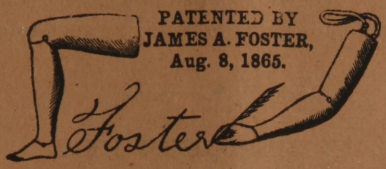
A BRIEF DESCRIPTION

—OF—

JAMES A. FOSTER'S



Patent Union Artificial Limbs.

MANUFACTURED AT

PHILADELPHIA, Pa,
CINCINNATI, Ohio,
DETROIT, Michigan,
and ROCHESTER, N. Y.

THE BEST SUBSTITUTE FOR NATURAL LIMBS EVER INVENTED.

OFFICES AND MANUFACTORIES,

911 ~~1106~~ **CHESTNUT STREET, PHILADELPHIA, Pa.,**
60 WEST FOURTH STREET, CINCINNATI, Ohio,
172 JEFFERSON AVENUE, DETROIT Michigan,
123 STATE STREET, ROCHESTER, New York.

SURGEON GENERAL'S OFFICE
554
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NOTICE.

Any one seeing this notice, who has a relative, friend or acquaintance that has lost a limb, will confer a favor by sending me their address.

All communications should be addressed to

JAMES A FOSTER,

911 ~~1106~~ Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.,
60 West Fourth St., Cincinnati, Ohio,
172 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Mich.,
Or, 123 State Street, Rochester, N. Y.

CLERGYMEN, POSTMASTERS

And others who may receive this pamphlet, will confer a favor by placing it in the hands of persons requiring such information.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
Special Instructions,	1
How to prepare the stump for an artificial limb,	1
How to order a limb,	1
Can a soldier draw the money instead of artificial limb,	3
Terms of payment,	3
Description,	3
Why my attention was called to artificial limbs,	6
My choice in a limb,	7
My commencement,	7
To those suffering from loss of limb,	8
Is it best to have an artificial limb,	8
Why is it that many get limbs and do not wear them,	10
What class of men ought to manufacture artificial limbs,	11
Points of election,	12
Description of Apparatus for shortened limbs	15
Artificial hands and arms,	16
Stump arms, and how to prepare the stump for artificial limb,	17
How to order a limb,	18
What the Press of Detroit say	19
Testimonials of Surgeons,	20
Testimony of those wearing the leg	22
Testimonials of the Press throughout the West	41

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS.

On page 17 I gave a few instructions to be observed in obtaining an artificial limb; and as patients do not seem to notice or understand them, I thought best to print them more fully and put them in the most conspicuous place. If they are properly observed, it will save asking many questions and me much time in writing answers to them.

HOW TO PREPARE THE STUMP FOR AN ARTIFICIAL LIMB.

As free and perfect action of the stump as is possible should be obtained. A joint should never be allowed to become flexed or semi-flexed if it can be avoided. As soon as the stump is healed, a non-elastic sock made to fit tightly should be worn, or it should be kept bandaged, in order to solidify and bring it to its proper form. It should also be moved as much as possible to keep the joints working freely until a limb is obtained.

HOW TO ORDER A LIMB.

Whenever a patient wishes a limb, he should write, stating the case minutely, where amputated, whether the joints are flexible or not, in fact every particular. A blank will be sent for measurement, which is to be filled up and returned to the office, where it will be placed on file to await its turn. The limb will be commenced in its proper order, and at the proper time the patient will be notified to come and have it fitted, which, to be properly done, will require the patient's presence for two or three days to fit a leg, and one for an arm.

When a leg is to be fitted, bear in mind to bring a shoe or boot, such as you wish to wear, (the lighter the boot the better) so that the foot may be made to correspond with the natural one. No limb will be allowed to go out of my manufactory until the patient presents himself and has it properly fitted, or a cast of the stump taken, except an arm for an amputation above the elbow, which, in most cases, can be fitted by measure, if properly taken.

If any man would blindly throw away his money by having a leg made from the measures alone and sent to him, he must apply to some other manufacturer. I pride myself upon the fact that my legs are *used*, and not laid away in the garret and kept for exhibition, and I would not run the risk of sending out a limb that would be of no service to the purchaser.

I know that some manufacturers advertise that they can fit a limb

SURGEON GEN'L'S OFFICE. 534 LIBRARY.

by measure, but any one that has ever had an artificial limb fitted at the manufactory knows better, and the manufacturer knows better himself; but rather than lose a job, they say they will warrant it to fit, and if it does not, they will alter it free of charge. That is all very well so far; but suppose the leg does not fit, the patient has to send the leg back to the manufactory, and write him as near as he can how it is to be altered. The manufacturer alters it a little, and returns it, saying it is all right now. The patient puts it on and wears it. It may hurt him still, but the manufacturer says it is all right, and the patient thinks, then, it must be so, and that the fault must be in him or his stump; and consequently, he will grin and bear it, or lay it aside, and say his stump is not right for an artificial limb, and return to the use of his crutches and mourn over the loss of money he paid for the limb.

I find there are many in the West who have ordered limbs from the East, and had them fitted by measure, and but a very few ever wear them but a little. Some lay them aside for another kind, and some discard them forever and take to a peg-leg, or crutches. I know there has been some limbs fitted by measure that have done very well, but those are cases where the patient has never worn an artificial limb, and the stump was very fleshy, so that it would adapt itself to any socket that was large enough. But even such cases are very few.

I am thus plain for the reason that many patients write me, asking if they can't save the expense of a journey to the manufactory; and when I write them that it is necessary for them to be at the manufactory, some say that Mr.——, of Philadelphia or New York (as the case may be), will make me one and fit it by measure, and why can't you? To such I would say I can do it just the same as any other manufacturer, if I would; but those that wish to try the experiment, I had rather they would apply to some other manufacturer. Most every week I have a practical illustration of such kind of making artificial legs.

I am often asked why a soldier has to pay extra out of his own money to get one of the best kind of artificial arms. The reason is this: Congress appropriated a certain amount of money to buy each soldier an artificial limb that had the misfortune to lose a limb while in the service of the United States, and authorized the Surgeon-General of the United States Army to contract with the different manufacturers to furnish the same. The Surgeon-General then appointed a board of eminent surgeons, to meet in New York in March, 1865, to inspect different samples of artificial limbs, and to report to him their relative value and merits, and to establish a price on each manufacturer's limbs that should be approved as being worthy of being furnished to soldiers by Government, and the different manufacturers were notified that if they wished to compete for a Government work they must present models, samples and prices of limbs to this board for inspection.

Some of the inferior limbs were offered and accepted for the amount appropriated by Congress. The manufacturers of the best arms would not offer theirs' in competition with the inferior ones and for the amount appropriated by Congress. Consequently, it was

agreed between the Surgeon-General and the owners of some of the best patent artificial arms, that, should soldiers desire to procure the more expensive limbs, the maximum price for each will be allowed in part payment, and the soldiers charged with the balance; but in no case is the manufacturers allowed to charge any more than the price agreed upon between them and the Surgeon-General. The Lincoln arm was the only one for an amputation above the elbow that was offered for the government order, and the arm I manufacture (the National Leg and Arm Company's Patent,) is the only one for amputations below the elbow that the manufacturers are allowed to charge anything more than the government order. This arm was considered superior to any other arm offered, and an agreement was made between the Surgeon-General and the proprietors of this arm to supply soldiers that wish it with this arm for the small sum of $30, besides the government order for amputation either above or below the elbow. I will supply soldiers with any other arm at prices agreed upon between the Surgeon-General and the manufacturers.

When soldiers apply for an arm and do not state which kind they want, I shall expect they want the best kind, which is $30, besides their Government order, including free transportation to and from the manufactory.

CAN A SOLDIER DRAW THE MONEY INSTEAD OF AN ARTIFICIAL LIMB?

This is a question that is often asked, and in answer to all such inquiries I would say that Government pays no money instead of an artificial limb. A soldier that has lost a limb in the army is obliged to accept an order on some manufacturer that has a contract for supplying soldiers with artificial ones, or have nothing as compensation. The reason for this is very plain. Congress knew when they appropriated this money that it was better for the soldiers to have an artificial limb than to have the worth of it in money to use for other purposes.

TERMS OF PAYMENT.

I am often asked what are the terms of payment for an artificial limb.

In reply I have to say that as most of our work is done for strangers, living far away, and as an artificial limb made for one will not fit another person without a heavy expense to me in altering it, I have adopted the same rule as all other first class artificial limb manufacturers, to wit: that twenty or twenty-five per cent. of the purchase money must accompany each order for a new limb (except Government orders,) before the limb will be so far completed but what it could be easily altered for another, in case the party ordering it should fail to come after it. When the limb is fitted the balance is considered due. All bills either for new work or repairing are payable at the office, and any bills sent away by express will be marked C. O. D., and charged with the express charges on return money. Money can be safely sent either by postoffice orders, draft on New York or by express.

J. A. FOSTER.

PREFACE.

In offering this, the fourth edition, to the public, I do not intend to deceive any one, but merely to show the improvements that have been made in Artificial Limbs, and the advantages I possess over other manufacturers for making such improvements. For the truth of my statements, I refer the reader to the certificates published in this pamphlet.

I know that the attention of the ingenious and humane has long been directed to the construction of a substitute for a lost limb, something that should possess symmetrical beauty and graceful movement, combined with durability. For some time before I suffered an amputation, I felt a great interest in the result of these efforts, and when it was ascertained for a certainty, that I must have my limb amputated, the anxiety with which I watched and hoped for their success cannot be expressed.

The limbs invented have been as various as the minds that originated them, though but few have proved of sufficient utility to find favor with the public for any great length of time.

The war through which we have just passed called into activity the inventive genious of our people in a remarkable degree, and many kinds of artificial limbs will date their origin from the great struggle of the past six years. The wooden peg leg which was used by the disabled hero, according to the cuts in our old books, is now displaced by the handsomely turned and graceful limb of late inventors. In the case of the loss of a limb, a simple peg or hook is found to be quite useful and easily applied, but is neither graceful nor beautiful. The great object now to be attained is to combine those qualities in the limb that will make it practically available in the rough and tumble of every day life, as well as beautiful in form and finish. I believe my Patent Union Leg now stands pre-eminent among its rivals for *lightness* and *durability*, combined with beauty of form and finish, affording the wearer the satisfying consciousness, that what he uses to conceal his loss is not a disgusting appendage, but on the contrary, a limb entirely worthy to conceal his loss. After reading the following pages I leave the reader to judge whether I have had superior advantages in experimenting with the artificial leg. I consider the person, tbat has suffered an amputation, and, after wearing a limb made by another manufacturer procured one of mine, the best judge, for he (not like myself) is *only* interested in getting the best that is made. I, therefore, earnestly request a perusal of the certificates herewith appended, and, if they have any doubts of their authenticity, correspond with any of their authors. Their addresses are given in full, it will be observed, for that purpose.

DESCRIPTION

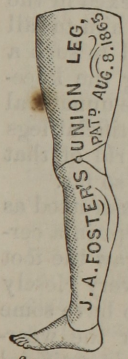
OF

JAMES A. FOSTER'S

PATENT

UNION ARTIFICIAL LIMB.

PATENTED AUGUST 8TH, 1865.



I call it the Union Limb, because it combines all the qualifications that can be expected to be found in artificial limbs, namely: lightness, strength, simplicity of construction, durability, naturalness of motion and anatomical beauty. Although this patent is of recent date, the improvements have been in use over five years—long enough to test their durability.

In giving a description of the Union Limb I will state where some of the most prominent manufacturers fail, and how I remedy their imperfections. In speaking of their imperfections, I do not wish it understood that I consider them failures, for some of them have proved good substitutes for the natural limb, and have gladdened the hearts of many, who by their assistance, have been enabled to walk again. But, while I allow that some have brought honor to the inventors, there are, undoubtedly, others that every man who attempts to wear one of them, will pronounce nuisances. Admitting that they have all been very good and serviceable and all that, is it any reason that there can be no improvements made on them as well as on any other article of manufacture? In these days of mutilated soldiers, railroad employes, &c., I know of no branch of the manufacturing business that needs to be brought nearer perfection than this. Most of the

manufacturers make their limbs after patents issued some time ago—Palmer's over twenty years, it having been renewed once. I claim that no other manufacturer has had the same facilities for making improvements in artificial limbs that I have, for I had served a regular apprenticeship and was a practical mechanic before I lost my limb, which was amputated in February, 1860, since which time I have served my time with the best manufacturer in the State of New York, where repairing limbs made by other manufacturers enabled me to see what improvements might be made and to test them by practical experience.

The knee joints I discovered were very defective. The knee pin being too small and not properly bushed, of course, soon wears loose, thereby causing—as all who wear artificial limbs will know—a very disagreeable noise when walking, which the wearer cannot obviate without sending the limb to the manufacturer's for repairs. The knee spring in general use causes a very unnatural step and appearance by its rigidness. When the knee is flexed, in the act of taking a step, the foot is brought forward with such force that it causes a very disagreeable appearance, for often the foot is brought with such force, that it is thrown so high that when it is brought in contact with the floor it makes a very disagreeable sound, which notifies all passers that an artificial leg is worn. Another and still more important failure is in the way the knee is adjusted, which is not noticed by spectators, unless a person is seen prostrate on the ground, or picking himself up, either of which position is very disagreeable to the wearer. I would ask any one who has worn an artificial leg, manufactured by Palmer and many others for a thigh amputation, whether, if he happens to put his weight upon it when the knee is partially flexed in the act of taking a step, if it will not give way and cause him to fall unless he is very active. An old man is sure to get a fall in such a case. Some have tried to obviate this defect by making the knee-spring of sufficient rigidity to insure safety, thus causing the unnatural gait and thumping sound which characterize most of all artificial legs now in use. Some manufacturers of late have tried to get rid of that disagreeable rattling of the knee-joint, but without success so far.

It is very essential that the knee-joint should be so constructed as to do away with this tendency to fly out forward unless kept in a certain position, and at the same time possess the power to draw the foot forward with an easy, natural motion, that will resemble very closely the motion of the natural limb. It is also necessary to have some method of regulating it so that it will compensate for the wearing of the bolt and prevent the rattling so often heard in artificial joints.

In the first artificial limb I made and wore, the knee-joint was constructed after the most common pattern used at the time. I used this limb for some time, but found it necessary to be very careful to prevent falling. One day while at work in the shop, in an ungarded moment, the knee-joint bent forward so suddenly that I had no time to save myself, and measured my length on the floor. Although not very pleasant, it resulted in some good, for I soon conceived the idea that there could be some improvements made that would remedy this

fault. I immediately began experimenting, and, after several unsuccessful experiments, I finally succeeded in constructing a joint that was perfectly free from such tendencies. It comprises three very essential qualities, viz: It takes the place of the knee-spring, regulates the motion of the lower part of the limb, causing it to move in harmony with the natural one, and compensates for any wear in the bushing of the knee bolt, thereby entirely doing away with the tending to rattle which is a characteristic of all other artificial limbs. All three of these very important improvements can be regulated by the turning of one screw, which is placed in a position to enable the wearer to operate it without difficulty.

The Achilles or heel cord, in the most of artificial legs, often proves a nuisance. Those made of cat gut would be sufficiently strong, were it not for the short bend caused by the motion of the foot. This material is so brittle that it soon breaks close to the foot, and all who have worn limbs with this kind of a cord well know the trouble and expense necessarily incurred in getting it replaced. They usually last from one to two years, and are made in such a way that none but the manufacturer can replace them. I make them of the best linen thread, consequently the short bend will not break them. I insert them in such a way that if one should give way (which never has happened yet, although in use over five years) that the wearer can replace it himself without damaging or defacing the foot.

The ankle joint in an artificial limb is the most important part. I say most important, because most liable to get out of repair, and should be made as light, simple and *durable* as possibe. The Palmer and many other ankle joints are defective on account of the small pin that goes through the foot, which wears too fast, thus causing a great deal of trouble to keep it properly bushed to prevent noise, &c. The ankle joint I used for an improvement is simply a piece of steel, turned and polished, five-eighths of an inch in diameter, with two flanges around it for retaining the foot and leg in their proper relative positions. It is pierced to make it light, and bolted firmly to the lower part of the leg; an eye bolt attached to this passes down through the bottom of the foot with a nut on it, and this nut, by being turned, will compensate for any wear that will ever occur. This joint is so constructed that no two pieces of metal move against each other where bearing is taken. Although this is a metalic joint it does not weigh three ounces. I never saw any other that weighed less than from eight to ten, while most of them weigh one pound, and some even more than that. This is a very essential point, as one pound above the knee is not so detrimental to good walking, or so tiresome to carry, as four ounces below. With a heavy ankle joint it is impossible to make a knee-spring or regulator that will move the lower part of the leg in a natural manner, as it takes too much power to start and stop such a heavy mass of material. By making the foot and lower leg light this difficulty is avoided.

The action of this spring is regulated by simply turning a nut, thus enabling the wearer to adjust it to suit himself with the greatest facility.

This constitutes the lightest, most durable and least complicated

ankle joint yet invented, for the proof of which I refer the reader to certificates of those wearing this limb, published in the back part of this pamphlet. In form the limb is made to correspond exactly with the natural one, and covered with a delicate skin, which is covered with delicately tinted enamel, flesh-colored, and shaded to suit each particular case; the whole being so natural in appearance and so lifelike in its motions that it is often mistaken for a natural limb. Heretofore the manufacture of artificial limbs has been left to doctors, lawyers and common mechanics, which accounts for their not being brought to greater perfection. The advantages I possess over these are:

1st. I was a first-clsss mechanic when I lost my leg.

2d. I served my time with the best workman in New York.

3d. I have repaired all the different kinds of limbs, and my mechanical knowledge has enabled me to see wherein they could be improved.

4th. I wear a full length limb myself. With these qualifications, if I cannot tell what is needed in an artificial limb, who can?

JAMES A. FOSTER.

WHY MY ATTENTION WAS CALLED TO THE MANUFACTURE OF ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

When my attention was first called to artificial limbs, it was with the expectation that I should sooner or later want one for my own use. About ten years before I had my leg amputated I was attacked with a lameness in the knee. It did not seem to be very dangerous at first, but I soon found that it baffled the skill of all the surgeons I employed, although it became worse so slowly as to be scarcely perceptible. It then became necessary for me to confine my labor to some occupation that would give me an even surface to walk upon, so as to avoid injuring it. I had, previous to becoming lame, chosen my trade and served my time with a good mechanic. For two years before my leg was amputated I was certain it would have to be done, and this knowledge convinced me that I ought to be looking around, and making examination for the purpose of finding the best substitute. From that time to the present (ten years,) I have made artificial limbs my constant study. During the last year of my lameness, previous to having my leg amputated, I was confined to my crutches, and having plenty of leisure, and my limb not being painful, I procured pamphlets with specifications and drawings from all the limb manufacturers that I could hear of, and studied them so thoroughly, that when my leg was taken off, I could give drawings and descriptions of all the limbs manufactured in the United States, and being a thorough mechanic I could understand them. But no one, be he ever so well skilled in the mechanical or surgical art, can tell when a limb works with ease and comfort so well as the person who wears one—that I know by experience.

MY CHOICE IN A LIMB.

I had decided in my own mind what manufacturer's limb I should procure before I lost mine, but as I do not wish to be personal or further the interests of one manufacturer to the detriment of another, I will mention no names. Suffice it to say that, after visiting the manufactory and thoroughly examining into the principles upon which it was made, I came to the conclusion that there might be something better. I then visited several establishments where they were made, and the result was I went home without purchasing. After my arrival home I was telling a gentleman (Mr. Tupper), who wears a limb below the knee, (making his own,) what I had seen and learned in my journey about limbs. He asked me why I did not make one for myself; said he wanted a new one, and if I would come and work with him awhile we would make each of us one. He said I understood the principles upon which they were constructed, and that my mechanical skill would enable me to make as good a leg as any one, and I could fit it to myself much better than any workman could fit it to me. As soon as I could conveniently, I accepted the offer. I finished it in November, 1862, and it worked as well as I could expect, although not quite as well as the one I lost, but better than many artificial ones I had seen in use. As I had nothing to occupy my time, the next winter, after finishing my first leg, I made me two more. One after Bly's model and one after Palmer's, for experimenting with. I wore them both myself, and if I cannot tell which works best, who can? I was experimenting at this time with the sole view of getting a good leg for myself. Not having determined at that time to make for others.

At this time the great rebellion had fairly begun, and bid fair to put many of our brave boys in want of artificial limbs. Stimulated by the fact that I could walk better after four months' practice, with a limb of my own make, than others after four years' practice, with a limb made by the best manufacturers in America, a fact admitted by all who ever saw me walk, and having seen others, who used the limbs of the best makers in the country, and thinking it my duty to do all in my power to alleviate the suffering of the noble men who should lose limbs fighting the battles of our country, I determined to make it my business.

MY COMMENCEMENT.

After coming to this conclusion, I determined to go to some city where they were made and learn to finish them; and I did so, serving a regular term at it, and am now able to defy all competitors to produce a nicer finished limb than I make. I then concluded to go to some western city and start the business for myself. I then went to my home in West Stockholm, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., to procure my timber, iron, &c., and to make some samples, and another for myself on an entirely different plan from any I had ever seen. When I had it finished, all who saw it and were acquainted with the limbs made by others said I had succeeded in inventing the most perfect artificial leg the scientific world ever produced; combining lightness, simplicity of construction and anatomical beauty with strength and durability.

It is so arranged that the wearer can easily keep it in order, which is an important element in the construction of artificial legs. So well satisfied am I, that I have the best limb in use, that I here challenge any one wearing another patent with an amputation above the knee to walk with me a long distance, or short, up hill or down, on rough ground or smooth, as they may elect. It suited the public so well that I had all the work I could attend to in the northern part of the State of New York, without going to the city.

TO THOSE SUFFERING FROM LOSS OF LIMBS.

Pre-eminent skill and proficiency in the art of making artificial limbs can never be attained except by a man who is a *thorough mechanic, wears one himself and makes it his constant study*, which first I claim to be, and to have done the last. No man is justified in engaging in this business if he only regards it as a trading pursuit or money making speculation. By conscientious practitioners it must ever be considered a serious and most important undertaking, for nothing can be more painful to the wearer of an imperfect piece of mechanism, than the reflection that he has been grossly deceived, and not only sacrificed his money but his personal comfort and hopes of benefit to be derived from it. In the present age of useful inventions when every year, nay, every month sends forth a new one, it must perplex such sufferers as have no knowledge of mechanical combination to decide upon the best substitutes for the limbs they have lost. It should always be borne in mind that artificial limbs are not like ordinary garments, to be worn for a season and changed as the fashions vary, but are designed for permanent use during life. In choosing limbs, therefore, only such as will stand the test of time, combining lightness and simplicity of construction with strength and durability, and most conducive to the comfort of the wearer, regardless of the cost, should be obtained, for they will surely prove the cheapest in the end.

People must judge by the mechanical arrangements of the parts, and the workmanship, in order to get the best.

My qualifications are, that I was a first-class mechanic when I lost my leg, and have since studied the anatomy of the extremities with reference to the construction of artificial ones quite thoroughly, and consequently think I am justified in claiming that my workmanship is *just* as *reliable* as that performed by hired labor superintended by some *doctor* or *lawyer* who does not possess the least mechanical skill. I wish it especially understood also, that I hold *myself* responsible for any failure from the use of poor material or bad workmanship.

IS IT BEST TO HAVE AN ARTIFICIAL LIMB?

This question often comes in the mind of one who has lost his limb. To such I would say, that it is for you to decide, not me. If you are not obliged to work and have no inclination to do so, and no pride or regard for your personal appearance and comfort, I would say don't buy one. But to those who have business to attend to and have some regard for their personal appearance and comfort, I would say, get you a limb, for they are not like false teeth, eyes or hair, made merely for ornament, but for permanent usefulness. A man with an ampu-

tation above the knee, if he gets a good leg, can go without the assistance of a cane and do a good day's work at nearly all kinds of mechanical labor, or a great deal at any other sort of work, and with an amputation below the knee and a *good fit*, can do any kind of work that he could do before losing bis limb. We can never reduce the value of a limb to exact pecuniary statement until we learn to measure human sensibilities with a rule, and weigh human joys and sorrows in a balance. When a person is deprived of a leg, his loss is not to be gauged by its former services, but by his wounded sensibilities, and physically, by a long train of cruel sufferings arising from well understood physiological causes. Among these are the disturbance of the balance between nutrition and assimilation, producing plethoric and apoplectic symtoms, the injuirous effect of the crutches upon the circulation, the nervous system, the spine, the skeleton of the trunk and the lungs. Before I wore an artificial limb I thought myself very expert in the use of crutches, and I have been on them until I felt a sharp pain in my arm, running down the elbow and even to my fingers, and I was acquainted with a man in the town of Madrid, St. Lawrence Co., N. Y., who went upon one crutch until he lost the use of his right hand, and was compelled to get an artificial limb. I saw him afterwards, and he was walking very well, (although his leg was amputated quite close to the body,) and wondering how he could have been so foolish as to do without one so long. The man's material interests are also usually affected by his unfitness for the pursuit of the avocation to which he had previously been devoted. Railroad employes being frequently subjects of the accidents which result in mutilation, afford an example. They are never, or rarely, able to go about their work on crutches, and hence are often reduced to pauperism by the loss of a leg, and become a charge upon the community. It is in evidence that men thus mutilated are restored by the use of this admirable invention to the power of following their old avocations. I have myself seen an engineer with two artificial limbs driving a locomotive. To illustrate to what perfection artificial limbs have been brought, I will relate a few circumstances of my own experience. I have been boarding at places from six to ten days before they would mistrust that I wore one; they would perceive that I walked up and down stairs a little different from others, and after becoming acquainted would naturally ask the cause of it, but when I tell them, they will hardly believe it, until they see it for themselves. In April, 1865, on my way to New York, I joined company with a merchant from Toronto, C. W., soon after leaving Buffalo, and was out of the cars with him, getting refreshments at different times, without his noticing that there was anything wrong with me, and after arriving at New York we went out for a stroll after tea. That night we took a room together, and he found out that I wore an artificial limb for the first time, when I laid it off to retire. He said he had not mistrusted such a thing, and had no idea that false limbs could be brought to such perfection. I think we walked that evening between four and five miles at the least. I might mention many more cases, but will only speak of one more which took place in Detroit, in March, 1865. A gentleman came to me to make him a limb, who was wearing one of

Dr. Bly's (which by the way he had *not quite* a year,) and while stopping in the city went into a Substitute Broker's office, and offered himself as a recruit. They could not agree, however, on the price, and the broker, for the purpose of getting him to see things in a *different light*, invited him to a saloon to take something. He allowed himself to be shown about at the broker's expense as long as he wished, and then exhibited his wooden member, a sight of which caused the dealer in flesh and blood to make a lively exit. I think, after reading the above, and the testimony from patients wearing my limbs, and more especially that of Mr. Harper, no one can reasonably doubt but a person with any stump at all can do a good business with an artificial limb. I think, since artificial limbs have been brought to their present state of perfection, that there is no use for a man to go stumping about with the old fashioned peg-leg, or drag out a miserable existence on a pair of crutches. Some may say they are not able to wear such an expensive limb, I think it is safe to assert that thousands who would be able to care for themselves, and can do more, by getting a good limb, are without such, a consuming instead of a producing part of the population, and that the community in which they live, would, by combining to furnish them, be largely the gainers in the end.

Laboring men and women comprise a very large majority of those who suffer amputation of the inferior extremeties, most of whom obtain artificial legs to compensate their loss, and thus are enabled to pursue their usual vocations, and subsist therefrom. Of this proportion nearly one-half obtain limbs by the gratuities of the sympathizing and considerate community, who entertain the abstract principle that their own moral and financial interests are involved in the interests and greatest usefulness of their suffering neighbors. *They judge rightly.*

In every instance they are the benefactors of mankind who contribute to the greatest usefulness and happiness of the mutilated ; and who, by their moral efforts, both *conserve* and *restore.*

Many persons, too poor to buy limbs for themselves, are also too proud to accept a subscription made by their neighbors and friends to get them one. I think this wrong, and exceedingly foolish. We all remember numerous instances where a man has lost property by fire, or had money stolen from him, and had it made up by a friendly subscription. And what property or amount of money can be considered of half the value of a limb. To people of moderate means I would say, that limbs are like articles of wearing apparel, and one of limited means can get a very serviceable limb, although, of course, the most expensive are the best and cheapest in the end.

An artificial limb is light, strong and comfortable, improves the appearance and prevents your being particularly noticed in the street, and from disagreeable, though generally kindly meant, expressions of sympathy.

WHY IS IT THAT MANY GET LIMBS AND DO NOT WEAR THEM?

We all know of such cases, and in nine cases out of ten it is caused by their not being properly fittted. No matter where, or by whom a

leg is made, if not properly fitted, it cannot be worn, or if worn a portion of the time, the person can never become a good walker. Many think, because they do not get a leg in New York that they can use, that they cannot get one at all. A good leg can be procured in New York, and, if it happens to be well fitted, you like it; but, if not, you lay it aside, and conclude that it is impossible for you to wear an artificial limb. Perhaps you think your stumb was not right, or that artificial limbs were all a humbug. If you were to go to a shoemaker for a pair of boots, and found, after trying, that you could not wear them, would you throw them aside and say that your feet were not right, or that boots and shoes were all a humbug? I rather think not. You would take them back, give the maker a slight lecture, and try again. Why not the same with artificial limbs? There are very few who have suffered amputation of a limb that are not able to wear a false one. In fact, *not one* ever applied to me, but I set him walking. In most manufactories the fitting is done by journeymen who wish to do about so much, and do not pay much attention to the condition of the stump, and there are many in such a shape or condition, that it requires much time and the exercise of a great amount of patience to get an easy and comfortable fit. I wish it to be borne in mind that I am the only manufacturer who wears a full length limb, and who personally superintends the fitting; and, if I cannot give you a fit, I fail to see where you can get it. I hope all who have limbs they are unable to wear will give me a call, and if I do not help them I will make no charges. This brings up the question of

WHAT CLASS OF MEN OUGHT TO MANUFACTURE ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.

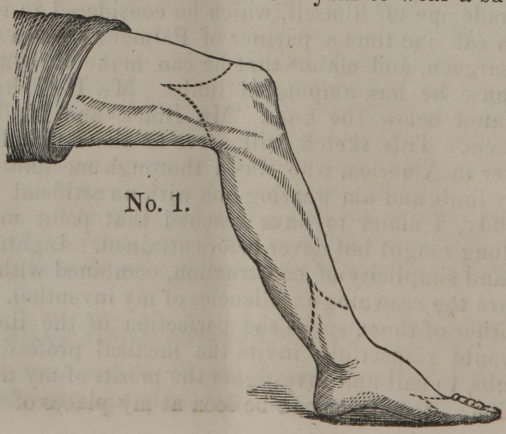
All limb manufacturers of note claim the preference. Mr. Selpho, because he learned his trade in England, and is the oldest manufacturer in the States, and makes the same kind of a leg as that worn by the Marquis ot Anglesy, as long ago as 1810. Mr. Palmer was educated for a lawyer, having lost a leg below the knee when he was ten years of age. He procured one of the Selpho legs in 1845, and the next year made one for himself, which he considered an improvement. Mr. Hudson (at one time a partner of Palmer's,) was a doctor. Mr. Bly was a surgeon, and claims that he can make a better one than others, because he has amputated limbs. Mr. Hall had one of his legs amputated below the knee. Mr. Black and Mr. Condell were cabinet-makers. This sketch will serve to show that I am the only manufacturer in America, who was a thorough mechanic at the time of losing my limb, and am wearing one with an artificial knee. After years of study, I claim to have reached that point in mechanical surgery so long sought but never before attained. Lightness, anatomical beauty and simplicity of construction, combined with naturalness of motion, are the crowning excellencies of my invention. Any deviation from either of these, spoils the perfection of the limb. In conclusion, I would respectfully invite the medical profession, and those wanting limbs, to call and investigate the merits of my new and beautiful invention. Specimens can be seen at my places of business, also

specimens or drawings of all the best legs made in America, which I will be most happy to show to any one, whether a limb is wanted or not.

J. A. Foster.

POINTS OF ELECTION.

Since an early period in surgery, surgeons have recognized the importance of selecting such points for amputation of the lower extremities as were best adapted to the application of artificial limbs, and many of the authors of works on surgery have given such points as were considered best adapted to the artificial limbs made at the time; but the great improvements which have been made in artificial limbs have materially changed the old points of election; therefore, this subject demands the attention of surgeons generally. In accordance with the high state of perfection now attained in the construction of artificial limbs, all amputations performed on the foot should be anterior to the insertion of the flexors of the foot. The operation known as Choport's severs the flexors of the foot, and should never be performed under any circumstances whatever. The moment the flexors are severed the extensors, having no antagonists, draw the heel upward, extend the foot or the leg, and causes the amputated surface to point almost directly downward. I am aware that, to obviate this difficulty, some surgeons have severed the tendon achilles, but that has proved ineffectual; it is only a partial relief at best. The wound is slow to heal, *always tender*, and the remaining portion of the foot is generally a curse to the patient as long as he lives, unless he submits to secondary amputation. Dr. Bly says: "It is but a short time since the Professor of Surgery in the Geneva Medical College performed a secondary amputation for such a patient. This patient had had the tendon achilles cut twice, and then made an unsuccessful effort to wear a substitute constructed by a noted firm in New York city, but at last, to better his condition, was obliged to submit to re-amputation." Another case of the same kind came under my personal knowledge at the city of Detroit, in the fall of 1865. This patient had made an unsuccessful effort for one year to wear a substitute con-



No. 1.

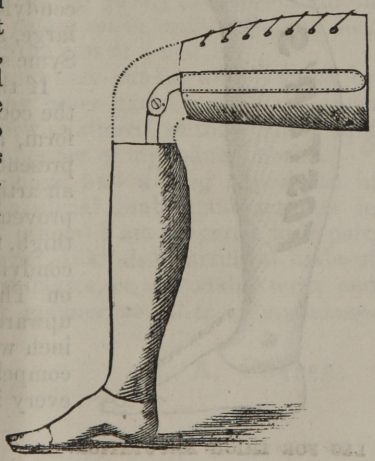
structed by a New York firm. In April, 1866, Mr. F. G. Rand applied to me for a pair of artificial legs, (here was a chance to prove what I had formerly believed) one was amputated at the junction of the lower and middle third of the tibia, the other through the foot, known as Chopart's operation. His amputations were performed December 25th, 1863; eight days after both hands were amputated, all caused by being frozen on the night of the 9th.

I finished the legs in August, 1866; when he put them on he walked without the assistance of a cane, and he has always expressed his preference in favor of the amputation performed at the junction of the lower and middle third of the tibia. I believe all manufacturers, with one exception, dislike this kind of amputation.

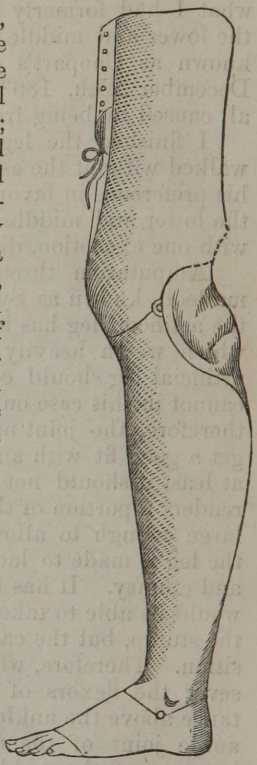
Amputation through the ankle joint, by sawing through the malleoli, known as Symes' operation, is less objectionable; still, since the artificial leg has been brought to such perfection, there are reasons which weigh heavily against the operation. The ankle joint in the artificial leg should correspond with the one of the natural leg, but cannot in this case on account of the length of the tibia and fibula, therefore, the joint must be placed a little lower than the other. To get a good fit with an artificial limb the stump should be conical, or at least it should not be larger at the end than it is higher up, as it renders a portion of the interior of the artificial leg too large, if made large enough to allow the bulbous extremity to pass through, or, if the leg is made to lace up even, then the ankle is necessarily large and clumsy. It has been supposed that by this operation the patient would be able to take the most, if not all, this weight upon the end of the stump, but the cases which I have seen do not sustain the supposition. Therefore, when amputation becomes necessary which would sever the flexors of the foot, it should be performed a sufficient distance above the ankle joint to admit of an artificial substitute with an ankle joint of the most perfect construction now attained. The junction of the middle and lower third of the tibia is the lowest point at which amputation of the leg can be performed, and give sufficient room for the construction of a good, substantial and graceful artificial limb, with an ankle joint of the most recent improvement. *It also gives a stump of as much length as is of any service to the patient.* Therefore the junction of the middle and lower third of the tibia should be the first point of election whenever the flexors of the foot cannot be saved. (See point indicated on cut No. 1.)

Then from this point the surgeon should not recede unless compelled by necessity. He should contest every inch until driven to the knee joint.

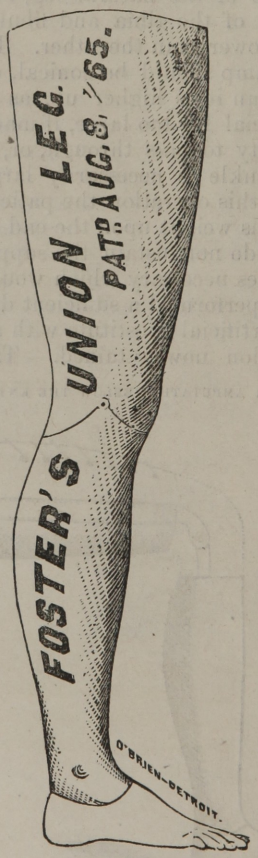
LEG FOR AMPUTATION BELOW THE KNEE.



THIS CUT REPRESENTS THE KNEE SUPPORTING ARTIFCIAL LEG.



Amputation for a knee support of the leg, near the head of the tibia, should always be the work of necessity, not of caprice; for the natural knee joint, in the use of an artificial leg, should never be unnecessarily sacrificed; nevertheless, a leg with a knee-bearing and artificial knee joint is a highly satisfactory and useful dependence, both for utility and naturalness. When the knee joint is perfectly anchylosed or immovable, and the leg in a position at or near a right angle with the thigh, amputation should invariably be performed below the head of the tibia, if the condition of the knee will allow it to serve as a basis of support, but he should never operate through the knee joint, as nothing is gained by it, while much is lost, because the end of the femur will occupy a space which is needed for the construction of an artificial knee joint. True, an artificial knee joint has and can be made in this case but not near as durable and comely as when the condyles of the femur are removed. The size of the condyles makes the end of the stump too large, and the same objection arises as in Syme's operation.

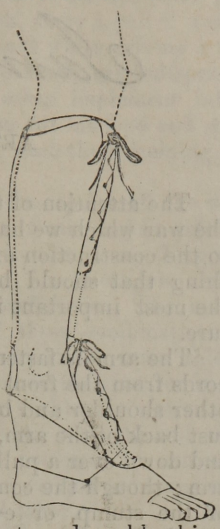


LEG FOR THIGH AMPUTATION.

If the femur is sawn through just above the condyles the stump assumes a conical form, and the end of the bone no longer presents any obstacle to the construction of an artificial joint of the most modern improvement. Then, for amputation of the thigh, the point of election is just above the condyles of the femur, (see point indicated on Thigh Cut No. 1,) from this point upward the surgeon should contest every inch with redoubled vigor, and the higher compelled to go, the greater the value of every inch of femur saved.

DESCRIPTION OF APPARATUS FOR SHORTENED LIMBS.

APPARATUS FOR SHORTENED LIMBS.



At the present time there are many on whom diseases has wrought its baneful results, which demands an appliance which shall alleviate their irremediable deformities and enable the sufferer to use and exercise the deformed limb in a manner likely to conduce to health, ease and beauty of dress. The deformed limb below the knee is inserted in a light case, accurately fitted to the shape of the leg and ankle; it is retained by soft leather bands, laced in front; the foot rests on an inclined plane, so as to reduce the anterior-posterior distance from toe to heel; a boot or gaiter, full at the instep, may then be drawn over the whole, and pants of the usual shape and size can be worn and will entirely conceal the deformity. The artificial foot corresponds in size with the foot of the other leg. The artificial ankle joint obviates the excessive limping and physical strain experienced in the use of cork boots and stirrups; it also allows the patient to gain the natural length of step. It is light, strong and durable, and when applied gives the patient the appearance, in dress, length of limb and action of the foot, and enables him to walk a great distance without fatigue.

REPAIRING AND ALTERING OVER ARTIFICIAL LIMBS MADE BY OTHER MANUFACTURERS.

Those having artificial legs made by the heretofore best (or any other) manufacturers, and have been continually troubled with broken heel, side and front cords, or feet, ankles, springs, or with loose, rattling ankle joints (and the rest of the leg good,) can have it cut off just above the ankle joint, and my *patent union ankle joint* and foot applied and warranted at about half the cost of a new leg.

Those that have artificial limbs that they cannot wear (caused by fitting or stump shrinking, or for any other cause,) can have them newly and satisfactorily fitted or otherwise altered, so they can be used with ease and comfort by applying to either of my manufactories.

As my workmen are men that have had a long experience in working for the (heretofore) best artificial limb manufacturers in America, (such as Bly, Palmer and others) I am prepared to repair, fix, (in any way or shape) or alter over all kinds of artificial limbs of every manufacturers' make, on short notice, on reasonable terms and in the most durable and satisfactory manner, at either of my manufactories.

J. A. FOSTER.

James, A, Foster's

ARTIFICIAL HANDS AND ARMS.

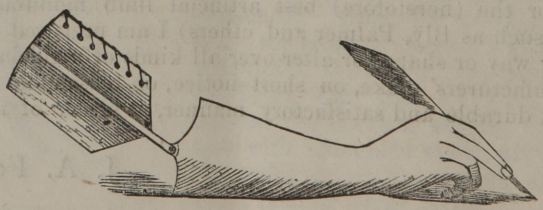
The attention of the ingenious, before, during and since the war which we have just passed, has often been directed to the construction of some substitute for a lost arm, something that should be beautiful, graceful and useful; and the most important in this art is the arm which I manufacture.

The arm is fastened to the body by straps, attached to cords from the front and back of the arm, passing under and over the other shoulder and buckled. The cord attached to the strap is placed just back of the arm, and thence passing into a shell of the upper arm, and down over a pulley at the elbow to a connection with the fore-arm; though the contraction exerted by the simple throwing forward of the stump, or even the shoulder, elevates the arm. The cord attached to the strap in front enters the front shell of the arm and passes under a pulley at the elbow-joint, and thence passes midway through the fore-arm and connects with the thumb and one or all of the fingers. This power is the reverse of the raising cord, enabling the wearer to throw out the arm at any angle from the body. The thumb and fingers, which are kept closed by means of springs in the hand, can be opened at will, in any position, by the forward or downward motion of either shoulder.

The lightness of this arm is a very important consideration, esspecially where amputation has left a very short stump.

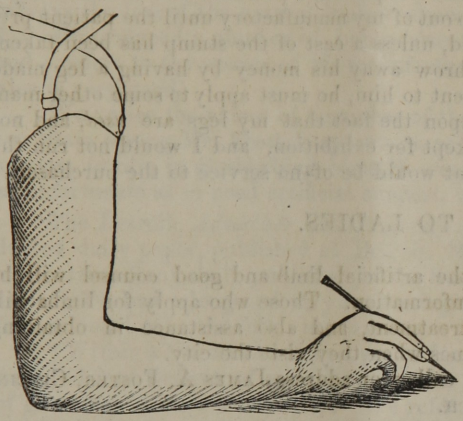
The subject whose stump is three or more inches in length from the shoulder joint, and retains a healthy degree of force and rigidity, can, with this arm, at will, raise the artificial hand to his mouth and forehead, and, in fact, he has perfect control of the elbow joint, to throw it forward and back at will, or to hold it in any position he chooses.

ARM FOR AMPUTATION BELOW THE ELBOW.



The hand and fingers are made in such form as to imitate nature's work, and the wearer can pick up his hat, place it on his head, pick a cigar up from the floor and place it in his mouth, carry a pail of water, or a valise and overcoat in traveling; hold the lines while driving a horse, and assist the other hand in carrying where two hands are indispensable. By securing a knife, fork, pen, nail brush, or other implement into the part of the hand which is prepared for it, he can cut his food and convey it to his mouth, write with respectable clearness, wash the remaining hand, &c., &c.

A flexed position of the arm is secured at the option of the wearer for cases of amputation above the elbow joint, as in carrying an extra garment, a basket or bucket in marketing—indeed in almost any thing where the sound arm would be used in that position. An intelligent and persevering person will hardly find a limit to its usefulness. The inventor of these combinations lays great stress upon this feature of the arm, for it readily enables the wearer to use all the strength and ability he possesses to accomplish the various processes of useful labor.



THIS CUT REPRESENTS AN ARM FOR AN AMPUTATION ABOVE THE ELBOW.

The mechanism is strong and reliable, enabling the wearer to carry as much on the artificial as he would ordinarily wish to carry on the sound arm.

Soldiers wishing to get this or any other arm contracted for by the government will receive all the necessary information, and also the necessary blanks to fill to obtain the government order, on application, in person or by mail.

STUMP ARMS.

It often happens that a poor man looses an arm and is not able to obtain the best kind of an artificial one, and wishes to get some cheap substitute, one that will stand the rough and tumble of every-day out-door work. To such I would say that he can have a good substitute for considerable less cost. This is what we call a stump arm. It is made strong and durable, and so constructed that the wearer can insert any kind of an instrument for rough, heavy labor, such as becomes necessary for any out-door laborer to perform.

HOW TO PREPARE THE STUMP FOR AN ARTIFICIAL LIMB.

As free and perfect action of the stump as is possible should be obtained. A joint should never be allowed to become flexed or semi-flexed

if it can be avoided. As soon as the stump is healed, a non-elastic sock made to fit tightly should be worn, or it should be kept bandaged, in order to solidify and bring it to its proper form. It should also be moved as much as possible to keep the joints working freely until a limb is obtained.

J. A. F.

HOW TO ORDER A LIMB.

Whenever a patient wishes a limb, he should write, stating the case minutely, where amputated, whether joints are flexible or not, in fact every particular. A blank will be sent for measurement, which is to be filled up and returned to the office, where it will be placed on file to await its turn. The limb will be commenced in its proper order, and at the proper time the patient will be notified to come and have it fitted, which, to be properly done, will require the patient's presence two or three days. No limb will be allowed to go out of my manufactory until the patient presents himself and has it fitted, unless a cast of the stump has been taken. If any man would blindly throw away his money by having a leg made from the measures alone and sent to him, he must apply to some other manufacturer. I pride myself upon the fact that my legs are *used*, and not laid away in the garret and kept for exhibition, and I would not run the risk of sending out a limb that would be of no service to the purchaser.

TO LADIES.

References concerning the artificial limb and good counsel will be furnished any lady desiring information. Those who apply for limbs will receive kind and courteous treatment, and also assistance in obtaining pleasant and inexpensive homes when they visit the city.

For further particulars, call on or address JAMES A. FOSTER, CINCINNATI, OHIO, or DETROIT, MICH.

WHAT THE PRESS OF DETROIT SAYS.

The Detroit *Review of Medicine and Pharmacy*, published monthly, at Detroit, Mich., edited by Geo. P. Andrews, M. D., Samuel P. Duffield, P. H. D., and Edward W. Jennks, M. D., in an editorial in the April number for 1866 said:—"We would congratulate the gentleman (Mr. Foster,) upon the success he has attained in producing a limb which enables the wearer to walk so naturally, avoiding the sidelong swing which betrays the loss of the natural limb in almost all other substitutes. Mr. F. has introduced a number of improvements, adding to the durability and comfort to the wearer of his manufacture. The external appearance also is very good.

We notice the names of a number of the most prominent surgeons of our State among Mr. Foster's approvers, and cheerfully add our word of support to him in establishing himself among us, confident that any one so unfortunate as to need artificial support, will find in him a friend."

The Detroit *Advertiser and Tribune*, a reliable and most ably conducted daily paper, published at Detroit, Mich., which has the largest circulation of any daily published in the State, in its issue of September 18th, 1866, had a long and very interesting article about Artificial Limbs, from which I take the following extracts:

"Within a little more than a year a branch of business has been introduced into Detroit, of especial interest at the present time, and always of great benefit to a community. We refer to the manufacture of artificial limbs by James A. Foster, at 192 Jefferson avenue. So great perfection has been attained in the construction of these limbs, that almost every unfortunate who has lost a limb, no matter where amputated, can soon walk with comfort and tolerable rapidity. The advantages which a man possessing one has over him who goes about on crutches, are so immense that we should suppose no one would be without whose means enabled him to command it. He is enabled to get about and perform his regular work, perhaps not of so great an amount as before, but in any business that does not demand extraordinary activity, almost as much as any able man; the deformity is so slight that it is hardly noticed, and he is relieved from some disagreeable consequences that almost invariably follow the protracted use of crutches. This, in time, affects the nervous system, the spine and the lungs, besides causing sharp pains and general discomfort and illness. With the artificial arm and hand wonders can be achieved. The wearer, after a little practice, is able to wield it with rapidity and accuracy, and we have seen several specimens of writing done with one that were perfectly legible, and at least equal in appearance to that performed by most men with the left hand.

It was natural that during and at the close of the war, attention should be directed more particularly to this branch of art, and that

large improvements should be made in the construction of the articles. Already, as we have shown, it has reached such a point that the loss of the limb is hardly noticed by another and hardly felt by the looser, but it is probable that the improvements in this manufacture have a limit which will early be reached, and, indeed, we hardly see how a limb much better than those we have mentioned can well be constructed. The heavy expense of a really good article is undoubtedly a serious consideration, but all the late improvements should certainly be introduced."

TESTIMONIALS OF SURGEONS.

POTSDAM, N. Y., March 10, 1865.

JAMES A. FOSTER,—*Sir*,—My nephew is greatly pleased with the leg you made him, and he says no money could buy it if he could not get another from you. I was present when he first put it on, and examined it carefully and with much interest, as I have often done the legs and arms made by other men, and I must say that yours is the most perfect, and best adapted, and best fitted of any I have examined. My nephew can walk up hill and down, and on the side hill with great ease and comfort to himself.

I think the great secret of your success is in making and fitting the limb to the stump. Your mechanical eye at once discovers the strength and power of the muscles of the stump and hip and loins, and you seem to judge most correctly of their combined power, and you seem to know by looking at the man what sort of limb will suit his stump and strength, so as to give him comfort and ease in walking, and make him forget he has a wooden leg.

Respectfully your friend,

G. F. COLE, M. D.

To James A. Foster, Esq., Detroit.

DEEROIT, June 10, 1865.

I have examined somewhat critically the artificial leg manufactured by Mr. James A. Foster of this city, and must say that it is a most excellent article. It is in some respects I think, superior to either Palmer's or Bly's celebrated limbs.

MOSES GUNN.

JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Sir*,—From a careful examination of your artificial leg, and also having witnessed its successful operation, I take pleasure in recommending it as complete, durable and easy of repair, and in these respects unsurpassed by any other artificial legs with which I am acquainted.

E. W. JENKS.

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79 SHELBY ST., DETROIT, June 19, 1865.

I have examined with much satisfaction the artificial leg manufactured by Mr. James A. Foster of this city, and would heartily recommend it to any person requiring such a member.

GEO. P. ANDREWS.

DETROIT, June 20, 1865.

To whom it may concern: This may certify that I have examined the leg manufactured by a citizen of this city, Mr. James A. Foster, and believe it to be as good as any other made, and am not certain but it has superior qualities; should not decline to recommend it to my best friend.

JNO. M. ALDEN,
City Physician.

DETROIT, June 22, 1865.

I have seen in use and carefully examined the artificial leg manufactured by Mr. J. A. Foster of this city, and, in my opinion, for simplicity of structure, correctness of motion, durability and lightness, it is unsurpassed by any other artificial leg manufactured on this continent.

HENRY A. CLELAND, M. D.

DETROIT, June 23, 1865.

From careful examination I am convinced the artificial limb manufactured by James A. Foster of this city, has some improvement in construction which makes it more durable, easier to put and keep in order, and more serviceable than either Palmer's or Dr. Bly's, and can cheerfully recommend it to any in need of the same.

J. F. NOYES.

DETROIT, June 24, 1865.

I have carefully examined the artificial leg manufactured by Mr. James A. Foster of this city. I regard it as superior in several respects to either Palmer's or Bly's.

E. M. CLARK.

DETROIT, June 24, 1865.

MR. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I have carefully examined the artificial leg manufatured by you, and without hesitation pronounce it the best I have ever seen.

J. A. ALBERTSON. M. D.

DETROIT, June 25, 1865.

MR. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—From the examination of the artificial limb manufactured in the city of Detroit by yourself, I am pleased to express my admiration of the mechanical simplicity of the construction of

the joint movements, its lightness, naturalness of motion and beauty of finish, and would cheerfully recommend it to the attention of those desiring artificial limbs.

I remain, yours obediently,
LOUIS DAVENPORT, M. D.

HARPER U. S. A. GEN'L HOSPITAL,
Detroit, Mich., June 26, 1865.

We, the undersigned, having carefully examined the artificial leg manufactured by James A. Foster of this city, would state it as our opinion that it is unsurpassed by any other in simplicity of structure and durability, and most cheerfully recommend it to any who may be in need of an artificial leg.

D. O. FARRAND,
Assistant Surgeon U. S. A., Supt. of Hospital.
W. C. CATLIN,
A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A.
W. A. CHANDLER,
A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A.
E. W. JENKS,
A. A. Surgeon, U. S. A.

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31 LAFAYETTE ST. WEST, June 28, 1865.

MR. JAS. FOSTER,—*Sir*,—I have examined your specimen of artificial leg manufactured by you in this city, and must concede I have seen no superior in workmanship, and judging from its action as seen in its operation on yourself, it must meet all the requirements necessary for those who need its advantages.

WM. BRODIE, M. D.

TESTIMONY OF THOSE WEARING THE LEG.

PARSHALVILLE, MICH., April 10th, 1866.

MR. JAMES A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I have worn one of your patent artificial legs one year, and feel safe in recommending it as the easiest and most durable leg worn. I told you I would not recommend it until I had tried it one year, which I have done and can say I am *perfectly* satisfied with the result of the trial. I had worn one of Dr. Bly's before getting one of yours and had three break-downs in one year. The cords and springs were continually giving out, and I never felt sure when leaving home that it would last me back again. To all unfortunates like myself, I would cheerfully recommend your limb.

Yours, &c.,
BENJAMIN TUTTLE.

FLUSHING, MICH., July 18th, 1866.

J. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*.—To soldiers and others in need of artificial limbs. Mr. Foster has requested me to tell you how I like the leg

he made for me. My limb was amputated below the knee. I have worn the artificial limb manufactured by Mr. Foster eighteen months, and am able to handle it and walk far better than I ever anticipated doing. When I had it less than two weeks I walked five miles inside of one hour and a half, and can now walk up and down stairs, *either foot foremost.*

Some time since, a person who had heard I was minus a leg came into my shop, and, after seeing me walk, tread the lathe and kick higher than my head, he utterly refused to believe I was wearing an artificial limb until I let him look at it. I have thoroughly tested its strength and am satisfied that it cannot be broken by any fair usage.

Yours respectfully,

WM. WATSON.

FARMINGTON, MICH., October 10th, 1866.

JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—When I send you this I feel as if I were only fulfilling a duty I owe you and others who have been so unfortunate as myself. You will recollect I lost one of my legs in the army. I saw your patent union artificial limb before I procured one and liked it very much, but as you had no government contract I was obliged to go east to use my government order; I procured one of Palmer's, supposing it to be the best furnished, and it was not worth the money I used to pay traveling expenses going after it. After using it about three months I became so dissatisfied with it, that I ordered one of you, which I have worn ever since, and in fact my Palmer leg is so broken that I could not use it if I wished until it has been back to the manufacturers for repairs. I have worn the one you made me about a year and have had no repairs on it, and have found no weak places in it as yet. You are at liberty to use this if you see fit, and I shall advise all who have need of an artificial limb to try one of yours as I know it to be a superior article.

Yours truly,

JOHN FREDERICK.

EXTRACTS FROM LETTERS RECEIVED FROM HENRY MORSE.

MAY 17th, 1866.

I write to let you know I arrived home safe, and that I am getting along well with my artificial leg. I can walk very well without crutch or cane, and with my cane can walk better than I ever expected to. I intend walking to town to day.

JUNE 11th.

I am called upon to show my artificial limb to a great many people, ladies as well as gents. I can walk as well as any of the wooden legged gentry, your honor excepted. Will write you again soon and let you know how I get along with the artificial limb.

AUGUST 6th.

I intended to have written to you before this to let you know how I am getting along, but have been so very busy haying and harvesting since my last letter that I could not possibly find time. My artificial leg is all

right and I am able to work every day in the hay or harvest field. I can rake, load or pitch first rate, and can bind as much wheat as most of the hands we pay $2.50 per day; in fact I can do more than I ever supposed it were possible for a man to do with an artificial limb.

The above extracts I publish without his knowledge. I do it to show how a man sometimes gets disappointed. Mr. Morse is fifty one years of age, and at the time he came to see about getting a limb he was very fleshy and clumsy, and it was with difficulty that he ascended a flight of stairs. He said if he could get an artificial leg that he could get around on he would be perfectly satisfied for he did not expect to do any more labor.

Mr. Morse of late has been engagedd in farming, but was formerly a practical mechanic, and the following letter needs no comments:

COLUMBUS, WIS., October 23d, 1866.

JAS. A. FOSTER.—*Dear Sir*,—I am perfectly satisfied with the artificial leg you made for me last April. When I examined into the principles upon which your limb was constructed I thought it superior to any other, and a trial of it has only served to confirm me in that opinion. It works admirably—I can get around better and do more work than any person I ever met with wearing an artificial leg; in fact I do not believe there is a limb manufactured in the country that can compete with it.

Yours respectfully,

HENRY MORSE.

The following extracts from letters received from Miss M. J. Hanna are published without her knowledge, but judging from the tone of her letter sent me for publication that she will not be offended, and therefore I take the liberty to publish them.

JUNE 10th, 1866, she writes:—

I received my artificial limb last Thursday, and cannot find language to tell you how well I am pleased with it. I have worn it three days and am able to jump the rope with any of my scholars.

I have now been in school three weeks; I have forty scholars; I get along nicely with them and enjoy myself very much, as teaching is my favorite occupation.

JULY 8th.

I get along nicely with my artificial limb; I like it better every day I wear it. The longest walk I have taken yet is three miles.

AUGUST 18th.

I think it terrible to be deprived of the privilege of walking, and often think what a blessing the men who brought artificial limbs to such perfection have conferred upon their unfortunate fellow creatures. I have not known what real comfort was for the last eleven years until I procured this artificial limb of you, and I cannot feel thankful enough for the enjoyment it has afforded me. I use it with perfect ease, and do not hesitate to walk off two and a half miles in an evening.

October 4th.

My brother wishes me to say to you, that his artificial limb works capitally and shows no signs of getting out of repair. He met a man last Wednesday who was wearing an artificial limb manufactured by Dr. Bly, and after walking a while and comparing notes he told my brother he should get one of your manufacture.

Ravena, Mich., November 5th, 1866.

Mr. Jas. A. Foster, 192 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir, — Hearing you are about to publish a list of voluntary testimonials from those that are wearing your limb, I hasten to bear witness to its goodness. Really I am doing so well with it that I do not know on what particular point to speak.

I can do house work with perfect ease; I can again mix in an assemblage of people without being gazed upon or pointed at, or what is still worse to hear that harsh though often kindly meant exclamation 'there is a cripple.' Your artificial limbs need no eulogy from my pen, they only need to be seen and applied to be appreciated.

I shall take much pains to recommend them, when I meet with those in need of a substitute for a lost limb.

Yours very respectfully,

MISS MARY JANE HANNA.

Ravena, Mich., November 5th, 1866.

Jas. A. Foster,—*Dear Sir*,—I have been wearing the artificial leg which you fitted to me a little over a year. Since the first week I have worn it without inconvenience. I think it is the best artificial limb made for utility, because the construction is so simple that there is very little machinery to get out of repair. To all wishing artificial limbs I would say, by all means procure one of Mr. Foster's patent.

Yours respectfully,

ALEXANDER HANNA.

Detroit, December 5th, 1866.

J. A. Foster,—*Dear Sir*,—I have worn one of your legs one year without its being once out of order or needing repairs. I am a machinist by occupation, and run the largest lathe in the Detroit and Milwaukee R. R. machine shop without difficulty. Previous to getting a limb of you I had worn one of Dr. Bly's ball and socket legs for five years, which got out of order so often that it cost me more for repairs during that time than I paid for it new, whereas with yours it is quite the contrary, it being as good to day as the day I purchased it, and for comfort, naturalness of movement, and beauty of finish it cannot be surpassed.

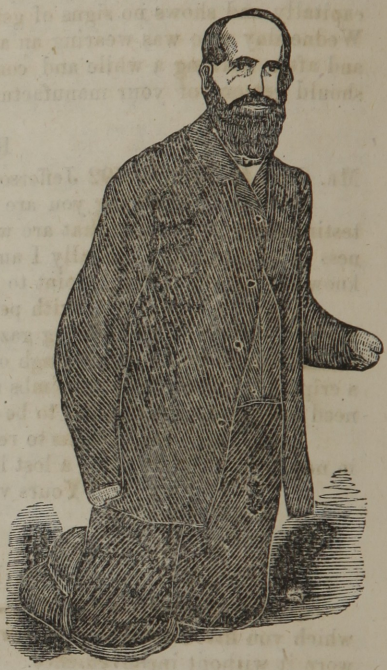
I examined many kinds of legs before purchasing of you, and have arrived at the conclusion that you make the best that can be procured on this continent, and most cheerfully recommend it to all who need such a substitute.

Yours respectfully,

HENRY MERDIAN.

F. G. RAND, OF DETROIT, MICH.

AS HE IS.



AS HE WAS.

DETROIT, MICH., December 10th, 1866.

JAMES A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—It is with profound sentiments of gratitude and thankfulness that I now beg leave to give you my experience thus far with the two artificial legs which you applied to me. For the benefit of those that may have the misfortune to have both feet amputated, and have any doubts about being able to wear two artificial legs, I will state my case.

On the night of the 9th of December, 1863, I froze my hands and feet. On the 25th of the same month it became necessary to have both feet amputated, and eight days after both hands. My case has always been considered a hopeless one, for I had no hands to carry a cane in learning to walk; but your encouragements inspired me with hope, and all I have to regret is that I did not get them sooner. Thus far in using them they have far exceeded my expectations, for the first time I put them on I walked and descended a flight of stairs without difficulty. The result is a complete triumph. No one can sufficiently esteem the importance of a pair of artificial legs to mankind save those whom misfortune compels to wear them.

Yours respectfully,

F. G. RAND.

DETROIT, December 10th, 1866.

MR. JAMES FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,— The limb you manufactured for me works admirably, and thus far has more than equalled my expectations. At the time I applied to you for a leg I had very little hope of getting one that I could wear with any comfort or feeling of security. I had been wearing one of the celebrated ball and socket inventions *called* artificial limbs, manufactured by Dr. Bly, until my patience was *nearly* worn out and the leg *completely* used up. It required about eighteen month's to accomplish this.

During that time I had to send the leg to Rochester for repairs twice, besides having a new set of cords and springs which I put in myself. I have examined several other kinds of artificial limbs, and I have no hesitancy in saying that it is my opinion that the Foster leg is superior to any I have yet seen.

Yours truly,

JAMES R. DUTTON.

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141 GRAND RIVER ST., DETROIT, MICH., December 21st, 1866.

MR. JAMES FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—As you are about to publish a few voluntary testimonials from those that are wearing your Patent Artificial limbs, you may say for me, that if any one wishes to know how I like the artificial leg you made for me about sixteen months ago, they can write to me or call and see it in use.

Yours, &c.,

WM. E. SPRINGSTEEN.

FLINT, MICH., December 9th, 1866.

JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I received my artificial leg yesterday all right. I think it is very nice; it is a much better shape than I thought you could make it, on account of the stump being so long. I have worn it all day yesterday and it feels quite comfortable. I can walk so much easier with it than I could with the old one (made by Palmer) that I almost feel as though I had my natural leg. I will write you again in a few days after I see how I can work with it, but I think I will be able to do about as much work as ever.

LATER, the 20th.—My artificial leg works finely.

Yours respectfully,

JOHN H. CAREY.

LISBON CENTRE, ST. LAWRENCE CO., N. Y., Dec. 7, 1863.

MR. JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I hardly know what to say about my leg; I can wear it all the time and feel scarcely any pain. The trouble is all in the knee joint, I think the bolt is too near the back side of the leg, causing it to tip forward too easy. I have worn it every day I have been home. I wore it to church last Sunday and the folks thought I walked very well, but I have to be very careful of the knee or I should get some hard falls. If it were not for the knee joints bothering me by flying out, I could walk five miles per day; as it is, I can walk one mile.

Yours respectfully,

JAMES J. HARPER.

NOTE.—The above is taken from a letter written a few days after he got his leg. He seems to think the knee is not quite right, and I think no one will wonder at it when they read his next letter and find that his stump is only *one inch and seven-eights in length from the hip joint.* Nearly all, when learning to walk with an artificial knee, imagine there is something wrong with it. This is a natural consequence from the fact that a person with a thigh amputation always sits or stands with the stump inclined forward, thereby acquiring a habit of carrying it in that position which has to be corrected when the limb is put on. They soon learn that the trouble is with themselves and not the leg, by using it. J. A. F.

Additional Testimony from Jas. J. Harper.

LISBON CENTRE, Sept. 26, 1864.

MR. JAMES A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I am still wearing the artificial limb you made me, and feel a satisfaction in saying that it more than meets my expectation for its lightness, adaptation, durability, anatomical beauty and naturalness of motion.

For the benefit of those who have been as unfortunate as myself, I will give a short history of my case, which I believe has never had its parallel since the invention of artificial limbs. You have a perfect right to make use of it in any way you please or refer to me at any time.

Having had the misfortune to lose my leg close to the body—stump one inch and seven-eights long—and being very desirous to know if it were possible for me to wear an artificial limb, I wrote to Mr. Condell telling him my condition; he considered my case so hopeless that he did not answer my letter. I then visited Dr. Bly of Rochester; he did not think I could wear one, but said if I would bandage my stump awhile and come again, he would tell me whether he could do anything for me or not. He had written to me of men wearing limbs with stumps as short as mine, bet when I was there he had nothing to say of such cases, and told me it would be no credit to him or to me to make me a limb, as he considered my case hopeless. I went home thinking I should be forced to go upon crutches the remainder of my life, and think I should not have been so happily disappointed had I not accidentally met you at Potsdam, walking perfectly well without the aid of a cane. I would not give you my measure at that time because I doubted your having made the limb you wore, but when I ascertained that such was the case, and that you were about going west to start business on your own account, I determined to have you try to set me walking. How well you succeeded you can judge when I tell what I can do and have done. I am a farmer, and the past season hoed, mowed, pitched hay, and done many other kinds of work that is to be done on a farm.

I am a commissioner of highways, and a few days since had occasion to survey a new road through woods a distance of three miles. The weather was very warm, but I went through without trouble and could have gone farther. I think anyone wearing an artificial leg with an artificial knee will agree with me in saying it would be as easy to walk six miles on a good road. I think on a cool day on a good road I could walk eight miles without starting the skin. Everyone that has seen me use it has been astonished, and Dr. Brydges of Ogdensburg, who amputated my leg,

considers it a miracle, and that I should be grateful to you as long as I live. In conclusion I would say that I consider myself qualified to recommend your limbs, and will be most happy to give any information in my power to any who may wish it. I have never seen one who could walk better than you with an artificial knee, and feel justified in advising all who have lost limbs to go to you, from the fact that no person is so well qualified to fit a limb as he who wears one himself.

Yours respectfully,

JAS. J. HARPER.

Additional testimony from Jas. J. Harper.

LISBON CENTRE, Jan. 31, 1865.

MR. JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—My leg is all right. I have worn it every day and failed to find any weak points in it. It would surprise you to see how well I can walk. I have done my own chores nearly all the winter; have drawn my own wood, and can do more work than I ever expected to be able to do again. I am sorry you have settled so far away as it will be so far to go if I should happen to break down. *Dr. Bridges*, Dr. Furness and Dr. Crookshank of Ogdensburg, say that I am walking better than they ever thought any one could with so short a stump, and I am improving every day.

Truly yours, JAS. J. HARPER.

After reading the above letters, can any one doubt the ability of a person to walk and do business with a *good limb* if he has as much stump as Mr. Harper. The reason so many persons do not wear limbs after being to the expense of getting them, is because they are not properly fitted. The advantage that I possess over others in fitting is that I wear a *full length limb myself*, and of course can tell how it should fit to work with ease and comfort. I often find persons who have purchased limbs, and after trying them a few months lay them aside, concluding it impossible for them to wear one. Any who have brought them to me with such complaints I have never failed to set walking. J. A. F.

The following testimony is from a man who has worn three other artificial legs. He said, when he came to me, that he did not believe there could be one made that would hold him. How I have succeeded, his letter will show:

WEST STOCKHOLM, N. Y., Oct. 12, 1864.

MR. JAMES A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—The leg you made for me is the fourth I have had, and I consider it much better than any I have tried before. I tend saw-mill and get as much wages as those with two good legs, and I challenge the State to produce a man who will outdo me in like circumstances. I can carry two bushels of wheat up stairs, placing the false foot forward alternately, and step upon a platform 2 1-2 feet high with perfect ease. I hunt, fish, run, scuffle and jump—have worn your leg six months, trying it thoroughly, and, in conclusion, will say I consider yours the best artificial limb manufactured in the United States.

Yours truly, I. F. FOLSOM.

Additional testimony from I. F. Folsom.

December 25, 1864.

Mr. Foster,—*Sir*,—My leg works first-rate. I work on it all the time, boarding one-half mile from the mill, which I travel at present through snow one foot in depth. I am sawing shingles, and I do not believe there is a leg made that wlll do better service. If there can, I would go twenty miles to see and test it. You know that proof of the pudding is eating it, and an artificial leg by wearing.

Yours, &c., I. F. FOLSOM.

———

Still later evidence from the same source:

January 14, 1865.

Mr. Foster,—*Dear Sir*,—I sawed five and one-half thousands of cedar shingles yesterday and walked one mile, besides going visiting in the evening, and having a good time generally,

Yours, &c., I. F. FOLSOM.

———

Rouse's Point, N. Y., August 18, 1864.

Jas. A. Foster,—*Dear Sir*,—I promised to let you know how I liked my limb. I will tell you. I have worn Palmer's eleven years, and also one of James Drake's, and yours surpasses them both for lightness, durability and beauty. I have worked five months, ten hours per day, walking, as near as I can calculate, five miles each day. I would recommend all who have lost limbs to procure one of your make, and I think you will find plenty of business, without going West, as you talk of doing. I intend coming to see you the first of next month.

Yours truly,

THOS. HAYES.

———

Later from the same source:

Rouse's Point, N. Y., March 27, 1865.

Mr. Foster,—*Dear Sir*,—My leg gives perfect satisfaction so far, and if I wished another I should certainly come to you. I have worn it about one year, and it shows no signs of failing as yet.

Respectfully, &c.,

THOS. HAYES.

———

Helena, N. Y., Sept. 11, 1864.

Mr. Jas. Foster,—*Sir*,—With the greatest satisfaction I write these few lines to inform you and the public at large, that the leg you made me is a perfect fit, and in durability cannot be surpassed. I am a farmer by occupation—have used your leg for some time, and the longer I use it the better I like it. I have seen limbs made by Mr. Hudson, New York, and by a gentleman in Brockville—am persuaded that this surpasses them both. Trusting this information may do some other one good, I subscribe myself,

Your friend,

NICHOLAS SCULLEN.

Additional testimony from Nicholas Scullen:

HELENA, January 2, 1865.

MR. FOSTER,—My leg does remarkably well, and I am very much pleased with it. I never imagined I could be made to walk so well.

Yours,

NICHOLAS SCULLEN.

WEST POTSDAM, August 26, 1864.

JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Sir*,—I am happy to say the leg you made for me last winter is better than I anticipated. I put it on in March and have worn it ever since, only taking it off nights. I have walked a mile and back several times; in fact the leg goes first-rate. You would be surprised to see me walk, I have improved so much, and I advise all who have lost a limb to avail themselves of one of your substitutes.

Respectfully yours,

ANDREW J. COLE.

The following letter is from a boy only fifteen years of age, whose father was opposed to his having a leg while so young, because he feared he would not learn to use it, or, if he did, would soon outgrow it. The first objection is answered by the letter itself. As for the last, I will have to say that it is not necessary for a person to go on crutches until they get their growth. The sooner one gets a limb, after the stump is thoroughly healed, the better. For a person who has not his growth, the limb can be made a little longer, and then, by putting very little heel on the boot upon the false limb and a high one upon the other, a variation of from one to three inches can be made, by taking from one boot and adding to the other, as necessity requires. It can be done also by making the lower part of the leg a very little longer than the natural one, and the upper part enough shorter to get the right length, and after the person has his growth splicing it with a new fit. Some might think this would appear awkward, but it will not be noticed when walking, and only slightly perceptible when sitting. J. A. F.

POTSDAM, N. Y., Sept. 8, 1864.

JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I take this opportunity to let you know how I get along with my leg. I am able to walk off pretty well without crutches, and father is very much pleased—says I am learning to walk very fast. I can wear it all day without removing it, and if I improve as fast for the next two weeks as I have for the last two, I shall be able to do almost as well as you do with yours. Please let me know where you stop when you go West.

Yours truly,

JOHN A. HAIG.

STOCKHOLM, N. Y., Jan. 16, 1865.

MR. FOSTER,—*Sir*,—The leg you made for me suits me well. I am so much attached to it that I have laid my other leg, that I got from Mr. Condell, entirely aside. I can walk and work with this with perfect ease, and would recommend your limbs to all who need such, as the

lightest, most substantial, and in all respects the best I have ever seen.

Yours respectfully,
WASHINGTON ADAMS.

Detroit, Mich., June 17, 1865.

Mr. Jas. A. Foster,—Dear Sir,—I send you this note to let you know how the leg suits which you made me. It is all right, and I feel with it—after going upon crutches so long—almost a new man, and am liking it better every day I use it. I think the apparatus you use in place of a knee spring a great improvement, for, since having mine changed, I like the leg much better. I seem to be able to control it better, and feel safer upon it; besides, the satisfaction I have of knowing that it moves in a more natural manner, and all who see me will not be able to tell, by the motion of the lower part, that I am wearing a wooden leg. I find no difficulty in walking with any of the wooden legged gentry, (always excepting yourself,) even those wearing limbs made by the Eastern manufacturers, and have come to the conclusion, that it is possible for mechanics in the West to make the artificial limbs that are needed for their own section, and that there is no need of our submitting to the trouble and expense of a long journey merely for the privilege of paying our money to Eastern monopolists. You are at liberty to refer any wishing information to me, and I will be happy to show them the working of the article with which you have succeeded in making one feel *almost* a man again.

Yours respectfully,
D. D. DAVIS.

Cambria Mills, Hillsdale Co., Mich., June 16, 1865.

Mr. James A. Foster,—Dear Sir,—It is now five weeks since receiving my leg, of your manufacture, and, in reply to your inquiry as to how I like it, I feel happy to state that for lightness, strength, form and motion, and ease in walking, it far exceeds my most sanguine expectations. I have worn it every day except one since receiving it, and do not pretend to use crutches. I can walk quite well without a cane even, and feel perfectly safe in saying that I can walk with any man whose stump is no longer than mine (7 inches,) and who has used his leg no longer. I care not where it was made. Previous to seeing your work I had determined to procure one of Bly's ball and socket limbs, but, after comparing and utterly failing to find any advantage to be derived from the side motion, by talking with and finding out the experiences of those who had worn both, I at once concluded to get yours, and can say I have found no reason to regret my choice.

Respectfully, &c.,
ROBT. McDOUGALL.

The writer of the following has had his leg but a few days, but seems to think he will learn to use.

East Ogden, Mich., April 12, 1865.

Mr. Foster,—Dear Sir,—My leg has arrived all right, and I have worn it all day. So far it does not hurt me much, and I do not use my

crutch at all. It is very awkward getting up or down stairs, or stepping over anything with it, but for all that I could walk eight or ten miles a day now, and not mind it much. I have seen a number of artificial legs, and I think yours the easiest and most natural to walk with of any.

Yours very respectfully,

MATTHEW BROCKWAY.

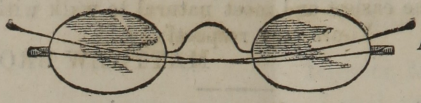
Additional testimony from the above:

EAST OGDEN, May 31, 1865.

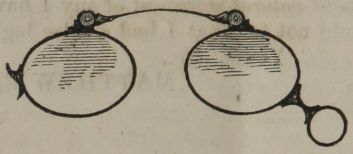
JAS. A. FOSTER,—*Dear Sir*,—I can say you make the *best fit*, and your limbs possess the most *natural movement* of any I have yet seen. All who see me say they could not tell that I had a false leg by my walk.

Yours, &c.,

MATTHEW BROCKWAY.

LOUIS BLACK.  ALBERT LANDSBERG

L. BLACK & CO.,

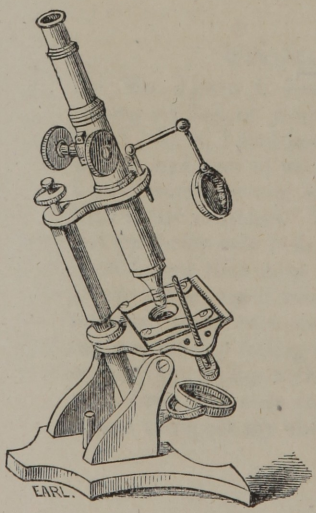


OPTICIANS,

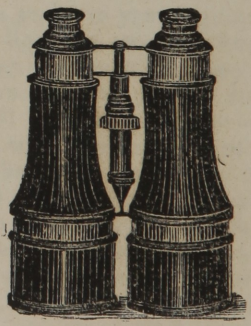
194 JEFFERSON AVENUE,

Corner of Bates St., - DETROIT, MICH.,

Importers of and Dealers in



Spectacles,
Eye-Glasses,
Micrascopes,
Telescopes,
Opera and
Marine-Glasses,
Draughtsmen's
Instruments,
Stereoscopes,
Stereo-Views,
Barometers,
Compasses,
Picture-Frames,
Mouldings,
Photographs,
etc., etc.



Artificial Human Eyes Inserted without Pain.

It will be seen by reference to an advertisement on the next page that the Proprietor of the

"WESTERN RURAL"

Is now offering great inducements in the way of PREMIUMS! not only to DISABLED SOLDIERS, but to all who will procure subscribers for that LARGE QUARTO WEEKLY, a VALUABLE Journal for the Farm and Fireside, published at Chicago and Detroit.

Never before were such liberal inducements offered to those who have been so unfortunate as to lose a LEG to procure the VERY BEST kind of an ARTIFICIAL one.

The offer is such that any deserving person in need can, with a very little exertion, procure one of the very best kind. I believe, with this very liberal offer, there can be no excuse to be hobbling about on crutches, or to drag out a miserable existence on an old fashioned peg leg. I believe there is hardly a person in the country who would refuse to subscribe to aid such an undertaking after seeing a copy of the paper.

His PREMIUMS of Sewing Machines, Clothes Wringers, Photograph Albums, &c., are offers of most extraordinary liberality.

It is something over two years since I became acquainted with Mr. Lewis, the proprietor, and his paper the WESTERN RURAL. Although I am not a farmer, I always find it very interesting and useful to all classes of persons.

To show how easy it is to obtain subscribers for the WESTERN RURAL, and how well pleased the recipients are with the premiums, and how prompt the proprietor is in forwarding all premiums due, I will here publish a letter received from the person that received the first premium Sewing Machine, and one from a "War Widow," both of which I have seen, and as they speak plainly for themselves they need no comments.

J. A. FOSTER.

APPLETON, WIS., Nov. 15, 1866.

MR. H. N. F. LEWIS, 164 and 166 Randolph Street, Chicago, Ill.:

Dear Sir:—The Sewing Machine was duly received, in fine order, and works admirably. It was easily obtained, because it was so easy to obtain subscribers to your interesting "WESTERN RURAL." As you will see by the new list which follows, I have not yet exhausted the field, but expect soon to call for another machine.

I am compelled to seek my support by such means as I have at hand, and brains must make up for lack of physical resources. I looked about and found that your "Rural" would pay for extensive circulation—pay both myself and those who would subscribe for it.

Speaking from experience, I can advise all disabled soldiers to try the introduction of your paper in their respective sections. Yours, O. B. STEVENS.

FORKSVILLE, LAKE CO., ILL., Dec. 18, 1866.

MR. H. N. F. LEWIS,—Dear Sir.—I write to return my thanks for your prompt attention in forwarding the No. 3 Wheeler and Wilson Sewing Machine by the U. S. Express Co., which came to hand in good order, and I am glad also to add gives entire satisfaction. As I am a "war widow," dependent upon my labors for a livelihood, the Machine will be a great help to me. I can also say that the twenty-five subscribers are nearly all of them farmers, who will appreciate your excellent paper, and I have no doubt will deem it indispensable at the end of the year.

Yours respectfully, MRS. A. E. SMITH.

For Western Farms and Western Homes.

THE WESTERN RURAL,

A Large Quarto Weekly Journal for the Farm and Fireside,

PUBLISHED at CHICAGO and DETROIT.

The WESTERN RURAL commenced its Fifth Volume January 1st, 1867. It has been received with emphatic approval by both Press and People, and now finds its way regularly to more than **20,000** firesides, and upwards of 100,000 readers, embracing nearly every post office in the Western States. The Publisher will spare no effort to make it constantly more acceptable to its readers.

The Chicago edition is adapted to the West and North-West generally, and that at Detroit more particularly to Michigan, matters of merely local interest in one being omitted in the other—each comprising something of *general value*—thus combining the facilities and advantages of TWO PAPERS IN ONE.

WHAT THE PRESS SAYS:

From a great number of complimentary notices we extract:

The WESTERN RURAL possesses uncommon excellence as an agricultural journal, and has already won a very large circulation throughout the West.—*Chicago Journal.*

The fact that the circulation of the WESTERN RURAL steadily increases is proof that the people like it.—*Detroit Advertiser and Tribune.*

Western Farmers find it better adapted to their wants than Eastern journals.—*Chicago Times.*

The WESTERN RURAL has established a popularity beyond precedent.—*Detroit Free Press.*

Our readers should give it preference to any Eastern agricultural paper.—*Chicago Tribune.*

TERMS.—Single copy, $2.50 per year; $2.00 in clubs of four and more—with a copy free for a club of eight.

SPLENDID PREMIUMS AND PRIZES.

One half of the entire Receipts will be given on all subscriptions (not less than ten subscribers) at our Club Rate, ($2.00 per year,) procured and forwarded by disabled soldiers, or other worthy disabled persons, payable in Cash Orders for Foster's Celebrated Artificial Legs, manufactured in CINCINNATI or DETROIT.

A Wheeler & Wilson Family Sewing Machine, No. 3, worth $60, will be given for 25 new subscribers at our single subscription price, $2.50 per year each, or for 50 subscribers at our club rate ($2.00 per year each.) Machines warranted and shipped from New York, Chicago or Detroit, as most convenient to recipient.

Also liberal premiums of Books, Photograph Albums, Clothes Wringers, etc., for clubs of four and upward, with Cash Prizes for largest lists.

Subscriptions can commence with the first of any month. A club need not all be at one post office, and names may be sent as fast as procured. No charge for changing addresses.

Specimen Copies, Supplements for distribution, etc., sent free in any quantity desired, and *full particulars.*

Address, H. N. F. LEWIS,

Publisher Western Rural, at either Chicago or Detroit

Printing Offices: Chicago, 164 and 166 Randolph St., Detroit, 192 Jefferson Ave.

ADDITIONAL TESTIMONIALS.

Since the foregoing was in type I have received the following certificates and notices from the leading papers published in the West:

ANOTHER CASE OF A DOUBLE AMPUTATION.

BAY CITY, MICH., *February* 5, 1868.

JAMES A. FOSTER—Sir: In relation to your inquiry how I get along with the pair of artificial legs which you applied to me a year ago, I am happy to inform you that they are a success, beyond my hopeful expectation. I can now chop, saw and split wood, and do many kinds of out-door labor. I can walk out two miles from home, and back with ease. I never anticipated that I could accomplish what I can with a pair of artificial limbs. I can now walk about in a crowd of people, and no one would mistrust that I walk on a pair of artificial legs. Yours, &c., FREDERICK STOCKLE.

DETROIT, *July* 12, 1867.

MR. JAMES A. FOSTER, *Cincinnati:*

Dear Sir—I take this opportunity to express my entire satisfaction with the artificial limb that you made for me last winter. I have now worn it about eight months, and have not spent a moment in keeping it in order; in fact, so strongly is it made that it seems almost impossible for it, with ordinary wear, to get out of order. It is more than a pound lighter than my "Bly" limb, and I pronounce it by far the best in every respect that I ever saw. I have worn each of the two most celebrated limbs in the country, and can truly say that I think that neither of them approximate yours in any point of worth, more especially the "Bly" limb, whose excellence must, I think, consist mainly in its reputation, as the one for which I paid $175 became almost worthlesss in six months wear, notwithstanding the amount of time that I daily devoted to keeping it in order. I have seen a number of persons who have discarded the "Bly" limb for yours, and they all concur in pronouncing yours the *ultima thule* of perfection in artificial limbs.

I urge all wishing a leg to come to you, as your yoke is easy and your burden (leg) comparatively light.

Wishing you and your admirable limb the success you merit, I remain, sir, yours truly, J. H. MCMILLAN.

AILSA CRAIG, C. W., *February* 6, 1868.

JAMES A. FOSTER, *Detroit, Mich.*

Dear Sir—Doctor Bly's superintendent in his artificial limb manufactory, at Chicago, Ill., wanted I should write him a piece for publication, stating how I like his artificial legs, and I have concluded to comply with his request; and as I have one of your manufacture, I thought I would send it to you and let you publish it, too, hoping you will send Mr. Gardner a copy of it, as I do not wish to show any partiality to either manufacturer.

The following letter is the recommendation that Mr. Gardner asked for:

AILSA CRAIG, C. W., *February* 6, 1868.

TO MR. JOHN GARDNER, *Superintendent of Dr. Bly's Artificial Limb Manufactory, Chicago, Ill.*

Dear Sir—As you requested me to write, stating how I liked the artificial legs you made for me, I will do so.

The first one you made for me was the celebrated Ball and Socket leg, with side motion at the ankle, which I used about fourteen months and laid it aside completely used up. I then bought one of your Army and Navy legs, which I tried to use (with poor success) for three months and then laid it aside for one of *Foster's Patent Union Artificial Legs*, which I have now been using every day with success for the last sixteen months, which is all right now, and looks fair to be so for some time to come. In conclusion I would say, if Foster's leg proves in the future what it has in the past, I shall not want any more of your Anatomical, Ball and Socket, Universal and Side Motion legs. Yours very respectfully, JOSEPH STONEHOUSE.

DETROIT, MICH., *February* 10, 1868.

JAMES FOSTER—Dear Sir: For the benefit of yourself and those who are so unfortunate as to be compelled to wear an artificial leg, I will give you a little of my experience in artificial limbs, which you are at liberty to publish or make use of in any way you see fit, or refer to me at any time.

While serving my country I was wounded so that it became necessary to amputate my leg above the knee. I purchased one of Doctor Bly's celebrated Ball and Socket Anatomical artificial legs (which I supposed to be the best at the time), which I used for some three years. I had to overhaul it about once a week to keep it in running order. After witnessing the success of your artificial limbs (for almost three years,) which you applied to yourself and others, I thought best to try one of yours, and I am free to say that I do not regret it. The leg you manufactured is lighter, less complicated, less likely to get out of repair, more beautiful, easier to wear and the movement is more like nature's own work. The improvement you have over all others in the knee joint is a decided success.

E. F. SHEPHERD, 66 *Washington Avenue.*

AURORA, IND., *August* 18, 1867.

MR. JAS. A. FOSTER—Dear Sir: Your note, asking me how I like the artificial leg which you made for me, is received, and I can say I am very well pleased with it. I like it much better than the one I had before, made by Mr. Jewett, of Washington, D. C., for it is not so complicated. The regulator you put in the knee is far superior to the old-fashion knee spring. I have not had one cent's worth of damage to it since I got it, and I can say that I think the leg suits me as well as any artificial leg I can get; and my friends tell me they think I walk more natural on it than on the one Jewett made for me.

Yours very respectfully, JAMES J. MCCONNELL.

GREEN OAK, MICH., *January* 28, 1868.

JAMES A. FOSTER, *Detroit, Mich.*

It is now four months since I began wearing one of your "patent artificial legs." I can walk better and do more than I ever anticipated when I lost my leg. I can walk four or five miles a day without a cane, pitch hay off and on the wagon, have plowed some since I put it on. I never take it off except when I go in for the night. Go up and down a ladder sixteen feet high without difficulty.

Yours respectfully, GEO. W. DEAN.

ALMONT, LAPEER CO., MICH., *February* 1, 1868.

MR. JAMES A. FOSTER—My Dear Sir: It must be a great source of satisfaction to an inventor, after years of sedulous toil and study, to see his efforts crowned with success, and know his labors are appreciated; that they have contributed their mite to assauge in a degree the great volume of human misery with which we find ourselves circumscribed; and, my dear sir, it gives me great pleasure to say that I believe this to be pre-eminently applicable to your patent artificial limb. And to those who have met with like affections, permit me to say I feel it a duty to recommend Mr. J. A. Foster's artificial limb, believing it to be the best now extant, all things considered, to wit: for beauty of finish, which we consider unique, for perfection of anatomical construction, for lightness, strength, last but not least, for durability.

The above qualification, associated with a perfect fit, which you are sure to get there, without which no limb can be of much worth (as well as the most courteous and kindly treatment), render it one of the most invaluable substitutes to be found anywhere on this terrestial globe.

On the 18th day of July, 1866, my right leg was amputated four inches below the patela (knee pan) by Drs. O. P. Strobridge and Stone, of Almont. About ten months since, by advice of Professors Gun and Pitcher, of Detroit, I applied to Mr. J. A. Foster for a substitute. So weak was I at the time of adjustment that I could not raise my foot from the floor. Strength gradually returned to the stump. Some time since my cane was laid one side, in fact I do not pretend to

use one at all. My avocation is farming. I do my own chores, which is no small job for a sound man. With the assistance of one small boy, manage to attend 250 sheep, 16 head of cattle, 8 horses, &c., &c. saw fire-wood for two fires and attend to considerable official business besides.

Now, permit me to say in conclusion, no money would induce me to do without one of your limbs. My friends, be assured I write not this to cajole the inventor, nor for any mercenary purposes, but to act upon the old adage, to wit: (give the devil his due), and discharge an imperative duty to my suffering fellow beings, is my object.

The foregoing you are at liberty to publish should you see fit.

Most respectfully yours, VIRGIL S. PARMLEE, *J. P.*

FOR SALE.

Views of the Great Wire Suspension Bridge

ACROSS THE OHIO RIVER, AT CINCINNATI.

As I have had many inquiries for a View of this MAMMOTH BRIDGE, and not being able to supply them, I have, at a heavy expense, had a view of it engraved. The engraving is 10 by 17 inches, besides the statistical information. It is printed in two colors, and, when framed, it makes a beautiful picture of 14 by 19 inches.

This is not a picture of what might be or is to be, but is engraved from a photograph taken of what is really the longest and most splendid suspension bridge yet made. The view is taken from the Covington, Ky., side of the river, which, not only shows the bridge, but levee, river, steam and other boats, and the great commercial and manufacturing city of Cincinnati.

This engraving being so large, and showing the wires and other material so plain that a person that never saw a suspension bridge, will easily see how it is constructed and immagine that he is looking at the real bridge itself, and wonder how man ever got such a mass of material stretched so high across such a long distance without any support in the middle.

At the bottom of the engraving, suitable for coming within the frame, so as to be always handy for reference, are printed statistics (of the bridge, such as every one that ever sees the picture or bridge would naturally ask), such as giving the length and width of the bridge, length of main span over the river, height of bridge from the water, height of tower, weight and strength of bridge, amount of lumber used in its construction, number of wires in the cable, cost of bridge, &c., &c.

Owing to the large amount of applications for this beautiful engraving, I am enabled to put the price at the small sum of FIFTY CENTS, or three to one address for ONE DOLLAR.

Parties living at a distance, and wishing a copy of this engraving, can have it sent, postage paid, on receipt of the above prices. The money may be sent at my risk in a letter addressed to

James A. Foster,

Cincinnati, Ohio,

Or Detroit, Mich.

TESTIMONIALS FROM THE PRESS.

The following complimentary notices by the the press of my Patent Union Artificial Limbs were received while they were on exhibition at the following State Agricultural and Mechanical Fairs:

Michigan, held at Detroit.
Ohio, " " Dayton.
Kentucky, " " Louisville.
Indiana, " " Terre Haute.
Missouri, " " St. Louis.

WESTERN RURAL, published at Chicago, Ill., and Detroit, Mich., December 22d, 1866, in an editorial, said: Mr. Foster's limbs, as testimonials of surgeons and hundreds who have worn them will show, are unexcelled in America, if not in the world. He is a thorough practical mechanic, and the only manufacturer of artificial limbs in the United States who himself wears a full-length limb, which he uses without a cane. Every department and detail of his business is under his most vigilant supervision, and nothing is spared to render his limbs the very acme of perfection.

DETROIT FREE PRESS, September 12th, 1867, speaking of articles on exhibition in Floral Hall, said: We notice a fine display of artificial legs and arms by J. A. Foster, of Detroit and Cincinnati. These limbs have very flexible knee, ankle and toe-joints, and a facsimile of a letter alleged to have been written by a soldier who has been furnished with arms of this pattern, showing a plain and legible hand writing, better far, might say the typos, than others "we wot of."

LOUISVILLE, KY., JOURNAL, September 20th, 1867, said: We also notice the artificial arms and legs manufactured by Mr. James A. Foster, of Cincinnati, Ohio. They are, seemingly, the perfection of such work, and possess many advantages over most of the artificial limbs now in use. Mr. Foster lost his leg, and studied out the best form of a substitute. He has succeeded in making wooden substitutes that cannot be told from real flesh and blood when they are worn. The Palmer leg and the Bly leg are more complicated, more costly and more liable to get out of order. We saw some writing done by a soldier, who had lost both arms, but used Foster's artificial ones to such a purpose that the writing was better than that of some men who have good natural arms. We were very much interested in Mr. Foster's display, and can refer those afflicted to him for assistance.

LOUISVILLE, KY., COURIER, September 21st, 1867, under the head of "valuable and praiseworthy," said: The premium awarded to Jas. A. Foster, of Cincinnati, yesterday, for the best collection of artificial limbs, was just and right, for at no time in the world's history was there more need of having them to perfection than at the present time. The limbs surpass anything of the kind we have ever examined, and we see no chance for improvement in form, finish or utility. We think that any one who will call on Mr. Foster and examine his improvements will be easily convinced that he has the best artificial leg and arm now manufactured; and as we sympathize with those who were so unfortunate as to lose a limb in battle or otherwise, we would advise those wishing anything in his line to apply to him for a descriptive pamphlet.

OHIO STATE FAIR GAZETTE, September 26th, 1867, said: James A. Foster, 60 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, exhibits in Fine Art Hall splendid specimens of artificial legs and arms. His manufactory is the only place where these articles are made and fitted west of New York and Philadelphia. His make of limbs has been highly recommended by the Surgeon-General of the United States army. Those so unfortunate as to require articles of this kind will do well to take note of this fact.

CINCINNATI GAZETTE, September 27th, 1867, said: Jas. A. Foster, 60 West Fourth street, Cincinnati, exhibits several specimens of artificial arms and legs, manufactured by himself. The exhibitor, unlike the physicians who dislike their own medicines, wears a "leg of his own," and says he is the only manufacturer in America who wears a full length artificial leg, and who was a practical mechanic at the time of amputation. There are many whose good fortune has kept them whole, who look with much interest on these wonderful substitutes for nature's handiwork. Mr. Foster has been located for some time in Detroit, Michigan, where he still has a manufactory.

DAYTON, OHIO, JOURNAL, September 27th, 1867, said: Not far from the center of Fine Art Hall, can be seen an exhibition of artificial limbs from the manufactories of Mr. James A. Foster, 60 West 4th street, Cincinnati, and 192 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Michigan. Many manufacturers of artificial members have no more knowledge of their occupation than a carpenter. Not so, however, with Mr. Foster. When by accident he was deprived of a leg, he was a practical mechanic, and was therefore enabled to supply himself with a limb of such perfectness as to almost defy detection. Possessing the advantages heretofore enumerated, Mr. Foster claims that he can fit and adjust a limb better than any other manufacturer in the United States, and numerous testimonials substantiate his claims. The specimens exhibited are of superior workmanship, and their design and finish bespeak Mr. F. a genuine artist.

THE MORNING JOURNAL, Published at Columbus, Ohio, September 27th, 1867, under the head of meritorious articles on exhibition at the State fair, said: In Fine Art Hall is to be seen a contribution of artificial limbs from the manufactories of James A. Foster, 60 West Fourth street, Cincinnati, and 192 Jeffer-

son avenue, Detroit, Michigan. The manufacturer, who is a practical mechanic, wears a full length limb of his own make, and its operations are so perfect as to almost defy detection. With the advantages of practical experience, Mr. Foster claims that he can fit and adjust a limb better than any other manufacturer in the country. These limbs are made with great skill, are beautifully polished and are the finest specimens of artificial members we ever examined. Parties desiring full particulars should write and obtain circulars and pamphlets.

THE CINCINNATI COMMERCIAL, September 28th, 1867, said: A feature in Art Hall is the display made of artificial limbs, by J. A. Foster, of Cincinnati, whose stand is surrounded by the "boys in blue," who came out of the great conflict with the slave power minus legs or arms; and, as nearly all of these have interesting incidents of ensanguined fields to relate, in which they were maimed, they attract as much attention as the finest pictures in the hall. And some of the questions the soldiers ask of the "leg and arm man" are really amusing.

THE TOLEDO BLADE, of October 4th, 1867, under the head of Notices of a few of the inventions and improvements exhibited at the State fair, Dayton, Ohio, said: Mr. James A. Foster had on exhibition some remarkably fine specimens of artificial limbs. He calls them "Union" Artificial Limbs, for the reason that they combine all that can be wanted or expected in lightness, strength, simplicity of construction, durability, beauty and neatness. Mr. Foster, having been a practical mechanic and losing a leg, set himself to work to find out just what was wanted, and he claims to have accomplished it. They certainly look very finely, and his large list of testimonials from those who have used them —the best possible test—will go to establish his claims. They are manufactured at 60 West Fourth street, Cincinnati, and 192 Jefferson avenue, Detroit, Mich.

A correspondent of the CINCINNATI COMMERCIAL, writing from the Indiana State Fair Ground, at Terre Haute, Ind., in giving a description of the fine arts on exhibition in Fine Art Hall, (which was published in the "Commercial," October 4th, 1867, after mentioning some other things,) says: We come now to one of those tip-toeing crowds, such as accasionally check the current of humanity that flows through these avenues of art, and, adding ourselves to the tip-toe fraternity, we glimpse at one of your Cincinnati men named Foster, but known on the fair ground as the "arm and leg man." Foster wears one of his wooden legs, and displays it to admirable purpose. We saw him kick as high as our head with his wooden leg, and we rejoiced that our chin didn't stop it as it went up.

THE TERRE HAUTE EXPRESS, of October 4th, 1867, said: James A. Foster has his position in the center of Fine Art Hall with his artificial limbs. These limbs attract the same degree of attention here that they did at the Dayton Fair, on account of their perfection and beauty.

THE CHICAGO REPUBLICAN, of October 5th, 1867, in noticing the fine arts on exhibition in Fine Art Hall, at the Indiana State fair, said: In this hall is James A. Foster, of Cincinnati and Detroit, with his Union Artificial Limbs. These limbs are far superior to anything invented; the arm is almost as good as a natural one, being susceptible of a variety of motions of the elbow, wrist and fingers. The leg, when used cannot be detected. Mr. Foster, the inventor, a practical mechanic, wears one of the legs, having lost his, and one would never know it unless told. Soldiers and others who have lost their limbs can almost replace them by using the Union.

THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL, of October 7th, 1867, said: In Fine Art Hall, James A. Foster, 60 West Fourth street, Cincinnati, Ohio, shows some of his patent artificial limbs, leg and arms, which attract great attention, and are really the nicest and most convenient thing in this line ever patented. Mr. Foster wears one of the legs himself, but no one would ever detect it unless told. Any one unfortunate enough to need such a thing will find these the best in the country. He has a depot also in Detroit, Michigan.

THE MISSOURI DEMOCRAT, published at St. Louis, October 10th, 1867, said: James A. Foster, the inventor, exhibits his Patent Union Artificial Limbs. Mr. Foster is wearing one himself, having lost his leg at mid-thigh. He moves about with ease and comfort to himself without cane or crutch, and the casual observer cannot see anything artificial. As a proof of the excellence attained by these limbs we have a "fac simile" letter written by a man who lost both arms at Gettysburg, who is now able to handle books, feed himself and to write a legible hand. Those who have been so unfortunate as to lose a limb will be cheered by the knowledge that the loss can be supplied by an excellent substitute. Mr. Foster manufactures these limbs at Cincinnati and Detroit.

THE MISSOURI REPUBLICAN, published at St. Louis, October 10th, 1867, said: James A. Foster, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Detroit, Michigan, has on exhibition artificial limbs, including legs, arms, feet and hands. The legs and arms are suited to either upper or lower amputation; and where any one has been so unfortunate as to lose any of the natural members mentioned, these artificial substitutes are of inestimable value. This is one of the achievements of art of great value to unfortunate humanity, which deserves especial commendation.

WESTLICHE POST, No. 16 and 18 Chestnut street, St. Louis, October 12th, 1867, said: We have carefully examined the Patent Union Atrificial Limbs of James A. Foster, of Cincinnati, Ohio, and Detroit, Michigan, and can say with veracity that they cannot be equalled by any other. Nor can all other kind of limbs be compared to Mr. Foster's--limbs without life —which cannot be said of those of any other manufacturer, as they are manufactured in such a way as to imitate every movement of the human body. The press in every State and city has recommended them in the most flattering terms.

The following is taken from an editorial in the September (1868) number of the *Mechanic and Inventor*, published in Chicago, Ill., and Detroit, Mich.

THE MANUFACTURE OF ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.—Until a short time since, the manufacture of artificial substitutes for human limbs was confined to two or three houses in the eastern States; but when the late war and its attendant consequences had progressed a few months, a great demand for artificial limbs at once sprung up. The few establishments referred to were overrun with, and unable to fill their orders, which multiplied day by day At that time, Mr. James A. Foster, now of Detroit, Mich., then a workman in the leading limb manufactory, seeing the defects in the articles then produced, gave the subject his entire attention and invented an artificial limb, combining several new and valuable improvements, and constructed, we believe, upon correct and philosophical principles. For his improvements, letters patent were granted him August 8th, 1865. He at once established a manufactory in Detroit. and offered his productions to the public; up to that time the limbs made and sold by other manufacturers gave general satisfaction, for the reason that no better substitutes were known, but soon the great merits of his invention and its superiorty over all others manifested itself in the demand for the Foster limb, which constantly increased. So great was the call for them from that section, that in January 1867, he opened a manufactory at Cincinnati, O., and he has since been solicited to open others at Chicago and other cities. Mr. Foster exemplifies in person the suberiority of his manufacture, wearing, as he does, a full length leg, and his gait will puzzle a close observer to distinguish the production of art from that of nature. He has lately perfected an artificial knee joint, for which letters patent are now pending, through the *Mechanic and Inventor* Agency. To all those who are so unfortunate as to require artificial limbs, we would advise to consult with Mr. Foster or his experienced assistants, at either manufactory, before ordering limbs elsewhere, or to write for descriptive circulars, which will be sent on application.

James A. Foster exhibits some artificial limbs which are far superior to anything invented; the arm is almost as good as if natural, being susceptible of a variety of motions of the elbow, wrist and fingers. The leg, when used cannot be detected. Mr. Foster, the inventor, a practical mechanic, wears one of the legs, having lost one of his, and one would never know it unless told. He moves about with ease and comfort to himself, without cane or crutch, and the casual observer cannot see anything artificial about the limb. To any one who has lost any of the natural members, the artificial limbs are of inestimable value.—*Detroit Advertiser and Tribune, Sept.* 17, 1868.

James A. Foster, has a case of artificial limbs on exhibition, which attract considerable attention from their naturalness. They are made so as to move with all the freedom of motion which a natural limb has, and can scarcely be detected. The manufacture has been carried to the greatest degree of perfection.—*Detroit Free Press Sept.* 18, 1868.

FOSTER'S PATENT UNION ARTIFICINL LIMBS.—James A. Foster, has on exhibition at the State Fair specimens of his artificial legs and arms. We examined the limbs and can say for them that they come as near nature as anything artificial can, performing with wonderful certainty almost all the functions of the natural limbs. In Mr. Foster's pamphlet will be found certificates from persons who have worn them, each testifying not only to the ease of wearing them but their durability. We have never seen stronger endorsements. One gentleman who had worn Bly's and others, styles the Foster admirable, and urges all needing limbs to procure it. They are light, easy, durable, and what is better still, *reliable.*—*Toledo Blade, (Nasby's) paper, Sept.* 25, 1868.

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS.—A noticeable feature in the upper part of Domestic Hall, at the Fair, is a case of artificial limbs manufactured by James A. Foster. We understand that he has now made arrangements with Mr. W. H. Montgomery to manufacture them in this city. Some years since Mr. F. had one of his legs amputated above the knee, and is now wearing one of his artificial members, which he uses with seeming ease. Judging from his step no one would suspect artificial support. Mr. F. comes well recommended by the press, and, what is more creditable, he holds good testimonials from many eminent physicians in the West; also from many who are now using his wares, some who, before taking them, used those of other patents. They are believed to be the most practical limbs yet invented.—*Rochester, N. Y. Chronicle, Oct.* 1, 1868.

TRIUMPH OF HUMAN ART.—Some three years ago a German immigrant, Frederick Stockle by name, on his voyage to this country contracted, on shipboard, a disease which, settling in his feet, rendered amputation of both legs necessary. He came on to Bay City, where he engaged in cigar making, laboriously moving from place to place on his knees. Some eighteen months since Mr. Stockle came to this city and procured a pair of artificial legs from the manufactory of Mr. Jas. A. Foster, which he has since worn continually and thoroughly tested Happening to be in the TRIBUNE office yesterday, we requested him to give us a specimen of his walking, which he did, and many a man with good limbs have we seen locomote more clumsily. In fact, without knowing Mr. Stockle's infimity, no one would have suspected that he was supported by other than his own natural limbs, and in regard to the comfort and durability of the artificial ones he uses, he assures us that he has never experienced any trouble with them whatever. There is very little doubt that Mr. Foster manufactures the very best artificial limbs made, being a scientific man, a thorough mechanic, and himself a wearer of one of his own make. We are happy to know that he is building up a very large custom, and is about to establish branches in various other cities.—*Detroit Advertiser and Tribune, Dec.* 15th, 1868.

An old saying that "necessity is the mother of invention," has proved a true one in regard to the invention of my

PATENT UNION ARTIFICIAL LIMBS,

for had I not been compelled to want one for my use, and failing to find one to satisfy my expectation, the invention of my Patent Union Artificial Limbs would never have originated with me.

These limbs were offered in competition with all others then in use, some of which done good service and have been an honor to their inventors, but like all other articles which have been improved, Artificial limbs invented and manufactured years ago, have to give way to the latest and most improved.

In the year 1858 I became convinced that I should sooner or later have to have one of my limbs amputated, on account of a white swelling on my knee. I then commenced to inform myself where I could get the best substitute, (see page 6.)

In February, 1860, I had my limb amputated above the knee.

In June, 1862, I went to buy me an artificial limb, but for a good reason, I did not. (See page 7.)

In November, 1862, I made the first artificial limb I ever used. (See pages 7 and 8.)

In March, 1863, I went to serve my time with an artificial limb manufacturer, and while there in that capacity, repairing all kinds of artificial limbs, of every manufacturers make, and saw where they failed, and the result was the invention of my Patent Union Artificial Limbs.

In November, 1864, I opened the first office and manufactory to manufacture my Patent Union Artificial Limbs, at Detroit, Michigan. No artificial limb manufacturer before ever met with such gratifying success, for in the short space of time which they have been in use, they are now used in almost every state in the Union. as the demand for them increased I opened offices and manufactories to meet the emergency, until I now have manufactories at No. 1106 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia Pa., No. 60 West Fourth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, No. 172 Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Mich., and No. 123 State Street, Rochester, N. Y., and am solicited by many to open offices in other large cities.

JAMES A. FOSTER.