(No Model.)

W. T. BROWN.

BASE BALL BAT.

No. 310,248. Patented Jan. 6, 1885.

Fig. 1.

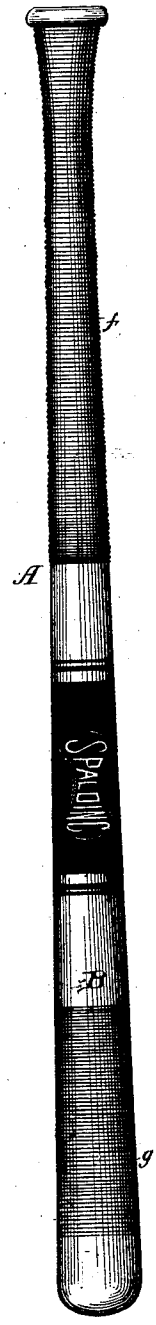


Fig. 3

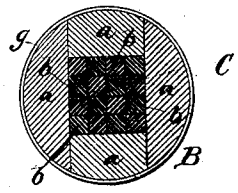
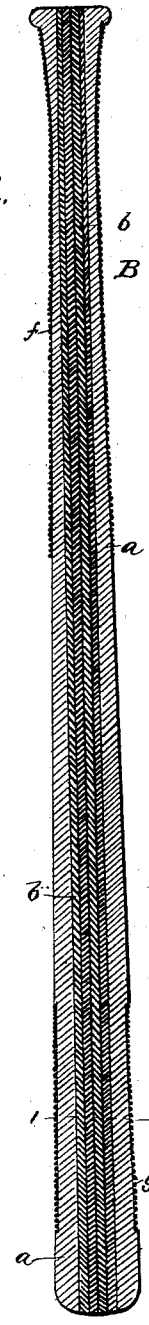


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM T. BROWN, OF HASTINGS, MICHIGAN.

BASE-BALL BAT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 310,248, dated January 6, 1885.

Application filed June 2, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM T. BROWN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hastings, in the county of Barry and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Base-Ball Bats, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in base-ball bats; and it consists in producing a bat which, while combining the requisite qualities of strength, durability, and economy of manufacture, will be much lighter than the bats now in common use, and at the same time possess great elasticity, as fully described hereinafter.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an exterior view of a bat of ordinary form embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal central section, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged cross-section thereof, taken on the line 1 2 of Fig. 1.

A is the bat, which consists, essentially, of an outer portion, B, and a central core, C, of light elastic material having great tensile strength—such, for instance, as rattan. The central portion or core, C, is built up of strips *b* of rattan or other light wood having great tensile strength and elasticity. These strips *b* are square or angular in cross-section, so that they may be closely fitted and glued together to form a compact body, without interstices, of practically one continuous piece of the same length as the outer portion, B. This outer portion, B, is made of hard or soft wood, such as ordinarily used for bats, and is built up of longitudinal sections *a*, each of which is segmental in cross-section, and all so shaped that when the sections are fitted together and applied to the core C, as shown in Fig. 3, they constitute, with the latter, a bat having the usual outward shape, but combined of two parts differing from each other, and each with qualities adding to the efficiency of the article.

It is obvious that the outer portion, B, may be divided into any convenient number of sections, *a;* but I prefer to use the division shown for the sake of convenience in securing the parts together and economy in manufacture.

The core C may taper slightly toward one end and the outer portion may conform thereto.

In making the article the core C is first built up of the strips *b*, securely cemented together throughout their entire length, as above described, and then the outer sections, *a*, are glued thereto, so that the parts thus firmly secured together constitute a structure practically continuous.

A bat thus constructed is much lighter than one of the same size as ordinarily made, and possesses the desirable qualities of elasticity and strength, as the rattan is very tough, and will yield to a certain extent to blows without danger of breaking, jarring the hands of the player being thus prevented.

To give additional strength to the bat and prevent any possibility of separation of the joints, or the outer sections, *a*, from working loose from the effects of moisture or of the blows or shocks received by the bat while in use, I provide it at or near both ends with an exterior wrapping, *f g*, of twine, tape, or any other suitable material. Where the wrapping is applied near the butt-end of the bat, the outer portion of the bat is cut away or recessed, so that when wound the surface of the wrapping will be even with that of the bat, and the wrapping is thus securely confined between the edges of the recessed portion, and a level batting-surface presented. At the opposite end the bat may be recessed and wrapped in like manner; but, as shown, the wrapping is applied on the outer surface of the bat without first recessing the latter, and it is secured in any suitable manner. After applying the wrapping the latter is varnished or otherwise protected against moisture.

Without limiting myself to the exact construction of parts shown, I claim—

1. A bat having a core of longitudinal strips of rattan fitted and cemented closely together, and an outer portion composed of strips of hard wood, fitted and cemented to and inclosing the core part, substantially as described.

2. A bat having a core of longitudinal strips of rattan fitted and cemented together, and an outer portion composed of wood strips fitted and cemented to and inclosing the core part, and an exterior wrapping at one or more points, substantially as described.

3. The combination, in a bat, of the inner core of longitudinal strips of rattan, the outer portion consisting of wood strips cemented to each other and to the core, and recessed, as set forth, and a wrapping of twine within said recessed portion, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

WILLIAM T. BROWN.

Witnesses:
JOHN H. ANDERSON,
JOHN W. DOXEY, Jr.