sections adapted to hold the reel, and metallic tubes, one within the other, adjacent to the movable section, the surfaces of which engage each other during the entire sliding movement of the section, for the purposes set forth.

4. A fishing-rod having at its butt a tubular movable and a tubular immovable section, means on each of said sections to hold a reel, metallic tubes, one within the other, adjacent to the movable section, which slide over each other during its entire movement, and stops to determine the movement of said movable section, for the purposes set forth.

Signed at Kalamazoo, in the county of Kalamazoo and State of Michigan, this 30th day of December, 1899.

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, JR.

Witnesses:

W. C. WHITNEY,

M. VANDER MAUS.