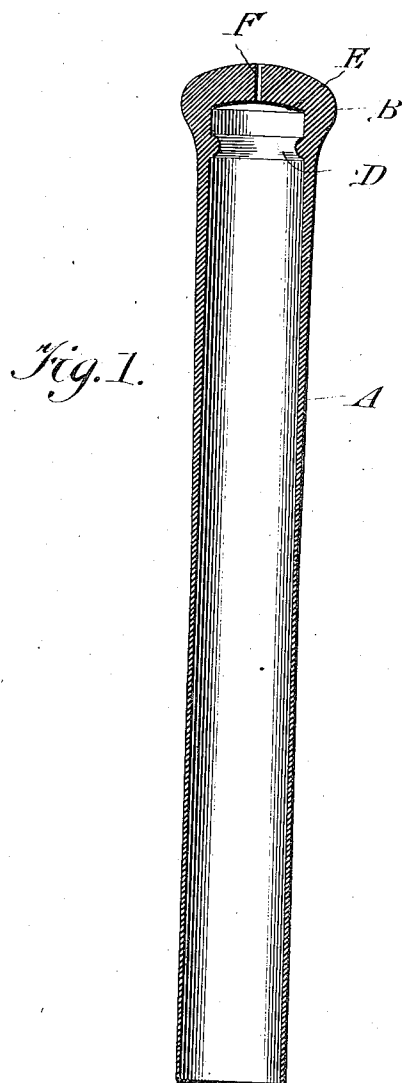
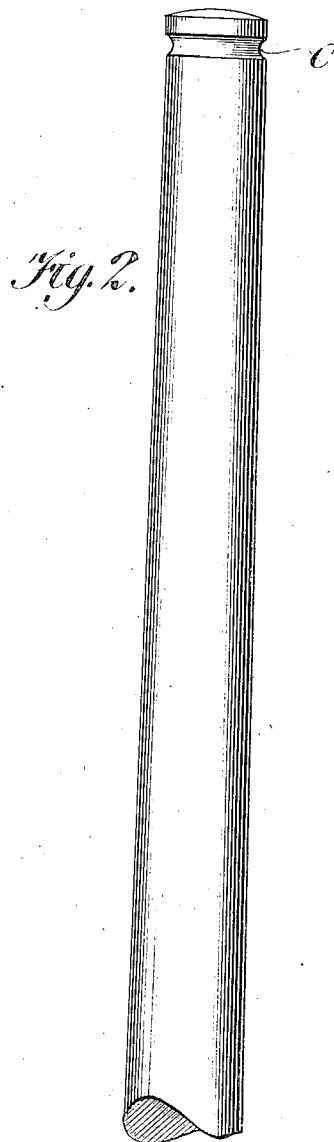


W. E. ZIMMERMAN.
HANDLE COVERING.
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1,165,484.

Patented Dec. 28, 1915.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM EDWARD ZIMMERMAN, OF OWOSSO, MICHIGAN.

HANDLE-COVERING.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 28, 1915.

1,165,484.

Application filed June 23, 1915. Serial No. 35,852.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM EDWARD ZIMMERMAN, citizen of the United States, residing at Owosso, in the county of Shiawassee and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Handle-Coverings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improved handle covering which when applied to a bat handle affords a means by which one can secure a firm grip upon the same, also the chances of slipping from the hands of the batsman are greatly if not totally eliminated.

Heretofore it has been customary to provide a covering for a handle by either wrapping a portion of the same with adhesive tape, cord or the like, or else provide a rubber tubing the diameter of which is practically the same as the handle to which it is applied, but in both these instances there are objections thereto, the tape soon loses its adhesive qualities, the tubing stretches and the handle slips out. These objections are overcome by the use of my special grip, first by making the diameter of the same slightly smaller than that of the handle to which it is applied, second by making the walls of the grip gradually increase in thickness from the front to the knob end thereof and third to provide a fastening means whereby the grip is securely held in position upon the handle.

In the accompanying drawings, to which I hereinafter refer, Figure 1 is a sectional view of my handle covering and Fig. 2 is a portion of a handle to which the covering is adapted to be applied.

A designates a handle covering which is composed of rubber and is made in the form of a tube closed at one end by a knob portion B. The walls of the tubing are made rather thin at their front or open end and gradually increase in thickness as they approach the knob portion. It should also be stated that the diameter of the tube at its open end is slightly less than that of the handle to which it is applied and of course the gradual increasing in thickness of the walls makes the diameter of the tubing decrease as it approaches the knob. This construction has a decided advantage over one in which the diameter of the tubing is the same throughout, as the farther the tube or

grip is shoved upon the handle the tighter it will envelop the same.

In order to positively secure the tube upon the handle I provide a special fastening means which consists in circumferentially grooving the bat handle adjacent the heel thereof as shown at C and providing a circumferential lug D upon the inside of the tube adjacent the closed end thereof. When the tube is applied to the handle and the lug engages within the groove it will be impossible to withdraw the same unless cut. When in its applied position the tubing is slightly spaced from the heel of the bat at its end so as to provide an air chamber as shown at E. This chamber is vented by means of an opening F extending through the knob portion of the tubing. The purpose of this air chamber is to prevent the tubing on its interior from becoming dry and parched which is liable to soon destroy the elasticity of the grip and render it useless.

I have described in the foregoing the preferred embodiment of my invention but I wish it to be understood that departures therefrom may be had without limiting the scope or spirit of the claims, for instance, it may be applied to tennis rackets, cricket bats, golf clubs, portable flag poles, crank handles and all kinds of tool handles.

What I claim is:

1. A grip for handles, comprising a tube the diameter of which varies throughout its length, said tube being closed at one end, and means within the tube adjacent said closed end for securing the tube in position.

2. A grip for handles, comprising an elastic tube the diameter of which varies throughout its length, a knob portion on the end of said tube and having a vent opening in said knob and a lug on the inside of the tube adjacent said knob portion.

3. The combination of a bat handle provided with a groove, of a gripping member adapted to envelop the handle and provided with a lug adapted to engage in the groove in the handle thereby securely locking the gripping member to said handle.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

W. EDWARD ZIMMERMAN.

Witnesses:

ELLIS F. WILSON,
A. H. CHANDLER.