C. S. LINCOLN.

BASE BALL BAT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 13, 1914.

1,121,189. Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

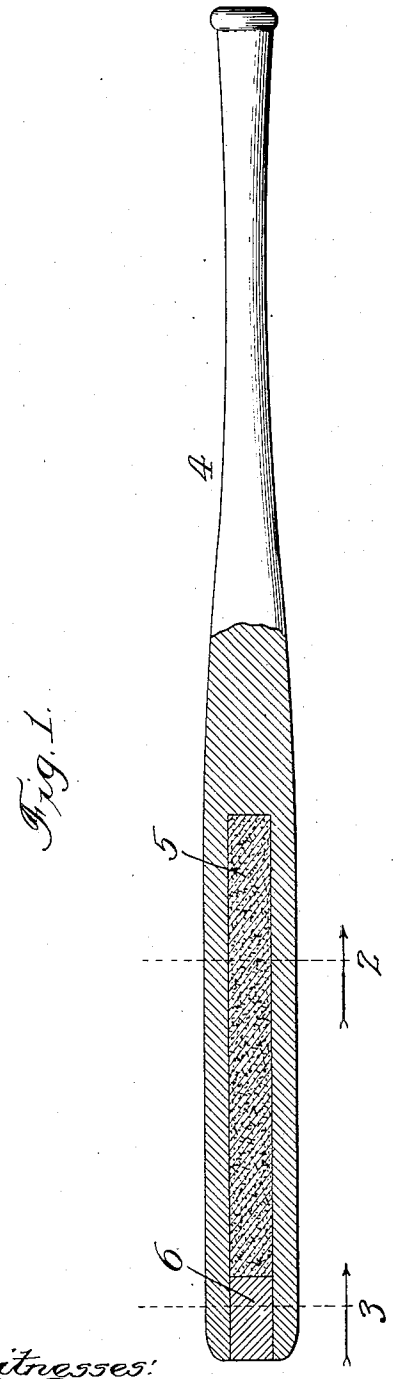


Fig. 1.

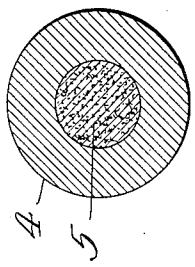


Fig. 2.

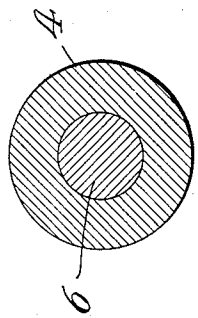


Fig. 3.

Witnesses:
Chas. E. Taybrd,
Chas. H. Bull.

Inventor:
Clarence S. Lincoln,
By Dyrenforth, Lee, Chritton and Wiles.
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CLARENCE S. LINCOLN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO A. G. SPALDING & BROS., OF NEW YORK, N. Y., A CORPORATION OF NEW JERSEY.

BASE-BALL BAT.

1,121,189. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Dec. 15, 1914.

Application filed June 13, 1914. Serial No. 844,872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLARENCE S. LINCOLN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Base-Ball Bats, of which the following is a specification.

A baseball bat is ordinarily, for purposes of strength to resist the powerful impact in striking, made of hard wood in one solid piece. Such wood, however, because of its density, tends to render the bat unduly heavy toward its larger end, resulting in overbalance and difficulty of use even by strong base-ball players; and, besides this hard wood is lacking in desirable resiliency. These objections are entirely overcome by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawing, in which:—

Figure 1 is a broken view of a baseball bat, showing my improvement in longitudinal section; Fig. 2 is a section on line 2, Fig. 1, and Fig. 3 is a section on line 3, Fig. 1.

The bat 4 shown is of usual shape, made of hard wood, such as ash or hickory. A cylindrical bore is formed centrally in the larger section of the bat and should extend from the extremity of that section throughout the length thereof and be about three-quarters of an inch to an inch in diameter. Into this bore is inserted, preferably in compressed condition, a closely fitting cushioning core 5 of granulated cork, or analogous material, which may be cemented in place with shellac or other suitable cement; and the outer end of the bore, which is somewhat longer than the core, is closed by a plug 6, formed preferably of wood of the same kind as that of the body of the bat and driven into place, and which may be further secured by cementing.

My invention is more particularly intended as an improvement on the ordinary base-ball bat formed of one solid piece of wood, but is also intended as an improvement on other known constructions which have been devised to overcome the objections hereinbefore referred to as being inherent in the aforesaid ordinary bat. One such construction involves longitudinal boring out of the heavy end and leaving the bore empty; and another construction involves forming the bat of two or more longitudinal sections of hard wood and a plurality of intermediate sections of material relatively light in weight, such as soft wood, bamboo, and the like, cemented flatwise together. The first of these two last-named constructions, however, is defective because it unduly weakens the bat by reason of the lack of any reinforcement of the inner wall of the bore; and the last-named construction has proved unsatisfactory because of the tendency of the sections to separate, with comparatively little use of the bat, under the vibratory effect of impact against the ball.

The core of my improvement both lightens the larger end of the bat and reinforces the interior wall of the bore, thus tending not only to prevent disintegration of the fibers of the wood under impact of the bat and providing a balanced bat, but also cushioning the latter in striking and producing a resilient action of the surrounding wood under impact against a ball, with the advantage of enabling the ball to be driven a greater distance with less effort than with any other baseball bat known to me.

What I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A baseball bat having a bore formed longitudinally and centrally in its larger section, and a core of relatively light cushioning material fitting and confined in the bore.

2. A baseball bat having a bore formed longitudinally and centrally in its larger section, and a core of compressed cork fitting and confined in the bore.

3. A baseball bat having a bore formed longitudinally and centrally in the larger section, a core of relatively light cushioning material fitting and secured in the bore, and a plug closing the outer end of the bore.

4. A baseball bat having a bore formed longitudinally and centrally in its larger section, a core of compressed cork fitting and confined in the bore, and a wooden plug closing the outer end of the bore.

CLARENCE S. LINCOLN.

In presence of—
A. C. FISCHER,
D. C. THORSEN.