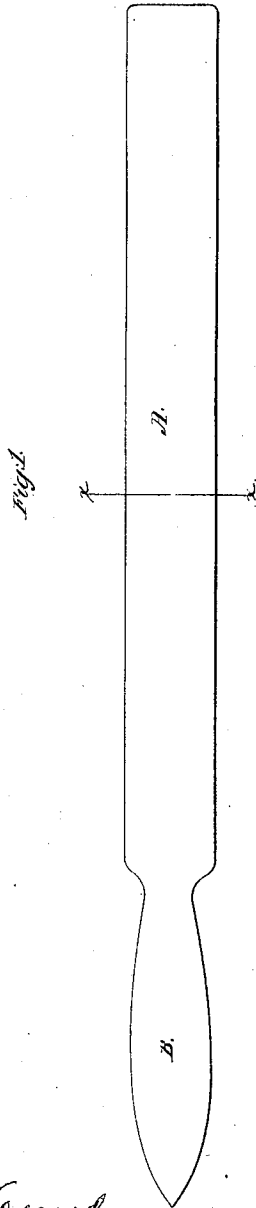


M. A. Holcomb,

Razor Strop.

N^o 25,265.

Patented Aug 30, 1859.



Witnesses

R. F. Casgood
J. L. Brown.

Inventor

M. A. Holcomb

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

MILO A. HOLCOMB, OF GRANBY, CONNECTICUT.

METALLIC RAZOR-STROP.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 25,265, dated August 30, 1859.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MILO A. HOLCOMB, of Granby, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a new
5 and Improved Polished Steel Razor-Strop; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification:—
10 Figure 1, being a side view of my improved razor strop; Fig. 2, an edge view thereof; Fig. 3, an edge view thereof, showing how its flexibility adapts it to the edge of the razor; Fig. 4, a cross section of the
15 blade, as at the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Like letters designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

I form the blade A, of hardened steel, and polish it to the highest degree. The
20 blade is, in general, sufficiently thin to render it more or less flexible; while the handle B, may be thicker, if desired, as shown in the drawings, and may be of steel, iron, or any other convenient and suitable
25 material. The cross section of the blade A, is generally somewhat rounded, as shown in Fig. 4.

The razor should first be brought to a keen edge by means of a hone, or any other
30 instrument in common use. It is then to be applied to the polished surface of this strop till the finest and smoothest edge is obtained.

By its flexibility, the strop may be curved downward, as shown in Fig. 3, so that its
35 surface will come into a little closer contact with the edge of the razor, than will the

hone by which the razor is sharpened; and thus it effectually polishes, as it were, the very edge of the razor to the finest keenness.

I am aware that metal has been used, in
40 various ways for sharpening razors and other cutting instruments; but in all such cases, so far as I am aware, this employment of metal fulfils the function of a hone, for reducing the edge, rather than of a strop, 45 for smoothing the edge; the two functions, as well as the means of accomplishing them, being clearly distinct. I am also aware that polished steel has been used for the purpose of burnishing; but not, within my knowl- 50 edge, for the purpose of giving fineness of edge to cutting instruments. The above applications of metal, therefore, I do not claim; but

What I claim as my invention and desire 55 to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A razor-strop made of polished steel, of the requisite degree of hardness, when possessing a sufficient degree of flexibility to enable the angle which its surface forms with
60 the edge of the razor to be lessened to the desired extent, in the manner and for the purpose as herein specified.

In witness that the above is a true specification of my improved polished steel razor 65 strop, I hereunto set my hand this second day of July, 1859.

MILO A. HOLCOMB.

Witnesses:

JOHN S. HOLLINGSHEAD,
R. F. OSGOOD,
J. S. BROWN.