

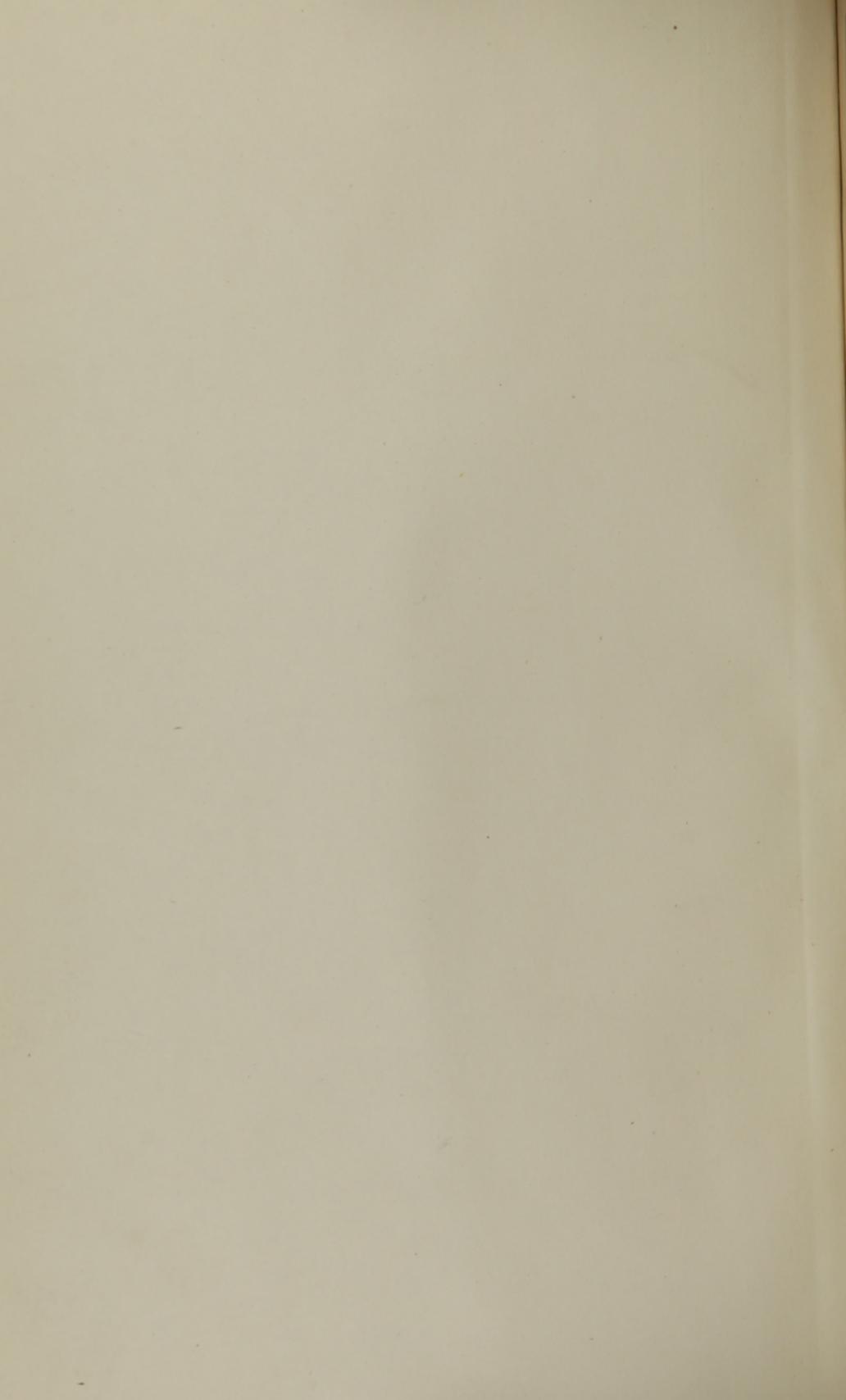
WE
D737d
1865

NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE
Washington



Founded 1836

U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare
Public Health Service



Baker

THE DOUGLASS

Patent Artificial Limbs.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS,

Inventor and Manufacturer,

OFFICE, BURT'S BLOCK, MAIN STREET,

SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

EIGHTH EDITION.

SPRINGFIELD:

SAMUEL BOWLES & COMPANY, PRINTERS.

1865.

WE
D737d
1865

A DESCRIPTION

OF

DOUGLASS' PATENT ARTIFICIAL LEGS.

THESE Legs are constructed of such a variety of material as most effectually combine to render the *greatest amount of strength, durability and utility*, and *closely imitate the form and movements of the natural limb*. Other combinations of material hitherto used, only show how ineffectually they have proved, to produce a limb every way requisite for *practical service*. Persons who have had much experience in wearing Artificial Legs, will readily see the *necessity and value* of such a combination. The invention *differs from all other Artificial Legs*, and combines the most scientific adaptation of mechanical principles to answer anatomical purposes, *ensuring great strength, lightness, durability and a successful imitation of the natural limb in symmetry and motion*.

Fig. 1, is an external view for thigh amputations, (above the knee.)

Fig. 2, is an external view for leg amputations, (below the knee.)

The external form of the Legs imitate and correspond with the natural Leg. In *all its motions* and positions, there are *no openings nor vacuums* to admit *dust and dirt*, nor sharp edges to wear the clothing, but the contour is *perfect in every position*. Persons who have had experience with *other Legs*, will appreciate the *value of this improvement*. The exterior is covered with a strong skin, firmly cemented to the limb, and is most beautifully finished, and rendered impervious to water by an enamel closely imitating the appearance and color of the natural limb.

The articulations of the knee, ankle and toes, consist of ball and socket joints, so constructed as to *entirely obviate* the great objections to the *ordinary kind* of Artificial Legs. Persons who have had experience with *other Legs* will easily see the value and appreciate *this improvement*. The knee combines such a peculiar arrangement of anatomical and mechanical principles, as to ensure the *greatest amount of strength*, and the most *life-like motion*. The mechanism is *simplified and reduced to the fewest possible parts*, rendering it far less liable to derangement.

Figs. 3 and 4, are longitudinal sections taken at right angles to each other.

The knee bolt D, Fig. 4, is firmly secured in its place by passing through *solid wood*. By taking the bearing through the entire *diameter of the knee*, effectually preventing all lateral motion. The ordinary knee

tendon, made of *thread*, is *not used*, being entirely too inadequate, constantly elongating and frequently breaking. In my invention a strong bar, C, Fig. 3, passes through the *entire diameter* of the front part of the knee, the wood in the center of the knee being cut away in its upper and front part, Fig. 3, in the form of an arc described from the center of the knee bolt D, to form a shoulder J; this being faced with a cushion, gently arrests the lower part of the leg in walking, when the bar C, comes in contact with it, and prevents all noise or jarring sensation. The polished steel plate C, in the center, covers the whole, and passes inside the knee in walking, *forming a beautiful and perfect contour* imitating the form of the natural knee most beautifully. See Fig. 1. There are no cords extending from the thigh passing through the knee joint, which connecting with the foot or ankle, are constantly liable to break, from the fact that they center the wear and action at the knee. Neither are there any *long cords* passing through the leg, which are continually elongating, and consequently *changing the adjustment of the limb*.

In the construction of my leg, the cords are so arranged that the severest test to which it can be subjected, will not in any degree change its adjustment. They can be easily adjusted to suit any gait in walking.

The ankle joint is *unlike the ordinarily constructed limbs*, in which the entire weight of the patient is sustained by the joint resting on very small rivets that pass through thin wood.

In my invention, the ankle bolt, I, passes through *solid wood*, H. H. Fig. 4, and is amply adequate to the *great strength required*. The bearing in the foot for the bolt, I, to pass through, is taken on very hard wood, G, properly bushed, *on the end of the grain*, passing up sufficiently high inside the ankle (see Fig. 4, G G and H H) to prevent all lateral motion, or twisting motion on the bolt I, this renders it *impossible to ever break the foot where the bolt passes through*, for the twofold reason that the peculiar construction is such as to effectually *brace* the foot from twisting and rolling diagonally, the grain of the wood, G G, being perpendicular, or at right angles to the pressure, Fig. 4, front view. In the ordinary construction of limbs, the bolt acts on the foot in the form of a lever, frequently breaking it where the bolt passes through. Persons having experience with Artificial Legs, will readily see the *importance of this great improvement*. Its real merits are most clearly demonstrated in going up and down stairs, getting in and out of carriages, where the entire weight of the patient is taken on the ball of the foot, and the *utmost firmness and reliability of step are required, all rolling or twisting motion being exceedingly hazardous to the wearer*.

The arrangement of the heel tendon or Tendo Achillis, Fig. 3, E, is such that *its operation and action pertain to, and relate only to the an-*

kle and foot, as in the natural limb, giving great *elasticity to the step, and an easy and natural motion.* The lower end passes through, and is firmly attached to the heel, while the upper end passes over an *adjustable bar* in the calf of the leg, B, Fig. 3. This cord being slightly elastic, imparts an *easy and graceful motion* to the body when the step with the other foot is taken, entirely preventing the spasmodic or jerking motion so noticeable in all other legs.

Fig. 1.

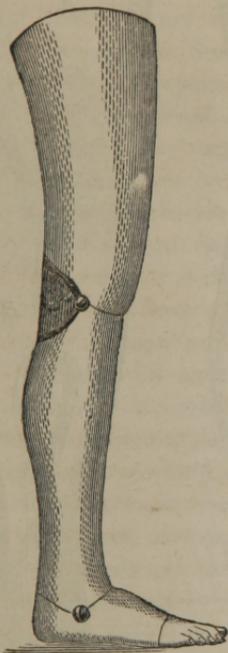


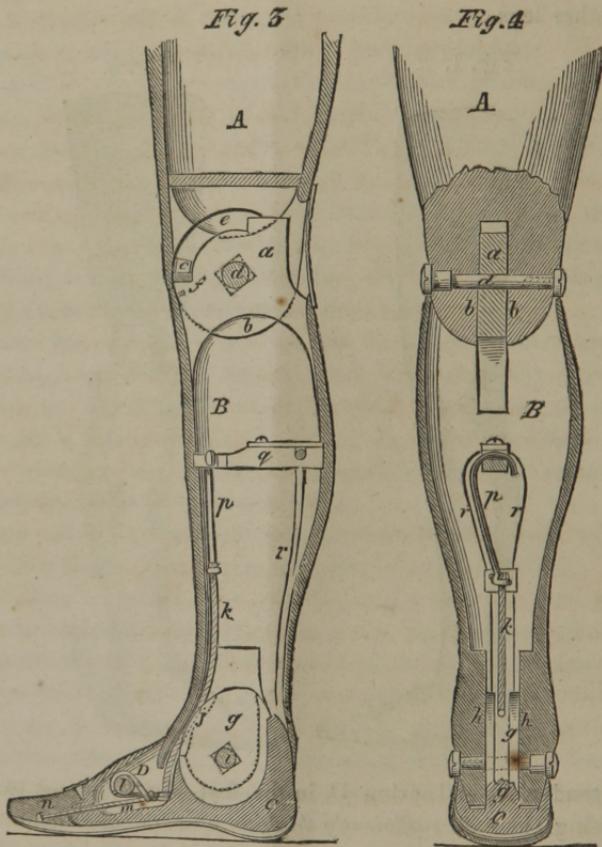
Fig. 2.



The tendon K, and spring D, in the foot, Fig. 3, impart to it proper action, raising the foot *sufficiently high to pass all obstruction* in taking the step. The tendon M, in the foot, connects the toes, N, to the spring and imparts to it the proper motion in walking.

When the amputation is below the knee, a leather socket is used Fig. 2, lined and covered with fine buckskin, and connected to the lower part of the leg by steel side joints, adapted to the thigh, and operating in *perfect unison with the natural knee.* This being laced, a portion of the weight of the patient is taken on the thigh, gently relieving the pressure on the stump, and avoiding all unpleasant action on the natural knee. Patients with *short or tender stumps,* will see the usefulness of this arrangement.

The bottom of the foot is cushioned to prevent all noise or unpleasant jarring sensation in walking. These limbs are all *finely ventilated*, allowing a current of air to pass to the stump, keeping it cool and healthy. The weight *in no case comes on the end of the stump*. Every Leg is constructed for, and adapted to each particular form of amputation.



They are very easily and readily adjusted to the body, and worn with great ease and comfort. They are adapted and applied to *all forms of amputations, to the shortest and most tender stumps*.

I have applied my Artificial Legs to a large number of patients who have *thrown aside other Artificial Limbs and are now using mine with the most perfect satisfaction*, and others are constantly applying who have been unsuccessfully treated; a *fact of no little importance, showing the superiority of my Artificial Legs over all others*. The testimonials will be read with careful interest.

All parts of my Artificial Legs are *adjustable*, and can easily be adapted to the motions of each particular case. They are adapted to cases of *double amputations*, (both legs amputated,) as well as single, having successfully treated many cases of that kind.

Surgeons who have formerly recommended other Legs are now recommending my invention, and sending their patients to me. But the manufacturers still continue to publish the old testimonials, given *before* my limb was introduced to the Profession, leaving off the date. Comment is unnecessary.

The Medical Profession are continually looking for the most recent and important improvements in Surgical Mechanism, and are ever ready to approve and adopt for their patients such appliances as give the *greatest satisfaction*. Having received many letters of encouragement from them, I will here say, they are very kindly appreciated, and I shall still endeavor to merit their kindness and patronage.

The strongest recommendation that can be shown of the superiority of my Leg is the constant and rapidly increasing demand for it. It is now in use from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and in almost every State. It is represented in every pursuit and profession of life. On the battlefield amid the roar of cannon and the clash of arms it is represented. It is represented in service on sea and land. It is represented in every age and condition of life. Scores of cases have been restored from dependence and utter helplessness, to useful, honorable, and lucrative positions. The severest cases of mutilation, that have been considered hopeless, have been restored to their former vocations.

Cases that have been unsuccessfully treated elsewhere are now wearing my Leg in the most successful manner, evincing the fact that the *highest forms* of mechanical surgery, combined with the largest amount of *thorough practical experience* in the art, are alone adequate to perfect success.

I would call particular attention to the following testimonials of the Medical Profession, and my patients. *They are all given in full*. The *dates* are not purposely withheld. Some manufacturers make use of fossilized testimonials, honestly given when the art of surgical appliances was in its *crudest form*. They *now* have no bearing on the subject with the intelligent Medical Profession, nor their patients who are ever ready to adopt the *improvements* of modern surgery.

As a *test* of the superiority of my invention, I would particularly invite attention to the testimonials of my patients who are successfully wearing my limbs, many having tried other substitutes. They are fully and freely written, *date and residence*.

Testimonials from the Medical Profession.

A few of many testimonials from Surgeons who are acquainted with the practical application of my Artificial Legs, are published, showing how the invention is approved by the Profession.

MEDICAL INSTITUTION OF YALE COLLEGE,
NEW HAVEN, CT., Sept. 27, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—We have taken great pleasure in the examination of your Artificial Leg, and consider it in *many respects* the best we have ever seen. The *improvements* you have made are *all valuable* and *indispensable* to the free and perfect use of an Artificial Leg.

P. A. JEWETT, M. D.
Prof. Med. Inst. Yale College.
Surgeon U. S. Government Hospital.
T. B. TOWNSEND, M. D.

CONN. STATE HOSPITAL,
NEW HAVEN, CONN., Nov. 4, 1862.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have had by me a model of your Patent Artificial Leg for several weeks, and have given it much attention that I might learn just what it was worth, whether in truth it possesses all that is claimed for it.

I also called the attention of other Surgeons to it, and they as well as myself, after giving it a careful examination, I am happy to inform you, came to the conclusion that your invention is the "*ne plus ultra*" of Artificial Legs.

I applied tests to the model to prove its strength, its ease of motion and its non-liability to get out of repair.

What particularly renders your Leg *preferable to all others*, is the great simplicity and strength of all the joints. By their arrangement it seems impossible for the leg to break when any undue strain is put upon it.

Indeed, the *lightness, symmetry* and *strength*, combined with perfect ease of motion, renders it one of the most useful inventions of the age.

As an illustration of its practical value I may instance a gentleman of my acquaintance who has two of these legs, (having tried others) and is able to walk with great facility.

Very respectfully, I am your most obedient servant,

GEORGE W. AVERY.
Resident Surgeon to Conn. State Hospital.
Surgeon U. S. Government Hospitals, New Orleans, La.

AUGUSTA, ME., April 7, 1865.

I have examined, with much care, the Artificial Leg manufactured by D. DeForrest Douglass, of Springfield, Mass., and believe it to be the best limb now in use—as regards simplicity, utility and durability.

H. H. HILL, M. D.

OFFICE OF BUFFALO MEDICAL AND SURGICAL JOURNAL,
BUFFALO, N. Y., May 12, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—The Artificial Legs you have furnished my patients in Buffalo and vicinity, are all working very well, and the owners are well satisfied in every respect.

I believe they are unsurpassed in excellence.

Truly yours,

J. F. MINER, M. D.

Surgeon to the Buffalo General Hospital,
Consulting Surgeon to the Buffalo Dispensary,
Editor Buffalo Medical and Surgical Journal.

MONTREAL, CANADA, June 5, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—In the construction of artificial limbs, the leading idea should be, their adaptability to the mutilated member, their relative position to the body, and powers of endurance in performing the functions of the natural limb, as well as perfect reliability in the various positions.

I have carefully and thoroughly examined and studied the construction of your leg, and compared it with "Palmer's" and others, and find that *you have fully embodied the essential principles requisite to a perfect Artificial Leg.*

The form is anatomically correct and beautifully symmetrical.

I therefore most fully and cordially recommend the artificial leg of *your invention as superior to anything of the kind manufactured.*

DR. BOUDRAIS,
Physician and Surgeon.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Oct. 31, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—From a careful examination of the mechanism of your Patent Artificial Leg in all its parts, and also from having witnessed its successful practical operation; I have no hesitation in recommending it as *vastly superior to all other Artificial Legs* with which I am acquainted, in *firmness, durability, and the perfection of its operation*, and especially the entire absence of the *clumping sound* that so often attends the step with an Artificial Leg.

Very respectfully yours,

C. C. WYCKOFF,
Physician and Surgeon.

CHATHAM 4 CORNERS, N. Y., Aug. 1, 1859.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS, Springfield, Mass.—I have carefully examined the Artificial Leg you manufactured for my patient, Mr. Boright, and have no hesitation in saying that in comparison with other styles of Artificial Legs that have met my observation, it is *vastly superior*. Being *admirably fitted*, beautifully finished, and its adaptation to use in the *highest degree satisfactory*.

I regard it as a great triumph of mechanical skill and ingenuity.

With my best wishes for your success in the laudable enterprise in which you are engaged, I am, respectfully yours,

JAMES T. SHUFELT, M. D.

From Dr. Shivell,

Who ordered one of my legs for his patient, Mr. Pitt, to be made and sent to him without his visiting my office.

WOODVILLE, KY., Oct. 1, 1860.

Mr. Pitt walks without any trouble whatever, and already, after using the limb only two weeks, you scarcely know that he is using an artificial leg. He walks *without a cane*. I think in a few weeks he will go as well as he did with his natural leg. He is certainly the proudest man of his leg in Kentucky. Since the application of Mr. Pitt's leg I have had applications for two more Legs.

I am now more fully convinced than ever of the superiority of Douglass' Patent Limb, *over all others*, and of his skill and judgment as an anatomical mechanician, which can be only acquired through years of close study of the subject.

Mr. Pitt's case was very difficult to treat. The amputation was performed at the upper third of the leg, leaving a stump of only *two inches* in length, yet Mr. Douglass *retained the use of the knee joint*, and perfect use of the stump.

Mr. Douglass made and fitted the limb without the patient visiting his office, and in every particular it is in the highest degree satisfactory.

G. W. SHIVELL, M. D.

EMINENCE, KY., Aug. 17, 1859.

Having performed amputation of the left leg, at the thigh, for a patient of mine, Mr. Bizzy, I applied to Mr. Douglass for one of his Patent Artificial Legs. The case was treated from measurement, *without the patient visiting his office*. *Nothing could be more gratifying than the successful manner in which it was treated*. The fitting and adjustment are perfectly easy, the operation beautiful, natural and life-like. I consider the adaptation and application of the limb, under the circumstances a *great triumph* of Surgical and Mechanical skill and ingenuity, and can but call the attention of the mutilated to Mr. Douglass as a Surgical Mechanician.

Most Respectfully,

G. W. SHIVELL, M. D.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Oct. 12, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—The Artificial Legs manufactured by yourself are worthy of *all commendation*, both for their simulation to the movements of the natural limb, and their durability.

I give this assurance upon my own observation in cases of the loss of one, and both legs.

Very respectfully yours,

WM. G. BRECK, M. D.

Mr. Twing is an ex-legmaker, and his candid and unbiased opinion based on a *thorough practical knowledge* of the various kinds of Artificial Legs, is entitled to the most careful consideration.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Jan. 1, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—Having examined your Patent Artificial Leg, I can confidently recommend it to the public.

The beauty of its exterior successfully rivals that of the natural limb, while its internal construction is such as must ensure a degree of practical efficiency and durability which cannot fail of meeting the reasonable expectations of the most sanguine of those whose misfortunes compel them to seek its aid.

Indeed I may safely say, without disparaging in the least the inventions of others, or detracting from their merits, that I unhesitatingly give your invention the *preference over anything in this line of surgical mechanism* that has come under my observation.

I am, very truly yours,

E. W. TWING.

Testimonials of the Military Heroes.

I have received many flattering testimonials from my patients who have *thoroughly tested* my invention, and are prepared to speak of it from an experimental application. I have been kindly permitted to publish some of them for the benefit of those desiring information respecting Artificial Legs.

GENERAL GEO. H. WARD.—Leg Amputation.

WORCESTER, MASS., MAY 23, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Ball's Bluff, Va., deprived me of a leg, I procured a substitute, one of Palmer's Legs, which was not at all satisfactory, I then purchased one of your superior Artificial Legs, which I find far excels Palmer's in every respect. It is easier to wear, much stronger and more durable, and of course *much better adapted to active military life in the field*. I am now in command of my brigade and have been since getting a leg that would enable me to do so. I cheerfully endorse the high recommendations of your unrivaled limbs.

Very truly yours,

GEO. H. WARD,*

Brigadier General.

*General Ward was killed at the battle of Gettysburg, his leg carrying him safely on foot into the thickest of the battle.

CAPT. E. R. HERREN.—Thigh Amputation.

KILBOURN CITY, WIS., Feb. 5, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost my leg at the charge on Port Hudson, I was advised by the Surgeons, to procure the *best artificial leg manufactured*, it being your invention. It is satisfactory far beyond my expectations. *I do not use a cane*, and yet it does not hurt or chafe the stump in the least. My friends are greatly surprised to see me walk so easy, graceful and natural. I recommend it in the *highest terms*.

I am gratefully yours,

CAPT. E. R. HERREN,

4th Regt. Wis. Vols.

CAPT. J. H. CHAPMAN.—Leg Amputation.

HEAD-QUARTERS, VETERAN RESERVE CORPS,
EASTON, PA., Feb. 11, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I send you herewith “Faithful.” He has stood the banging and tearing of a soldier’s life for the past two years most wonderfully, considering the many adventures, hair-breadth escapes, &c., through which he has safely carried the subscriber, particularly during the past six months, when my duty has taken me over all the mountains and down the deepest coal mines in Pennsylvania, hunting deserters. I have found him ever ready to assist in the good cause. His *power of endurance is most remarkable*. Had I not used him for a “battering ram” a few nights since, would not have had occasion to send him to you for repairs.

My knowledge of Artificial Legs is very extensive, as I have seen every pattern now manufactured. I would not give “Faithful” for the whole of them.

Yours with great respect,

J. H. CHAPMAN.

Capt. Veteran Reserve Corps, Commanding Barracks, Easton, Pa.

CAPT. HORACE CHAPIN.—Leg Amputation.

JACKSONVILLE, ILL., June 1st, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost my leg at the battle of Chickamauga, Ga., I resolved to procure the *best* known substitute.

I find the leg of your invention and manufacture is a *wonderful success*. I grow more and more in admiration of it every day. Love nor money could not purchase it from me.

Since returning to my western home I have seen a good many artificial legs, but none that equaled mine in *beauty of finish, utility, life-like action, or reliability*.

I remain very gratefully, your obedient servant,

CAPT. HORACE CHAPIN.

LIEUT. GEORGE WARNER.—Leg Amputation.

BERNARDSTON, MASS., Jan. 1, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—March 14th, 1862 and Sept. 22d, 1862, are two eventful periods in the history of my life. At the memorable battle of Newbern, N. C., while in command of a Company, my right leg was carried away by a grape shot. As soon as practicable I sought your skill and aid, and on the 22d of September commenced wearing your unequalled Patent Artificial Leg.

Previous to this time, I was besought and besieged by leg makers in New York, to procure their substitutes, even offering them at a less price than yours.

In examining the various kinds of legs, I could readily distinguish the *superiority* of yours, by the difference of construction from others. I could easily see it was the most *durable, reliable, and substantial*, and the most natural in its movements, of any leg invented.

That you have been eminently successful in its application in my case, I will say, I walk anywhere, and that without a cane. I have been hunting all day at a time, loading and firing my gun with the greatest facility and precision. I have walked as far through the woods, tramping up hill and down, over logs and through the brush, as my comrades.

Your unequalled skill and experience in constructing, fitting, and adjusting Artificial Limbs, is a *sure guarantee of success* in all cases.

I would most earnestly and cheerfully advise my comrades who have lost their legs in the defense of our country, to avail themselves of your *unequaled* Artificial Leg, knowing that by so doing they will realize their anticipations, and be treated in the most successful manner.

To show you the facility with which I am using my limb, and my confidence in its reliability, I will add that I leave to-day for Newbern, to rejoin my Regiment, and resume active service in the field.

Feeling the assurance that you will be equally as successful in the treatment of soldiers and officers now under your care, I remain very truly yours,

LIEUT. GEORGE WARNER,
27th Reg. Mass. Vols.

CORP. E. W. STONE—Leg Amputation.

TEMPLETON, MASS., May 10th, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I lost my leg at the battle of Newbern, N. C., and was fitted with one of your Artificial Legs in January, 1863, which I have worn constantly till this time with the most perfect satisfaction. The action is very natural, and walking does not tire me as I supposed any artificial leg would.

I have also one of Mr. Palmer's Legs furnished by the Government, which I have tried to wear. But it is a perfect failure. There is no question that for natural action and ease of wearing and durability, that the "Douglass Limbs" are far superior.

Truly yours,

CORP. E. W. STONE,
Co. A. 21st Regt. Mass. Vols.

H. M. CARLOW.—Leg Amputation.

WALPOLE, N. H., May 13th, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost my leg in the battle at Coal Harbor, your Artificial Leg was very highly recommended to me to supply its place. I am happy to say you have done so, and it is in the highest degree satisfactory. I am very heavy, yet the fitting and adjustment are so nicely done, that it is perfectly easy to wear. I have worn it every day since I got it, and worked all the time. I walk two miles every day, and frequently more. I have seen other legs worn, and the persons complain bitterly of the pain and irritation. I have no trouble with mine. I recommend all who want to get the strongest, most natural, durable, and easy leg, to be sure and get yours.

I am very truly yours,

HENRY M. CARLOW.

R. B. ROBINSON.—Leg Amputation.

RICHMOND, VT., Jan. 1, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost my leg in battle I applied to you for an artificial one, and am happy to say I have been treated in the most *successful manner*. I walk very finely, and call the attention of my comrades to your unequalled artificial leg.

I am yours, &c.,

R. B. ROBINSON,
Sergeant 5th Reg. Vt. Vols.

ROBERT LUSTY.—Thigh Amputation.

THORNDIKE, MASS., May 15th, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost my leg at the battle of Gettysburg, I at first procured one of the Jewett legs, and used it up in six months, then purchased one of your superior Artificial Legs, with which I am highly pleased. I walk perfectly easy and natural, and it is strong and durable.

Truly yours,

ROBERT LUSTY,
15th Regiment Mass. Vols.

PAYMASTER O. B. GILMAN.—Leg Amputation.

U. S. STEAMER E. P. HALE, PORT ROYAL, S. C., Oct. 3, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am happy to inform you that your Artificial Leg has given me great satisfaction. I can cheerfully advise others in the service of our country to procure your Artificial Leg if they want the best.

I tried one of Palmer's before getting yours, but yours I can recommend.

Very truly yours,

O. B. GILMAN,
Paymaster U. S. Navy.

PORTSMOUTH GROVE HOSPITAL,
PORTSMOUTH GROVE, R. I.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—In sustaining the flag of our country, at Fredericksburg, Va., it cost me a leg. I am happy to inform you that I have had its loss repaired by the use of one of your superior Artificial Legs. I examined the various kinds and saw them worn, and readily saw that yours was the *best in every respect*. I find, after testing it more than a year, in every possible way, that it is very *strong, light, durable*, life-like in its action, and perfectly reliable.

Very truly yours,

J. H. BURBANK,
10th Reg't, Mass. Vols.

Testimonials from others wearing the Leg.

PRESERVED ALLEN.—Thigh Amputation.

SUFFIELD, Ct., Jan. 6, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Previous to getting your Artificial Leg I had worn one of “Palmer’s Legs,” and I am happy to say I give yours the *decided preference*. During the time I wore the Palmer Leg I expended nearly the price of it for repairs, and of course it broke down when I wanted it the most. Yours constructed on a far more *reliable* principle, and differing so from all others, precludes the possibility of such a thing, and that is a very *important consideration* in an Artificial Leg.

Your leg not depending on slender strips of metal to sustain the weight of the patient, can never wear, become loose and rattle at every step. My other leg required constant attention to the knee joint to prevent me from falling; yours never requires that attention. There are no unreliable *thread cords* which are constantly wearing and *elongating*, and hence requiring a constant tinkering to keep the leg where it was first adjusted.

The principle you have introduced here will stand the severest test, and will never yield to the great pressure brought to bear upon it.

Your thorough practical experience in the fitting and construction of legs, aided by your Patent, an embodiment of all the scientific and anatomical principles requisite in a perfect leg, has enabled you to produce a leg *superior to anything yet invented*.

I am able to get about on my farm in a very comfortable manner, and can also ride horse back. I can walk easier, a greater distance, and with much *more reliability* than I could with my other one.

I would cordially recommend all who have suffered amputation to apply to you, and by so doing will be sure to get the *best leg*.

I am very respectfully yours,

PRESERVED ALLEN.

D. S. HALL.—Leg Amputation.

CHARLTON, MASS., Jan. 13, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—The real value of an opinion relative to Artificial Limbs is the testimony of those who can speak from experience. Previous to procuring your leg I wore the “Palmer Leg.” The fact of my getting yours is sufficient evidence of its superiority over his. I find yours differs entirely in principle from his or others. In yours I find that no two pieces of metal come in contact, therefore it can never become noisy and rattle at every step. I find also the weight of the wearer does not come on small rivets which must soon become loose, nor on slender screws which will soon wear and break. I find the *cords and springs of the most enduring nature*. These things are of the utmost importance to a person using a leg on a farm as I do. I have tried your leg very thoroughly, (and my business will test it,) and I find *every part as sound and good as new*. Your skill in fitting and adjusting

legs is unequaled. It is my unqualified opinion, based on observation and experience, that your leg is decidedly the most life-like, durable, substantial and reliable of any manufactured.

Your rapidly increasing business, and the quantity of other styles of legs thrown aside, to be seen at your office, attest to the superiority of yours.

With my best wishes for your success, I remain truly yours,
D. S. HALL.

W. H. HAMMOND.—Leg Amputation.

MILBURY, MASS., Jan. 15, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have worn your Artificial Leg a year and can speak of its operation in the most enthusiastic terms. I wore the "Palmer Leg" and have thrown it aside for yours. It was constantly *getting out of repair*, the metal joints of the ankle becoming loose and making a *clattering noise* at every step. Yours differing so materially from his in the construction of the joints, no two pieces of metal coming in contact, utterly precludes any possibility of such a thing. The operation of yours is much more *easy, graceful and natural*, and the bearing in the socket more comfortable than any I have ever seen or used.

The strongest testimony that can be given in favor of your leg is by giving it a thorough practical trial with others and showing the result; this I have done with the "Palmer Leg" and give yours the *decided preference* in every point; and the many others that I saw at your office that have been thrown aside, is additional testimony that yours is the best.

I would earnestly recommend the unfortunate to apply to you.

I am very truly yours,

W. H. HAMMOND.

M. H. KELLEY.—Thigh Amputation.

WHITE RIVER JUNCTION, Vt., Jan. 1, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Please excuse me for not writing you before, but as I have now worn the Artificial Leg you manufactured for me two years, and have given it a thorough test, I am now able to give you the result of my experience with it.

I am happy to inform you that it has proved beneficial far beyond anything which I had thought possible in my case.

In *strength, durability, ease of wear, and especially in not being liable to get out of order*, I consider it far preferable to all other Artificial Legs that I have ever examined, or seen. My business being in a Machine Shop, and doing heavy work, and being constantly on my leg during the day, I think I have thoroughly tested its *strength*. I walk from a mile to a mile and a half each day with great reliability and ease. I walk on rough and uneven ground with great facility, and the motions of the leg are very life-like.

For your success in my case, which was rather difficult, as well as for your kindness while having it fitted, please receive my sincere thanks.

I am yours with much respect,

M. H. KELLEY.

MR. MACOMBER.—Leg Amputation.

CLINTONVILLE, CLINTON CO., N. Y., Oct. 2, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—My improvement in walking since my return from Springfield with one of your Patent Artificial Legs is highly gratifying.

The old Palmer Leg chafed and irritated the stump, causing inflammation and much pain, whereas I now walk with *great ease and comfort*. I take much pleasure in recommending to the public your Artificial Leg. I deem it a *complete triumph of mechanical skill and ingenuity*.

In simplicity of mechanism, elegance of form, beauty of finish and life-like operation, I consider it *unsurpassed by any other Artificial Leg extant*, and in point of lightness, strength and durability combined, I think your Limb stands pre-eminent and unrivaled.

Having worn Palmer's limb, I have had ample opportunity to see many of its defects, of some of which I will speak. In the construction of the knee and ankle joints of the Palmer leg, the entire weight of the patient is sustained by the joints resting on small rivets fastened to thin wood. The tendon, made of thread, to arrest the motion of the lower part of the leg in taking the step, is constantly elongating, and sometimes breaks, hence the relative position of the knee to the leg is *constantly changing*, and its movements greatly impaired by losing the position of its adjustment. The limb left thus weak and fragile, soon gives way under the heavy pressure of the patient, and is ruined beyond recovery except by *expensive outlays in repairs*.

Your invention *entirely remedies* these serious defects by the substitution of the ball and socket joints, constructed of solid wood, amply adequate to the great strength required, and so adjusted as to *firmly brace the foot against all lateral or twisting motion*, rendering the limb perfectly firm, durable, and of the utmost reliability under all circumstances and conditions in walking, whether up or down hill, *even or rough ground, side hill, or in any mechanical pursuit*.

With gratitude for your kind attentions while with you, I remain sincerely yours,

M. G. MACOMBER.

WM. A. SWETLAND.—Leg Amputation.

LEBANON, N. H., Sept. 1, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—I am happy to inform you that my artificial leg gives me *perfect satisfaction in every respect*. I can now walk much better than I ever expected, and with perfect ease. It has proved successful far beyond my expectations.

I have examined limbs from other manufactories, (Palmer's and others,) and must say, for durability and finish, and its *imitation of nature* in its operation, I have not seen any that will compare with yours.

I have no hesitancy in saying that the artificial leg invented by you is the best offered to the public.

Dr. Crosby, of the Dartmouth Medical College, who performed the amputation of my leg, recommended me to get your leg in *preference to any other*;—says it is the "*best leg he has ever seen*," and he is well posted. He was very much pleased with my walking, and the appearance and

operation of the leg, on my return home from your place. He has received the appointment of Brigade Surgeon in the Army.

I am very respectfully yours,

WILLIAM A. SWETLAND.

FRANCIS B. BACON, Esq., Secretary of the Mass. Mutual Life Insurance Company.
Amputation for Knee Bearing.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Oct. 12, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have worn an artificial limb for some twenty-five years, and have had several during this period of time, made by different manufacturers, and on different principles. The one you made for me I have worn about two years, and am very much pleased with it; it operates naturally, and is worn with much ease and comfort. It is light, strong and durable.

From the length of time I have worn it, the thoroughness with which I have tested it, and its *perfect reliability under all circumstances*, I am satisfied that every person who is obliged to wear an artificial instead of a natural limb, will do well to avail themselves of your limb, and from your superior skill and judgment in adapting the limbs under varying circumstances, they may feel confident of obtaining the best substitute for the natural limb any known human skill can apply.

Respectfully yours,

FRANCIS B. BACON.

Too often have other leg makers *importuned* and *urgently solicited* testimonials from their patients *before* they have tested their legs. The reasons are *too obvious*.

For the purpose of showing the great durability and reliability of my Legs, after they have been submitted to the most severe tests for years, I have introduced extracts of letters from my patients, (in addition to their former testimonials,) who have worn them.

It will be readily seen that a leg which is constantly requiring repairs, is a poor substitute for a leg, and not an equivalent for the money expended. *The best is the cheapest.*

WM. A. SWETLAND.—Leg Amputation.

LEBANON, N. H., Jan. 10, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Your letter under date of the 6th inst. is at hand, and in reply I will say that I have worn the limb you made for me four years ago, every day since my return from your place, and it is as good as new, and never has given me any trouble whatever since I have worn it.

The chief excellence of your leg, and hence its great superiority over all other styles of legs is its *unequaled durability and strength*, therefore the patient is not subjected to a constant expense for repairs. Please refer any one to me you wish, personally or by letter, and I will be happy to give them all the information I can about it.

I assure you that you have my best wishes for your success in the manufacture of artificial limbs.

Truly yours,

W. A. SWETLAND.

WILLIAM FARR.—Lost Both Legs.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., Oct. 1, 1861.

D. DeFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—To you, accustomed as you are to the anatomy of the human frame, it may seem an easy thing to re-construct it, after its lower members have been destroyed, but to me, suffering as I *was* from the loss of *both legs*, it seemed an impossibility.

But so closely now is art allied to the science of human anatomy, so minutely is its wonderful mechanism studied, that you are enabled to re-produce nature, its wonderful structure, by the means of mechanical contrivances, and bring it to such perfection that we are almost compensated for the loss of our natural legs.

Having lost both of my legs, I was advised by Dr. Breck of this city, who performed the amputation, to place myself under your care and skill, and by all means avail myself of a pair of your *unequaled* artificial legs. I am most happy to say the result has been in the *highest degree satisfactory*. The *first time* I put them on, I walked upwards of half a mile with the assistance of only one cane; I frequently walk upwards of a mile at a time, and often without a cane. I find no difficulty whatever in walking on *uneven ground, rough side-walks, boulder pavements, side hills or other rough places*; under all places they operate most beautifully, natural and life-like.

I have worn the legs now two years, and think I have *tested them pretty thoroughly*, and they are as good now as when I first put them on. I have *never had any repairs on them whatever*. I weigh two hundred pounds, and think I should try the legs if anybody.

I remain, in gratitude, yours truly, WILLIAM FARR.

CHICOPEE, MASS., June 4, 1865.

D. DeFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Hoping these few lines from me may benefit those who have been alike unfortunate with me, I most cheerfully testify to the *unequaled superiority* of your Artificial Leg. I have worn mine *five years, without the slightest repairs whatever*; every cord and spring is in first rate order now; the springs always maintain the same *nature-like elasticity* under all circumstances, not affected in the least by *heat or cold*.

A leg that is continually getting out of order, is not the thing for a laboring man; and here is where your leg takes the palm from all others—no continual expense to keep them in repair.

Very truly yours, WILLIAM FARR.

J. D. WALSH.—Thigh Amputation.

TELEGRAPH OFFICE, SCHENECTADY, N. Y., Jan. 8, 1865.

TO ALL INTERESTED:—The only *reliable and durable* Artificial Leg of which I have any knowledge is the one invented and manufactured by D. DeForrest Douglass, of Springfield, Mass.

I have worn one of them constantly for the last five years, and am still wearing it. It has given me the most perfect satisfaction in every respect, and I very cheerfully recommend it to all in want of the best Artificial Limb.

J. D. WALSH, Telegraph Operator.

GEO. BALLARD.—Leg Amputation.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Aug. 1, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—Having now thoroughly tested your Patent Artificial Leg, from practical experience in my own case, I am fully prepared to speak of its merits; I can cheerfully and fully endorse all I have heard respecting it.

In *one week* after I got the leg I left my cane in the house, and went to my business the same as if I had two natural legs, and am on my feet from six o'clock A. M. to six o'clock P. M. Your Artificial Leg is the greatest blessing ever conferred on mutilated persons. I am using it to the greatest perfection, and to my perfect satisfaction. I never realized the benefits of an artificial leg until I wore yours. Previous to getting yours I had a very poor opinion of artificial legs, and that opinion was made up from my experience with Mr. Palmer's Leg. Having had one of his, it proved a source of much trouble to me. I never could wear it with any comfort, the socket was so unlike the form of the stump it severely excoriated it. It was a failure. I have no confidence in his leg. The experience of others I have seen with his leg is not unlike mine.

Your leg is so *finely ventilated* I find no difficulty from heating the stump. The circulation of air through the socket around the stump, is so perfect that its use is finely adapted to this warm climate.

Your Artificial leg has been examined by surgeons, and other men of scientific attainments in anatomical mechanism, and pronounced by them to be the "*best artificial leg now manufactured.*" They all concur in one opinion, that yours is the best leg that has ever come under their observation; that the bearing is adapted to the form and condition of the stump, rendering the use perfectly easy; the articulations of the joints imitate so perfectly the natural limb, and operate so perfectly with it, it is almost impossible to detect the difference.

I am now walking without being lame, and no person could distinguish by my walking that I was using anything but the natural legs.

I congratulate you on being the means of bringing joy to the heart, and restoring so many to usefulness and positions in society.

In gratitude to you, sir, for your kindness to me while under your treatment, I tender to you my most sincere thanks, and remain ever yours,

GEORGE BALLARD,

Meeting Street, corner of Reed Street, Charleston, S. C.

LEWIS B. WALLS.—Amputation of both Legs.

NEWTON STEWART, ORANGE CO., IND., Sept. 15, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—It is with profound sentiments of gratitude and thankfulness that I now beg to give you my experience with the two artificial legs which you applied to me.

Having suffered the loss of *both legs*, I was advised to purchase the "Douglass Patent Legs," as they were the *best*.

I have worn them upwards of a year, and being a heavy man, weighing about two hundred pounds, I think I have tried them thoroughly; I have never had them repaired, and they are apparently as good now as when I got them. I frequently walk upwards of four miles at a time, over

the roughest kinds of roads, as we have them in this part of the country. I sometimes use one cane; generally without any.

I find the operation of the ankle joints perfectly *natural and life-like under all circumstances*, whether going up or down hill, *side hill or boulder pavements, uneven sidewalks, or smooth*. In going up and down stairs, stepping into a carriage, etc., where the entire weight is taken on the ball of the feet, I find the step *perfectly reliable*, giving me a sense of security and firmness, with the entire absence of the *hazardousness of step*, of the rolling or twisting motion of the foot.

One of the chief excellencies of your leg is the simplicity of construction, the parts so few and so *readily adjusted*, therefore far less liable to derangements and breakages.

The adjustment of my legs is beautiful; the fitting and bearing perfectly easy, and the movements perfectly natural and life-like. I know I anticipated much before getting your legs, but they have *exceeded* my most sanguine expectations. They have been examined by surgeons and other scientific men in this part of the country, and pronounced the most *perfect pieces of mechanism* that they have ever seen. My object was to get the *best*—I think I have fully accomplished it.

LEWIS B. WALLS.

EDGAR CRANE.—Leg Amputation.

MIDDLEBURY, VT., Oct. 14, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—In the Artificial Limb of your manufacture which I am now wearing, I can cheerfully say I have more than realized my anticipations. The first time I wore it I walked a half mile with the assistance of one cane. I can now walk without any cane.

I find the bearing easy and comfortable, and the operations and movements natural and life-like.

I can cordially recommend all the unfortunate in like condition, to avail themselves of your Artificial Limb.

I lost my limb about sixteen months ago, and was advised by J. J. Estee, M. D., of Brandon, Vt., to apply to you and get the best artificial substitute now manufactured.

Very truly yours,

EDGAR CRANE.

MIDDLEBURY, VT., June 10, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—There is not one person in a thousand that could detect art from nature in my walking. Your leg is "the leg." Any one seeing me walk, and seeing the operation of it, must be convinced of it. The great *strength and durability*, and the rapidity with which it is coming into use, is evidence of its superiority over *all others*.

I never have seen a leg equal to yours, nor anybody walk as well as I do. The many other kinds of legs I saw at your office, that have been *thrown aside*, and the patients adopting yours in the place of them, is an *argument that tells* in favor of yours.

I am very truly yours,

EDGAR CRANE.

DANIEL BOONE HAYMAN.—Amputation of both Legs—one below, the other above the knee.—Both short stumps.

Mr. Hayman's case, the most important and difficult to treat, clearly shows the great success attained in reproducing nature in art, showing the invention is adapted to the *most difficult* cases of amputation.

LEXINGTON, KY., Oct. 1, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—It is with unfeigned satisfaction and heartfelt gratitude that I now seat myself to inform you concerning the Artificial Legs you made and fitted to me more than a year ago.

As you very well know, one of my legs was amputated *just below the knee, and the other about seven inches below the hip joint*, making the most difficult case known where artificial legs have been applied successfully.

I have deferred writing until this time that I might give them a *thorough test*, and now I am prepared to say in strongest terms, that they are the greatest blessings ever conferred on mutilated man.

I think now I can fully realize the import of Job's question, "If a man die, shall he live again?" Taking me as you did, as it were almost from the "dust," and reconstructing me; allying art to nature so beautifully and breathing into my desponding heart the "breath of life," I think I can exclaim, through the instrumentality of the Artist of the human frame, he *shall* "live again."

I was enabled to walk at the *first attempt*, and on my way home from your city, was able to get in and out of the cars at the several changes; and at one place I walked a mile or more with the assistance of only two small canes. I put the legs on at your place, and did not take them off until I arrived home, traveling, day and night without stopping, a thousand miles, *and have worn them every day since*.

And now, to my very great satisfaction and comfort, and to the admiration of all my friends, *I am able to walk without any assistance whatever, without a cane*, with a degree of ease, regularity and speed that far surpasses my fondest anticipation. I walk everywhere, and am frequently complimented for the ease and naturalness with which I travel.

I frequently meet my old acquaintances whom I have not seen for several years, and they do not believe that I have lost my legs; but when I show them, and they see for themselves, they exclaim, Truly we are "fearfully and wonderfully made." I can now fully appreciate that it is "the perfection of art to conceal art," and that you have *fully accomplished this, is practically demonstrated in my own case*. So closely have you studied the tendons and muscles of the natural limbs, that by a scientific combination of mechanical contrivances, you are enabled to imitate the operations and movements of the natural limbs to such an extent that art is swallowed up in nature.

I walk on the most *uneven ground, slanting sidewalks, up and down hill, up and down stairs, in and out of carriages*; and I find the operation most beautiful, natural and life-like. I find the utmost *reliability and firmness of step in all places*, none of the twisting, rolling or rocking motion of the feet, causing a sense of *insecurity and hazardousness*. I walk with perfect ease and graceful motion on all grades.

I fully appreciate the priceless value of your invention, but my dear sir, to attempt to express to you the feelings of my heart, in language, would be a failure; but, however, permit me in closing, to say, that you have been the instrument of changing me from one of the most miserable to one of the happiest of men.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your untiring kindness to me while with you in so helpless a condition; also, for elevating me again to a useful position.

I will ever remain sincerely and gratefully yours,
DANIEL BOONE HAYMAN.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Jan. 20, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—I cannot speak in too high terms of your legs. How can I, when they have served me so well? I have now worn them more than four years, every day, without any repairs whatever, and every cord, spring and tendon is in perfect order now. One very important feature of your leg, is, its construction is such that constant use does not change its adjustment, consequently it always maintains the same relative position to the other limb. The arrangement of the knee joint is most admirable, and does not require constant “tinkering” to keep it in its place. This I attribute to the fact that it does not depend on *thread cords* for its support and *strength*. Neither do the joints become noisy and rattle, for there is no metal to wear and cause it. They are in perfect condition now.

In short, you have attained a *successful combination* of simplicity of construction with *great strength and durability*.

All the surgeons in this city speak in the highest terms of my walking, and say if I can be made to walk so well, and do so much in my condition, a single amputation could not be detected.

I would that every man who has lost a leg, one or both, in the war, could see how beautifully I walk on the “Douglass Legs.”

I would most earnestly advise all who have suffered amputation, to procure your leg in preference to anything else. They will more than realize their anticipations.

Please refer any one to me you wish, and I will practically demonstrate to them the walking and durable qualities of your legs.

I am, very sincerely yours,
DANIEL BOONE HAYMAN.

ALBERT FOX, M. D.—Leg Amputation two and a half inches below the knee.

COLD SPRING, MASS., Dec. 17, 1859.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—Having carefully examined the various kinds of artificial limbs manufactured in this country, for the purpose of obtaining the best for my own use, having suffered the loss of a limb in extreme infancy, I can most unhesitatingly say, the limb of your invention *possesses superiority over all others*. For a successful imitation of nature in its movements, lightness, great strength and durability, reliability, ease and comfort in use, it is *equaled by none*. I find it to be unlike all others. It is decidedly superior to “Mr. Palmer’s Leg.”

In the amputation of the Os Femoris or thigh, it is beautifully adapted, with the entire absence of the spasmodic and unnatural movement of the

knee, as I have observed in *other legs*, the patient is enabled to walk in an easy and natural manner.

In its construction are combined anatomical and mechanical principles in such a form and manner as to produce *great strength, durability, and life-like elasticity*. Nothing could be more reliable than the construction of its joints, being unlike the limbs of other manufacturers, where the entire weight of the patient is sustained in walking by a few small rivets in connection with the thin wood.

As it is practically demonstrated in my own case, with the amputation of the Tibia and Fibula, leaving a stump only *two and a half inches*, semiflexed, and never having walked, yet so skillfully, scientifically, and with such due regard to the pathological condition of the limb was it adjusted, as not to produce the least irritation, enabling me to wear it with perfect ease. To see what perfection has *now* been attained in Surgical Mechanism, and how eminently successful science and art have triumphed over the misfortunes of the afflicted, is truly wonderful, is astonishing.

Yours in sympathy with the afflicted,

ALBERT FOX, M. D.

PAWLING, N. Y. June 5, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—That your leg is the most durable and substantial extant, is abundantly shown in its use in my case. I have worn it six years, and have “put it through” up hill and down, over smooth and rough roads, on pavements and in the woods, and in all my outgoings and incomings I find it stands the test most admirably, and herein lies the *real beauty* of an artificial leg. In procuring your leg, the public may rest assured that in using they will not walk in constant fear of being disabled by its breaking. I have seen the various kinds of legs in use, but have *never seen any that will stand the test like yours*.

I congratulate you on your rapidly increasing business, and tender to you my thanks for the blessing conferred in the use of your invaluable Artificial Leg.

Sincerely yours,

ALBERT FOX, M. D.

LUCIUS ALLEN.—Thigh Amputation.

HOLYOKE, MASS., Oct. 1, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have now worn the Artificial Leg I purchased of you, two years, and it is apparently as good as it was the day I put it on; I have worn it every day; I have *tested it severely, on the roughest ground, over stones and on the side of hills*, and I have ever found its operation *beautiful, natural and life-like*.

I have examined other limbs, and seen them in operation, and must say they do not compare at all with yours in durability, naturalness of movements, and life-like elasticity of the joints, as demonstrated in its application in my own case.

I walk so easy and natural that my acquaintances cannot realize that I am using anything but the natural limb. Dr. Holland of Westfield, who amputated my leg, frequently congratulates me on my walking so finely; he says “it is *astonishing and wonderful*.”

I take great pleasure in calling the attention of others to your *unequaled invention*, and to your great skill as an anatomical mechanician.

I am gratefully yours, &c.,

LUCIUS ALLEN.

HOLYOKE, MASS., Jan. 9, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am still using my leg in the most successful manner. I have worn it five years and it is in first rate condition. Its *strength, durability* and ease of motion is admirable, which are points of no small interest in a leg. I am happy to learn that you are rapidly extending the benefits of your invention to the unfortunate.

Wishing you much success in your laudable enterprise, I remain truly yours,

LUCIUS ALLEN.

CAPT. JOHN STANTON, a distinguished Sea Captain.—Leg Amputation with Thigh bearing.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS., Jan. 1, 1859.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—I now fulfill my promise to write you. My artificial leg of your invention operates first rate, I am very much pleased with it: so are all my friends. Although I have worn it but a few days, I can walk a mile with ease at one time. The more I wear it the more comfortable it feels. This is doing far beyond my expectation. I am *fully satisfied yours is the best Artificial Leg manufactured*. My leg was amputated at the town of Tumbéz, on the coast of Peru; not receiving proper medical treatment, the operation was badly performed, leaving the knee flexed and stiff, and in such an exceedingly tender condition as to render the use of the stump impossible, or take the bearing on the knee.

Notwithstanding these difficulties, which would seem to preclude the application of a limb, yet so beautifully have you adjusted the artificial leg, giving it such freedom of motion, such adaptability to the case, the bearing so easy and comfortable, I am enabled to walk *with great naturalness and reliability*.

For strength and durability, simplicity of mechanism, beauty of form and finish, your leg is *unequaled by any*. You are at perfect liberty to refer any one to me, and I shall always be happy to demonstrate to them that the leg of your invention is the best. For your kindness while under your treatment, as well as for your work's sake, please accept my sincere gratitude.

I remain truly yours,

CAPT. JOHN STANTON.

NEW BEDFORD, MASS., June 7, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I don't think I can say enough in favor of your Artificial Leg. I think there cannot be as good a one made as yours, nor one that will do as much service without getting out of repair.

I have worn mine *five years, constantly, without repairing*. To show you its practical benefits, and its adaptation to the most laborious professions, I will say, I have this year tended one acre of planted ground, and

mowed two tons of hay myself, and occasionally walked three miles; it takes a little longer to do it, of course, than it would under other circumstances.

Money could not purchase mine if I could not procure another one, for I should be nearly useless without it. This is the simple statement of the case.

I am very truly yours, CAPT. JOHN STANTON.

WILLIAM HARRINGTON, Esq., a widely known and distinguished Business Man.—
Amputation of Thigh—Short Stump.

The subjoined testimonial of Mr. Harrington will be read with more than ordinary interest, covering the experience of *half a century* with artificial legs. Few persons can speak from such an experience. Information from such a source, for those desiring the best artificial substitutes, and all interested, cannot be too highly appreciated.

WORCESTER, MASS., May 30, 1865.

To whom it may concern, and especially to those who have been so unfortunate as to lose a leg. To that class I belong. I suffered amputation of my right leg at the thigh, when I was twenty-one years old, and have worn an artificial leg *fifty-six years*.

My history dates back to the earliest forms of artificial legs, from the rude "peg," to the latest and most improved invention in mechanical surgery. I have worn *five different kinds of legs*, have always purchased the best I could find, I have worn the best legs manufactured in England, but was not pleased with them; the operation was not easy, nor comfortable to wear, continually excoriating the stump. I have worn *Mr. Palmer's leg*, and do not like it; it is *constantly getting out of repair*, and that seems to be the general complaint from others I have seen.

The great desideratum of artificial legs is *utility*. I can unhesitatingly say Mr. Douglass made the best leg I have ever worn. It is the most *natural, durable*, giving the greatest freedom of motion, and operating in the most *life-like manner* of any I have ever seen. It is worn with perfect ease.

From Mr. Douglass' long experience, and from his thorough practical knowledge of his profession, I can confidently recommend him as the most skillful and scientific surgical mechanician with whom I am acquainted.

WILLIAM HARRINGTON,
No. 4, Portland St., Worcester Mass.

MR. W. A. BLAKE.—Leg Amputation.

HAVERHILL MASS., Dec. 18, 1858.

This is to certify that I have worn four or five different kinds of legs, including "Palmer's Leg," but none have given the satisfaction I have experienced in the use of the one I am at present wearing, the invention of Mr. Douglass, of Springfield, Mass. While the legs of other manufacturers have irritated and inflamed the stump, causing much pain and trouble, I wear Mr. Douglass' leg with the *most perfect ease*. I do not experience the least irritation or trouble whatever. The more I use it the better I am pleased with it. I walk from five to ten miles every day.

I find it to be the most *reliable and durable* of any I have used, and the movements *natural and life-like*. It is constructed on scientific principles adapted and adjusted with due regard to the nature and condition of the case, causing no irritation or unpleasant feelings to those whose misfortune compels them to resort to this means of locomotion.

Please accept my sincere thanks for your kindness to me while with you; also for making me so perfect a limb. I do not think it is equaled by any in the world.

I will remain ever yours, &c.,

W. A. BLAKE.

Haverhill, Mass., Jan. 1, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I would not take a thousand dollars for my leg if I could not get you to make another one for me. I can, and frequently do, walk six miles an hour.

I have now worn my leg between four and five years, and it is as "sound as a nut." Not a *cord or spring* has broken, and they are good for years yet.

I have worn it constantly, and it has not cost a cent for repairs. What more can I say to prove the *unequaled durability* of your invention. What a relief to feel that I can walk anywhere with perfect safety and no fear of breaking down. This confidence is worth everything.

I rejoice that others are so rapidly availing themselves of your leg, and of your unequaled skill in fitting them.

I wish you much success in your noble calling, and remain ever truly yours,

W. A. BLAKE.

MR. N. B. JEWETT.—Leg Amputation.

Haverhill, Mass., June 12, 1859.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—I am prepared to speak of your patent Artificial Leg, one of which I am wearing, in the *highest terms*. Having worn four or five different kinds of legs for the last twenty-five years, I have had frequent opportunities of examining the various kinds of legs worn, and I must say, that in beauty of finish, likeness to nature, and especially in *strength and durability*, yours excels them all. I could not believe it possible for one to wear an artificial leg with such ease and comfort. It is surprising to me that I can walk so easy, *without the least pain or inconvenience*. I can truly say I have not walked for the last twenty-five years until I wore your leg.

Hoping you will still continue to extend the benefits of your invention to the unfortunate, I remain, dear sir, yours very truly,

N. B. JEWETT.

Haverhill, Mass., Jan. 1, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS: Dear Sir—I shall always be happy to bear testimony to the superiority of your Artificial Leg over *all others*. I have worn the one you made for me six years, with perfect ease and comfort. I can speak from experience, and do not hesitate to recommend all who have been so unfortunate as to lose a limb, to call on you and have their deficiency supplied, with the assurance that they will not be disappointed, unless they expect to have the original limb restored.

I find my leg, after six years wear, in good condition. The joints are as firm and in as good order, as when I first put it on, and I have put it to a severe test, my business being such as to keep me upon my feet most of the time. It is *impossible for the joints to clatter and rattle*, as there is no *metal to wear*, as in other legs, to cause it. I am satisfied that the manner in which you construct your leg, makes it the most durable and reliable of any.

I look upon your invention as a blessing to mankind, especially in these days of war and battles, when so many noble men are losing their limbs on the battle-field.

It is indeed a blessing and a consolation to know that the brave fellows can have their loss so well supplied.

Hoping that you will continue to receive abundant patronage, I remain sincerely yours,
N. B. JEWETT.

MR. LUCIUS H. WOODFORD, R. R. Engineer.—Amputation of the foot through the Instep.

BURLINGTON, Wis., Sept. 8, 1858.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—My Dear Sir—Having a few leisure moments, I will inform you how I am getting along on my Artificial Leg. I have seen all my friends here. They say I am walking very much better than they ever expected to see me. I think that is a good deal for one in my condition. I improve fast. I deem it not only a privilege, but a duty to inform you of the gratitude I feel for your invention of the Artificial leg.

Although it is but a few months since I had the misfortune to lose my foot, and now before the wound is entirely healed, I am able, with the assistance of your invention, to resume my duties as Railroad Engineer.

I can, and frequently do, walk from six to eight miles a day. For comfort, durability and use, it far surpasses my most sanguine expectations.

In gratitude, Sir, I am very truly yours,

LUCIUS H. WOODFORD.

THOMAS CLELAND, Jr.—Amputation of the Thigh.

HOLDEN, MASS., Dec. 27, 1859.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am happy to be able to inform you how well I am pleased with my Artificial Leg of your manufacture. In every respect it exceeds my most sanguine expectations. Although as you know I have worn it but a short time, I can walk through the snow with comparative ease. Indeed I think it is a limb in *every respect*, calculated to supply, as far as it is possible for art to supply, the functions of the natural limbs.

With my sincere thanks for your kindness while I was with you, I remain, Dear Sir, respectfully yours,
THOMAS CLELAND, JR.

NEWBERNE, N. C., May 31, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have now worn my leg five years without any repairs, and it is now in first-rate condition. What stronger proof do you want of the great durability of your leg? I have tested it under all circumstances, on all kinds of walking, and I find it

perfectly reliable. Not a cord or spring has broken. It maintains the same relative points of adjustment as when first fitted, and this is a thing of the greatest importance to persons wearing artificial limbs.

Another thing, I can go wherever I wish without fearing it will *break down*. That your leg is the best, I am abundantly satisfied. I make no use of a cane.

I have confidence that you will achieve the most perfect success in fitting your leg to the officers and soldiers now under your treatment.

Wishing you success, I remain as ever yours,

THOMAS CLELAND, JR.

Mr. JAMES COOL.—Leg Amputation.

WORCESTER, Mass., Oct. 3, 1858.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am happy to say in reference to your Patent Artificial Leg, it has given me the most perfect satisfaction. I can walk on it about as well as a person who never lost a limb.

I am truly yours,

JAMES COOL.

JOHN KELLEY.—Leg Amputation.

MIDDLETOWN, Ct., Jan. 1, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am satisfied your Artificial Leg is the best one, from experience in its use.

Yours truly,

JOHN KELLEY.

REV. G. C. SIMMONS.—Thigh Amputation.

QUAKER SPRINGS, N. Y., Jan. 12, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS—Dear Sir—I speak from practical experience with one of your Patent Artificial Legs when I say, after trying Palmer's legs, I am fully convinced yours is *decidedly the best*. I would say to those wanting legs, take the testimony of one who knows, and procure the "Douglass Leg."

Ever yours,

REV. G. C. SIMMONS.

SAMUEL BUTLER.—Leg Amputation.

WEST MERIDEN, Ct., Jan. 16, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I give the "Douglass Patent" preference over all others. I wear your leg in the most successful manner. I am much pleased to call the attention of others to your invention. I am ever yours,

SAMUEL BUTLER.

E. F. BILLINGS.—Leg Amputation.

HATFIELD, MASS., Jan. 6, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—The "Douglass Patent Artificial Leg" cannot be spoken of in too high terms. I wear one, and am highly pleased with it in every respect. Persons procuring it will be sure of obtaining *the best*. I know, as I speak from experience.

Ever yours,

E. F. BILLINGS, P. M.

W. W. LeBARRON.—Leg Amputation.

NORTHAMPTON, MASS., Jan 24, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—I know your patent Artificial Leg is “the Leg.” I speak from experience. I have tried Palmer’s leg, and have been sorely tried, too. I have now got a leg that will *stand the test*; I make no use of a cane, and walk anywhere without my former constant fear of breaking down.

Sincerely yours,

W. W. LeBARRON.

DANIEL A. TUTTLE.—Leg Amputation.

UNIONVILLE, CT., Jan. 27, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—After subjecting your Artificial Leg to the *severest tests* possible, I can most cheerfully say it is the best by far. I speak from experience, as I have tried two others. The real value of an artificial leg is in its practical utility. With your limb I am not under constant fear of being disabled while attending to my business, which is very active. I therefore recommend it in the *highest terms*.

I am very truly yours,

DANIEL A. TUTTLE.

S. D. NEGUS.—Thigh Amputation.

SHELBURNE FALLS, MASS., May 31, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—I have now got a leg that I can depend on. Previous to yours I wore a Palmer leg, which gave me great trouble and expense in keeping it in repair.

I wear yours with great ease and reliability, can walk anywhere, and can always depend on it. I have had much experience with artificial legs, and have never seen one equal to yours.

Truly yours,

S. D. NEGUS.

GILMAN SMART.—Thigh Amputation.

SEARSPORT, ME., June 1, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—The Artificial Leg you made for me more than two years ago has proved in the highest degree satisfactory. I could do nothing without it. I was advised by a gentleman wearing Palmer’s leg to be sure and get yours, as it was far superior. I have worked in a granite quarry constantly since I got it, lifting great weights, &c., which has tried it severely. I have ever found it *strong, durable and substantial*, and operating in a very life-like manner.

Truly yours,

GILMAN SMART.

BURTON H. TAINTOR.—Thigh Amputation.

LEE, MASS., May 24, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS—Dear Sir—I wish to express to you my entire satisfaction with the Artificial Leg you made for me nearly a year ago. I find the use of it perfectly easy and natural, giving me no pain whatever. I have seen the various kinds of legs, but none to compare favorably with yours. I regard your invention as a great public blessing, and may you live long to relieve the unfortunate.

I am truly yours,

BURTON H. TAINTOR.

ROBERT MITCHELL.—Leg Amputation.

YONKERS, N. Y., May 1, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—Your artificial leg, which I wear, was recommended to me over all others, and I am happy to say it has been *fully sustained*. I am much pleased with it, and walk very finely. I am happy to recommend others to your office.

Truly yours,

ROBERT MITCHELL.

MORGAN FARRELL.—Leg Amputation.

POULTNEY, VT., May 28, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—I wish to inform you how well pleased I am with your artificial leg, which I wear. I wore Palmer's leg before yours was manufactured, it being the best I could then get. I am perfectly satisfied that yours is the best leg manufactured.

Truly yours,

MORGAN FARRELL.

T. L. ADAMS.—Leg Amputation.

RED WING, MINN., May 8, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—The artificial leg which you made, fitted, and sent to me, fits like a glove. I am highly pleased with it, and walk "tip top." I am pleased to call attention to your unequalled limbs.

Very truly yours,

T. L. ADAMS.

LEMUEL STEVENS.—Thigh Amputation.

DERBY, VT. May 14, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—You have disappointed me, happily. For a man of my age, with a leg amputated at the thigh, to walk so easy and comfortable, and to do so much more than I expected, why should I not be? I shall ever remember you with gratitude for the blessings of an artificial leg.

Very truly yours,

LEMUEL STEVENS.

JOHN GRIFFIN.—Leg Amputation.

GREENFIELD, MASS., June 2, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—I am much pleased with the artificial leg you made for me. I could do nothing without it. Having seen the various legs worn, I selected yours in preference to any other, and am abundantly satisfied with my choice.

Truly yours,

JOHN GRIFFIN.

S. J. CHADBOURNE.—Thigh Amputation.

DIXMONT, ME., Jan. 17, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—From experience with Palmer's leg for some years, and also yours, I am fully satisfied yours is far superior.

In its adjustment, operation, beauty of finish, strength and durability it is *unequaled*.

Very truly yours,

S. J. CHADBOURNE.

DR. TERRY.—Leg Amputation.

TUNBRIDGE, VT., June 3, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—If my testimony can add anything further to the high reputation of your artificial limbs, I will cheerfully give it. I would most candidly advise patients requiring such surgical appliances to procure the very best. I have worn artificial legs for a number of years, have worn Palmer's and others, and have never found anything equal to yours for strength, durability, ease and comfort to wear. My duties are very active, and being a heavy man, I require the strongest kind of a leg. The other legs I wore were constantly breaking down, and of course when I wanted them the most. I have ever found yours as true as steel, under all circumstances, making it the cheapest leg, because no constant expense to keep it in order. The operation of the foot is beautiful, easy and life-like on all kinds of walking. I would cordially advise your patients to take the advice of one who has had experience with different legs, and get yours.

Truly yours,

ORMAN TERRY, M. D.

J. BURTON HINE, Esq.—Both Legs Amputated.

NEW HAVEN, CT., July 14, 1864.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost both legs, and tried various kinds made in New York, I tried yours. I give them the decided preference. Your successful experience in adjusting legs is unequaled by any other, and your legs *far superior to all others*.

I am very truly yours,

J. BURTON HINE.

J. W. DECKER.—Thigh Amputation.

NORTH ADAMS, MASS., Jan. 21, 1864.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having worn out three or four artificial legs, made by different parties in New York, I concluded to avail myself of your unequaled skill, and try one of your invention. You have done it. Any leg that can stand the tests that I give it, is entitled to the highest praise. I know, as I speak from experience.

Yours, &c.,

J. W. DECKER.

E. BARNARD.—Leg Amputation.

GREENWICH, MASS., May 10, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am much pleased with your patent artificial leg. I walk perfectly easy, and it fits like a glove. Your leg was recommended to me as superior to all others, and I am fully convinced of it.

Truly yours,

EBENEZER BARNARD.

JOHN NEELANS.—Thigh Amputation.

ENFIELD, CT., April 27, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost my leg when a lad, I thought I could not have an artificial one fitted to my stump, it being so short, but you have successfully accomplished it, and I walk with great ease, comfort and satisfaction. I cannot speak too highly of your skill.

Truly yours,

JOHN NEELANS.

W. E. DAUBENHEYER.—Thigh Amputation.

COUNTY TREASURER'S OFFICE,
CINCINNATI, OHIO, May 13, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am highly pleased with your artificial leg, which I am wearing. It has far exceeded my expectations. I have worn other legs for more than thirty years, but find yours far superior in ease, comfort and durability. I take great pleasure in recommending others to your unequaled limbs, and skill in adjusting them.

Ever yours,

WILLIAM E. DAUBENHEYER.

C. C. ROWELL.—Leg Amputation.

NEWPORT, N. H., June 1, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—After using Palmer's and other artificial legs several years, I concluded to try one of your manufacture. I have now used it long enough to become perfectly satisfied that it is by far the best substitute for the natural limb that I have ever seen.

One of its greatest recommendations is its *durability*. It is as strong as steel and wood can make it. The joints are not tied together with rubber strings.

I never use a cane, and can walk eight or ten miles at a time, very comfortably.

If you will come up and stop with me a few days, and go troutng, I think I will make you say you are tired before night.

Wishing you much success, I am yours, &c.,

C. C. ROWELL.

BENJAMIN F. FLAGLER.—Leg Amputation.

POUGHQUAG, N. Y. May 11, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—For an old gentleman to walk on one of your legs as I do, it is wonderful. I cannot express to you my joy to be able to walk so finely again. I feel able to walk ten miles a day. I would say to all who lose legs, first select one that has been well tested in all cases of amputation, then select a manufacturer who has had a *large amount of practical experience* in adjusting limbs, and they will have no trouble.

Very truly yours,

BENJAMIN F. FLAGLER.

JAMES POWERS.—Both Legs Amputated.

PLYMOUTH, WIS., June 6, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having lost both legs, I was advised to procure substitutes of your manufacture, as they were the *best*, and that your skill and experience in treating such cases was unequaled by any other manufacturer. I am happy to inform you that the limbs have more than met my expectations. I have worn them all the time since, and *work on a farm*. The great beauty of your legs is they are durable, amply strong to endure the wear and rough usage of a farmer's life. I have worn them nearly three years, *without a cent of expense* on them. I call the attention of those in want of the best legs to get yours.

Very truly yours,

JAMES POWERS.

CAPT. WILLIAM ROBERTS.—Leg Amputation.

SAN LORENZO, CALIFORNIA, March 21st, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am very happy to inform you that the Artificial Leg you made, fitted, and sent to me, by express, came safely to hand, and *fits to a charm*. I am delighted with it. My friends are highly pleased to see me get around so well.

With a little practice I can walk so my lameness will not be noticed.

Your artificial limbs were highly recommended to me, and your services in my case *fully sustains your high reputation*.

I am, very truly yours, CAPT. WILLIAM ROBERTS.

DIXI CROSBY SMALLEY.—Leg Amputation.

LEBANON, N. H., May 13, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having worn your leg more than a year before writing you, for the purpose of subjecting it to a test that would leave no doubt in my mind as to its real worth, I can say without any hesitation, that it greatly excels the Palmer leg, both in durability and ease to the wearer. I have had two of Palmer's, and never was able to wear either of them more than a month without having them repaired. Both of them lasted me only five years. Your leg fits perfectly in every respect, and I can walk on it with the greatest ease. I have walked on it seven miles at one time, and stood on my foot all day after walking that distance. The leg has been put to some severe tests, but has come out every time "all right." I am frequently called upon for advice in regard to legs, and I invariably recommend the "Douglass Limbs," as *far superior to anything else manufactured*.

With many wishes for your prosperity, I remain your grateful friend and patient,

DIXI CROSBY SMALLEY.

JOSEPH HITCHCOCK.—Both Legs Amputated, one below, the other above the knee.

SEYMOUR, Ct., June 1, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—According to promise I will now write you a few lines to let you know how I get along with the two Artificial Limbs you made for me. As you know one leg is amputated below the knee and the other above the knee, adding another to the list of exceedingly difficult cases which you so successfully treat. I walk admirably, I use only one cane, and great many wonder how I can walk so finely, but the limbs answer all questions.

They are equaled only by the natural limbs. I would not part with them for any consideration. I wear them all the time, and work constantly. One of the many valuable qualities of your limbs, is the perfect *reliability of step* under all circumstances. I do not stand as it were on *two pivots*, liable to tip over in any direction, but wherever I place the feet, I feel a *perfect sense of security*.

I carefully examined the various limbs before getting any, and am fully satisfied that yours, for strength, durability, reliability, ease and life-like action, are the best legs manufactured.

Truly yours,

JOSEPH HITCHCOCK.

THOMAS O. KENNEDY.—Leg Amputation.

STRONG, ME., March 10th, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have worn one of your Patent Artificial Legs over a year, working on a farm, and of course have tried it severely. I find it is now as good as new. Previous to yours I tried Palmer's and found it very unsatisfactory, constantly out of repair. With yours I find it perfectly easy to walk, not hurting me in the least, and ever strong, durable and substantial. Having induced several to apply to you for legs, I shall ever take pains to do so.

Very truly yours,

THOS. O. KENNEDY.

DENNIS DELANEY.—Thigh Amputation.M. & M. R. R. MACHINE SHOP, DAVENPORT, IOWA,
June 12, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—It was not that I did not consider your Artificial Leg the very best, that I did not let you know before, but thought my recommending it to my acquaintances, after wearing one four years, would indicate its superiority. I have carefully studied the structure of all the legs, and seen the most of them worn, and by comparing notes I find yours stands the true test, viz: its *practical adaptability in the loss of a leg*. Hence I recommend it in the highest terms.

Very truly yours,

DENNIS DELANEY.

Testimonials from Ladies.

MARY F. STRATTON.—Leg Amputation.

The following grateful letter in acknowledgement of the benefits and happiness conferred in the use of my improvements in Artificial Limbs, will be read with deep interest by those who want the best substitute, and the case treated in the most successful manner.

I made and sent the limb to the patient. Such success can only be attained by a *thorough practical knowledge* of the profession.

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, Jan. 3, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have the pleasure to inform you that the Artificial Limb you made for me has arrived here all safe.

As you are well aware my case was a very difficult one to fit, and how well you have succeeded will be shown by my report.

Last Wednesday I made my appearance on H and I Street, shopping. I walked down town half a mile. I surprised the merchants and clerks, and some of my friends could hardly believe their eyes when they saw me coming in so spry and cheerful. I have had my picture taken on cards to send home, that my friends could see that I am on two feet once more.

There has been much anxiety to see the limb, and many have come in to see it. All who have seen the "Palmer Leg" say yours is a *decided improvement* over his. There are two or three here who have the "Palmer Leg," and I intend to have them invited in to see mine.

I have had a pair of boots fitted. The merchant never saw an artificial limb before; he examined it, and saw me walk. He said it was one of the wonders of the world to see a foot look and operate so near like the natural one.

I am perfectly satisfied with it; it is more than I anticipated. It is *perfectly comfortable to wear*, and the foot operates to a charm. I can get into a carriage splendidly, as easy as with my natural foot. I go up and down stairs without touching the banisters. I have no fear of falling. I promise you I will take the best care of it.

Dr. Simmons, my physician, says it is very fine, and an *improvement* over the "Palmer Leg."

I am a thousand times obliged for what you have done for me.

May God give you health, and may you live long to send relief to thousands as you have to me. May He bless you with as much happiness as you impart to others.

I am, very truly and gratefully yours,

MARY F. STRATTON.

MISS LIZZIE MOORE—Leg Amputation.

The subjoined testimonial from a lady who has had much experience, will be read with deep interest by ladies requiring the most serviceable and natural Artificial limbs.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Jan. 1, 1863.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—Nothing can equal the ease, grace and naturalness with which I walk with your Patent Artificial Limb.

Previous to getting yours, I tried two of the "Palmer Legs," manufactured by Palmer & Co., and my experience with them was very unsatisfactory. They were constantly breaking down. The joints at the knee, the cords and springs, required to be renewed often. In addition to the expense of keeping them in repair was the loss of time in sending them away for that purpose.

I have thoroughly tested your limb, and find all these objections remedied. Now, at every step I feel a firmness and reliability hitherto unattained. By the peculiarity of construction in the ankle joint, in addition to its great strength, you have entirely avoided the very unpleasant and annoying *clumping sound of the foot*, which is so noticeable in other artificial limbs. I would particularly call the attention of ladies to this point in your limb; it is this unnatural movement and clumping sound which so readily detects a lady in the use of an artificial limb. My observation has been quite extensive, and I have never seen anything equal yours. Dr. Wyckoff speaks in the highest terms of your limbs, of my walking, and of its application in my case.

Your mode of fitting and adjustment being different and superior to other limbs, I am enabled to walk a much greater distance without *any*

fatigue. My motions are much more easy, graceful and dignified, and the step, oh how natural! Who could detect it?

The many limbs, "Palmer's" and others, that I saw at your office, which have been thrown aside for yours, attest in the *strongest language* the superiority of yours.

You may refer any one to me, and I will be very happy to demonstrate to them, that your limb is the lightest, the most durable and substantial, and the most natural operating limb ever constructed.

Rejoicing that you are so rapidly extending the blessing of your unequalled Artificial Limb to the world,

I remain sincerely and gratefully yours,

LIZZIE MOORE.

AMELIA BROCKETT.—Thigh Amputation.

NORTH HAVEN, CONN., Sept. 23, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I am happy to take this opportunity to inform you how I am getting along with my artificial leg. I have worn it nearly *two years, constantly, without any repairs whatever*, and it is in *perfect order now*.

I have seven in my family, and do my own work, and can do as hard a days work as I ever could. Without the leg I could do nothing.

Very truly yours,

AMELIA BROCKETT.

ABBY M. WEST.—Thigh Amputation.

OLD WARWICK, R. I., Oct., 2, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—It gives me great pleasure to inform you how much I like the artificial limb you made for me some seventeen months since. *I wear it with the greatest ease and comfort*, and had not thought it possible for a limb to be fitted so perfectly as to prevent all irritation or disagreeable feelings in wearing.

I consider my limb a *great blessing*, and would earnestly advise all who have lost limbs to procure substitutes of your invention and manufacture.

Yours truly,

ABBY M. WEST.

MISS LIZZIE WOLSTENHOLME.—Amputation below the knee.—Stump only two inches long.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Oct. 1, 1861.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—I have now worn my artificial limb nearly one year, and I think it is time I told you how I like it. Father says I ought to, and I am sure I want to.

Well, I like it so much that I would not be without it for anything I can think of. The more I use it the better I like it.

All who have been so unfortunate as to lose limbs, and wish to get the *best* artificial substitute, I would say to them, be sure and get yours.

I must close as the school bell is ringing. Good bye.

From your little patient,

LIZZIE WOLSTENHOLME.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., May 11, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—Having used the leg manufactured by you for almost four years, I think I am able to say it is a good thing. I

can use mine as handy and freely as I can my natural limb. I can run, hop, jump and dance and do almost anything with it.

From your smallest patient,

LIZZIE.

CATHERINE KELLY.—Thigh Amputation.

MIDDLETOWN, CT., May 16, 1865.

MR. DOUGLASS:—Dear Sir—With your artificial limb, which I wear. I am able to do all of my housework in a most comfortable manner. The limb is perfectly easy to wear, and natural and life-like in its movements.

I am ever gratefully yours.

CATHERINE KELLY.

EMILY FAIR.—Thigh Amputation.

TYRINGHAM, MASS., May 31, 1865.

FRIEND D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS:—I am prepared to inform you that the artificial leg you made for me nearly a year since, has proved perfectly satisfactory. Having suffered amputation of my leg above the knee, I was very anxious to procure the very best substitute. We made a very thorough examination of yours, and the various kinds of legs made in New York, which, to induce us were offered at a much less price than yours. Yours was considered preferable, and with my experience in its use, I can say it has fully answered my expectations.

Thanking you for your kindness while under your treatment, I am yours, &c.,

EMILY FAIR.

Especial Attention.

It will be readily seen that especial reference has been made to persons Wearing the Limbs.

The intelligent Medical Profession invariably look to the results of such Surgical Appliances for an estimation of their true value.

These expressions of satisfaction are from persons of every profession and walk of life, pursuing their various vocations, showing the adaptability of the Limbs to all conditions and circumstances.

What better evidence of the real value and usefulness of the Limbs can be shown?

THE following very interesting letter, from Mr. A. S. Currier, one of the most scientific men of the country, states what he has seen and knows. Hence its value and weight to those who seek a *disinterested* opinion in regard to the best limbs.

SPRINGFIELD, MASS., June 30, 1865.

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS :—Dear Sir—You ask my opinion in regard to your artificial limbs; I am happy to have this opportunity to give it, and cheerfully and fully do so.

For a number of years I was a member of the firm of "Palmer & Co.," manufacturers of the "Palmer leg." For nine years you was in our employ, as our *best and most accomplished workman*, fitting and adjusting limbs in the most difficult cases. Having *withdrawn* from the Company, and invented an artificial leg, I AM FREE TO SAY, IT IS ENTIRELY SUPERIOR TO THE "PALMER LEG," OR ANY OTHER.

Its superiority over all other limbs, is shown in its *great strength, durability and reliability*, hence its *practical* usefulness, in being adapted to all cases of amputation.

Again, in the construction of all the joints, differing from other legs, you have combined mechanical and anatomical principles in such a manner as to produce the *best known results—they are worn for years without the least breakage or expense for repairs.*

You have also studied simplicity of construction, hence adding greatly to the *real value* of an artificial leg. Having attained the functions of the natural leg, you have wisely avoided all *complicated mechanism* and thereby enhanced the real value and usefulness of a leg.

I find also that your limbs are adapted to *every form of amputation*. In cases of very *short stumps* where other limbs are unsuccessfully applied, yours is finely adapted.

All parts of your limbs are constructed in the most *thorough and workmanlike manner*, and through your successful practical experience, every limb is fitted and worn in the most easy, natural and life-like manner.

My opinion of your limbs has been drawn from a *close observation of the working of them for eight years*, having seen it applied and *thoroughly tested in scores of cases*. Your testimonials also evince its practical superiority over other legs.

I am, very respectfully yours,

A. S. CURRIER.

THE DOUGLASS

ARTIFICIAL ARM.

THIS is a new invention, and differs radically from others. It is very light, full size and length, weighing only one pound, yet it is strong, durable and substantial.

Hitherto Artificial Arms have been made very complicated, involving any amount of useless machinery, consequently heavy, noisy and clumsy.

In my invention I have embodied such principles as will render the Arm useful to the fullest extent of an Artificial Arm. With an amputation of the forearm a person can write with facility. It is also useful in eating and the various kinds of labor, driving horses, and many things where two hands are indispensable.

It is beautifully natural in symmetry, and life-like in action.

All applications for the Arms should be addressed to me, and patients will receive full instructions in regard to applying it in each particular case. I would especially invite the attention to this beautiful appliance of those who have been unsuccessfully treated elsewhere with arms so heavy and unwieldy that they cannot be worn, with the assurance that their wants will now be realized.

DIRECTIONS

—to—

PERSONS WISHING TO PURCHASE ARTIFICIAL LEGS.

ALWAYS retain the *perfect action of the stump*, and in *all cases* keep it bandaged comfortably tight. Before visiting the Office, write, stating the nature of the case *clearly and minutely*. A blank for measurement will be sent with full instructions regarding the application of the Leg. This must be filled and returned; the patient will then be notified when to come and have it fitted and finished.

All communications answered without charge.

Address,

D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS,

Office Burt's Block, Main St.,

Springfield, Mass.

NOTICE.

My ARTIFICIAL LEGS are fully protected by Letters Patent.

IN NO CASE WILL PERSONS BE ALLOWED TO INFRINGE THE PATENT IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER.

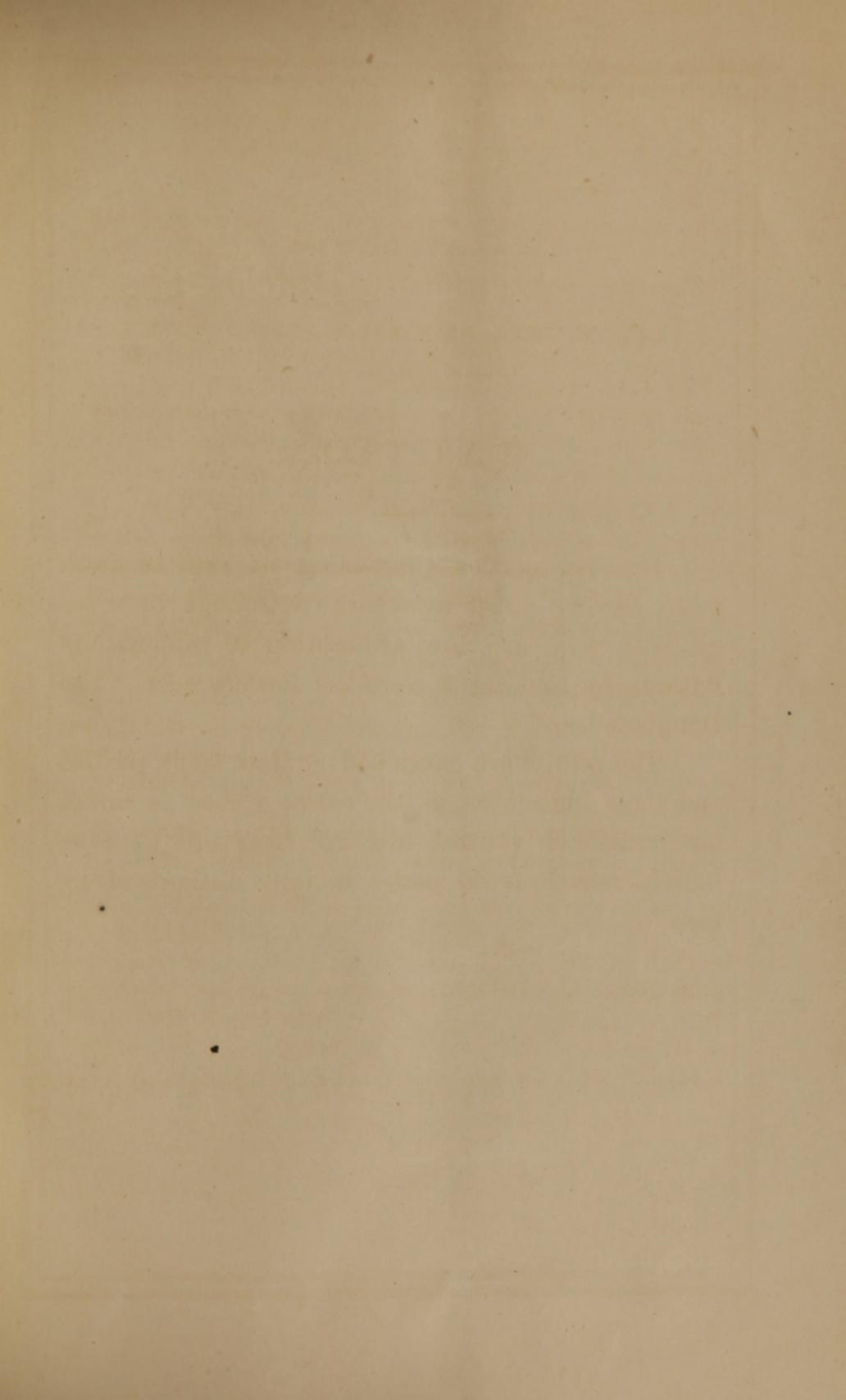
I am the exclusive owner of the Patent, and manufacturer of the Legs. I am not confined by limitation to States or Territories. Patients throughout the country can obtain the only "Douglass Leg" at my Office in Springfield, Massachusetts.

All communications, applications, and orders must be addressed to D. DEFORREST DOUGLASS, Surgical Mechanician, Springfield, Massachusetts.

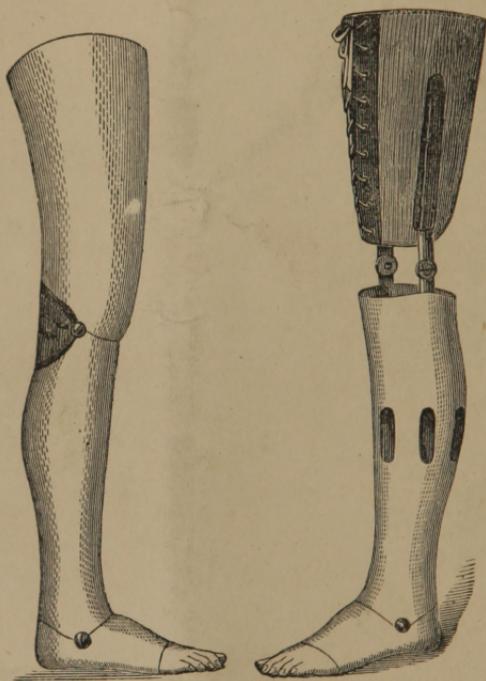
CAUTION.

CERTAIN parties, possessing *no skill or ingenuity*, having failed to secure patronage in a legitimate way, are now attempting to infringe my Patents by making a *worthless imitation* of "The Douglass Leg."

The public are cautioned against such parties and their imitations, as the *entire Patent* is under my immediate control, and no Legs are genuine unless manufactured under it, duly authorized by me.



Douglass' Patent Artificial Legs.



UNIVERSALLY APPROVED AND RECOMMENDED.



NATIONAL LIBRARY OF MEDICINE



NLM 03206265 6

ARMY
MEDICAL LIBRARY