(No Model.)

E. H. DECKER.

CATCHER'S GLOVE.

No. 447,233. Patented Feb. 24, 1891.

Fig. 1.

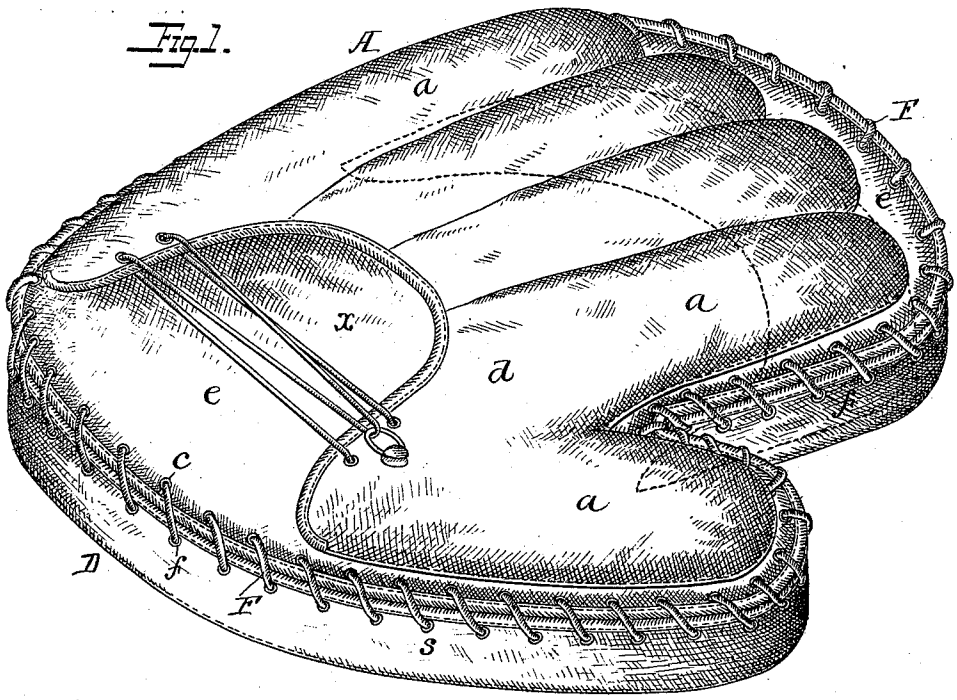


Fig. 2.

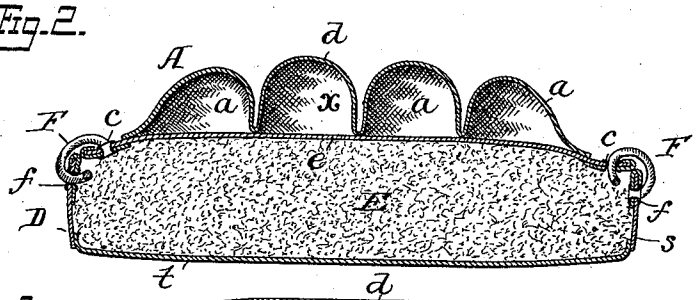


Fig. 3.

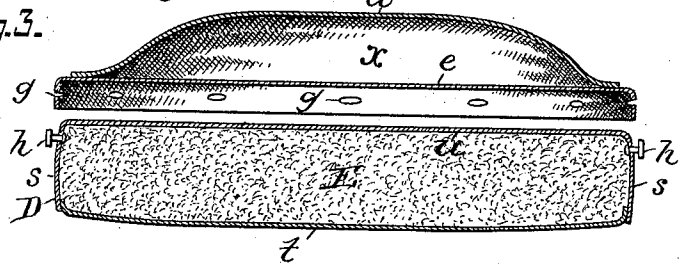
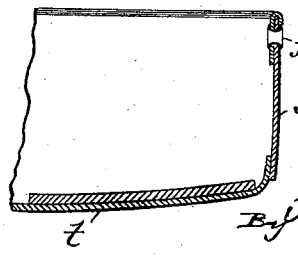


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EARLE HARRY DECKER, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO ALFRED J. REACH, OF SAME PLACE.

CATCHER'S GLOVE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 447,233, dated February 24, 1891.

Application filed May 10, 1890. Serial No. 351,294. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EARLE HARRY DECKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Philadelphia, county of Philadelphia, State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Catcher's Gloves, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to gloves intended for use more particularly as a catcher's left-hand glove in playing base-ball, although it may be applied to other forms of gloves and for other reasons.

The object of the invention is an improved construction and arrangement of said gloves, whereby the cost will be decreased and whereby changes and repairs of the glove may be made, as well as an improved glove produced.

Referring to the accompanying drawings, illustrating the preferred embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view, Fig. 2 is a cross-section, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged section, of one end of the facing portion of the glove. Fig. 4 is a section showing a modification.

In the use of base-ball gloves, it is desirable that means should be provided whereby the pad or other filling material of considerable thickness may be applied to the inner face of the glove, so that the impact of the ball may be received upon the pad without danger of injuring the hand of the player.

In carrying out this invention I make the glove in two separable portions. The back A, as shown, is formed of two pieces *d e*, with an intervening space *x*, for the reception of the hand of the player, preferably having finger and thumb pieces *a*. This receptacle for the hand may be made in any suitable way, either as by securing the separate parts *d e* together or forming them in one piece. The other or facing portion of the glove D is arranged to be secured to the part A, and to embrace the pad or other packing between them. The two portions A and D are separable from one another, and are shown in the present instance as being provided with a series of eyelets *c f*, respectively, by which they may be joined or secured together through the medium of a lacing-cord F, passing through the eyelets. Instead of this, however, any other equivalent detachable means of securing the two parts together may be used, as eyes *g* in the part A, and buttons *h* on the part D, as shown in Fig. 4.

The pad or filling E of the glove may be of any suitable construction, and may be distributed throughout the glove evenly or otherwise, as suits the wishes of the user.

When felt or like filling is used, constant use deranges the filling, causing it to become hardened or distorted, and by making the two parts of the glove separable a new filling may be readily inserted or the old one repaired. More than that, as the inner or facing portion D of the glove receives the greatest wear, it becomes worthless sooner than the back or hand of the glove, and it is evident that a new front portion may be applied by simply detaching it and substituting a new portion for that discarded.

In order that a thick pad may be applied to the glove and the glove still retain its symmetry, I preferably provide the facing portion with a flange *s*, which may be joined permanently or otherwise to the facing strip or sheet *t*, whereby the pad can have two edges thicker than would be practicable if the two portions *t e* were joined directly to each other at the edges with the filling between. The facing portion may consist of a single sheet *t*, flanged or not, or it may constitute a closed cushion by the addition of another strip or sheet *u*, as shown in Fig. 3, the filling E being thus confined in the separable portion D. This re-enforce strip prevents the fingers of the player from being turned back or broken when the hand is forced against the ground to stop or catch the ball, and, further, prevents the glove from losing its shape from wear.

The glove may be made of any suitable material, preferably of buckskin, and the inner face is preferably without seam, so as to form a good surface for receiving the impact of the ball, and the back portion *e* is also preferably made without seams, which would injure or impede the action of the hand of the catcher.

What I claim is—

1. A catcher's glove made with the back

A and the palm or front D in two separable portions, and connections for joining the portions together at the edges, substantially as described.

2. A catcher's glove made in two separable portions, a pad between the portions, and connections for joining the portions together, substantially as described.

3. A catcher's glove made in two separable portions, the back portion being provided with a pocket for the hand, a pad between the portions, and connections for joining the portions together, substantially as described.

4. A catcher's glove consisting of the back portion having a pocket for the hand, a front portion, a pad, eyelets in the front and back portions, and a cord for lacing and securing the two portions together, substantially as described.

5. A catcher's glove consisting of a back and front portion, the back portion having a pocket for the hand and the front portion being flanged, a pad between the two portions, and connections for securing the portions together, substantially as described.

6. A catcher's glove consisting of a back portion having a pocket for the hand, a front portion having a flange, a pad between the two portions, and eyelets and cord for securing the back and front portions together, substantially as described.

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

EARLE HARRY DECKER.

Witnesses:

WM. T. ZELINDER,

WM. J. SHETTSLINE.