

No. 657,697.

Patented Sept. 11, 1900.

A. GETZ & W. C. WESTALL.
HAND GRIP FOR HANDLE BARS.

(Application filed Sept. 8, 1896.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

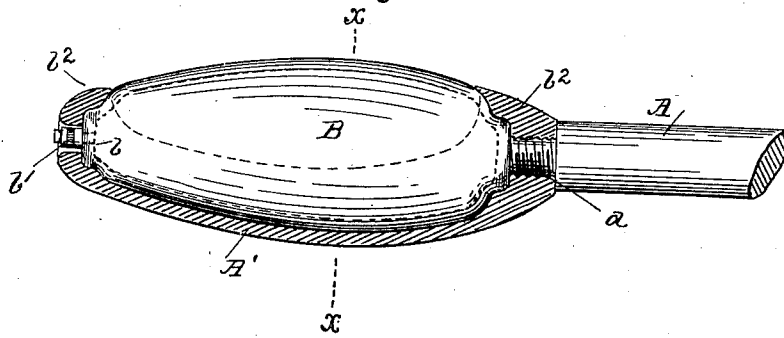
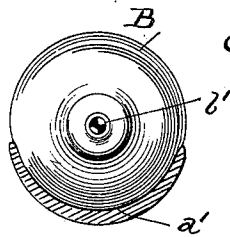


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AUGUST GETZ AND WILLIAM C. WESTALL, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

HAND-GRIP FOR HANDLE-BARS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 657,697, dated September 11, 1900.

Application filed September 8, 1896. Serial No. 605,050. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, AUGUST GETZ and WILLIAM C. WESTALL, citizens of the United States, residing at San Francisco, in the county of San Francisco and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hand-Grips for Handle-Bars; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The present invention relates to a certain new and useful hand-grip for the handle-bar of bicycles, which consists in the arrangement of parts and details of construction, as will be hereinafter fully set forth in the drawings and described and pointed out in the specification.

The object of our invention is to provide a grip which while allowing for the hands to firmly grasp and hold the same will give to the pressure exerted thereon caused by the vibratory motion of the wheel while traversing over rough places or roads, so as to relieve the hands or arms of the rider of the strain or jar thereon due to the continued vibration of the wheel.

In order to fully comprehend the invention, reference must be had to the accompanying sheet of drawings, forming a part of this application.

Figure 1 is a broken detail view of the handle-bar of a bicycle with our hand-grip secured to the end thereof, the elastic or inflatable grip-cushion being shown in position within the grip frame, seat, or holder and the frame, seat, or holder in longitudinal section; and Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the cushion and holder, taken on line *x x*, Fig. 1.

In the drawings the letter A is used to indicate the end portion of the handle-bar, to which is secured the frame or holder A'. This frame or holder screws onto the reduced screw-threaded end *a* of the handle-bar, and its upper face or surface is cut away, so that in cross-section the said holder or frame presents a spoon-shaped seat *a'* for the elastic or inflatable cushion B. The outer end of the holder or frame is provided with a valve-opening *b*, through which the neck of the valve *b'*, projecting from one end of the in-

flatable cushion, extends. Each end of the frame or holder is formed with an inwardly-projecting lip or flange *b² b²*, which lips or flanges embrace the ends of the air-cushion and hold the same in position when filled with air under pressure. The under or lower face or half of the frame or holder remains undisturbed, so as to present a solid rest or support for the lower or bottom portion of the inflatable cushion, in order to prevent pressure on the upper half or portion bulging the bottom out. The cushion is filled with air through the valve *b'* in the usual manner, and when inflated the same will fit snugly and firmly within the frame or holder A', only the top and a portion of the sides being exposed, which surface forms a soft elastic grip for the hands, which will give to the pressure thereon caused by the vibratory motion of the wheel and relieve the hand of the strain or jar incident to the vibration.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new, and desire to secure protection in by Letters Patent, is—

1. A velocipede handle or grip consisting of an ellipsoidal pneumatic bulb having an unobstructed cavity and a longitudinal rigid shell or support which partially incloses the bulb, leaving the upper portion thereof exposed, and which is provided at its inner end with a socket which embraces the end of the bulb and by which the shell or support is attached to the handle-bar.

2. The combination with the handle-bar of a bicycle, of the grip frame or holder removably secured thereto, said frame or holder having its upper surface cut away so as to present a spoon-shaped seat in cross-section, the flanges inwardly projecting from each end of the holder, an inflatable cushion held within the frame or holder, and an air-filling valve connected with the cushion.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures, in presence of two witnesses, this 24th day of August, 1896.

AUGUST GETZ.
WILLIAM C. WESTALL.

Witnesses:

LEE D. CRAIG,
N. A. ACKER.