No. 829,392. PATENTED AUG. 28, 1906.

M. O. FELKER.

WHIP.

APPLICATION FILED MAY 5, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

FIG. 1

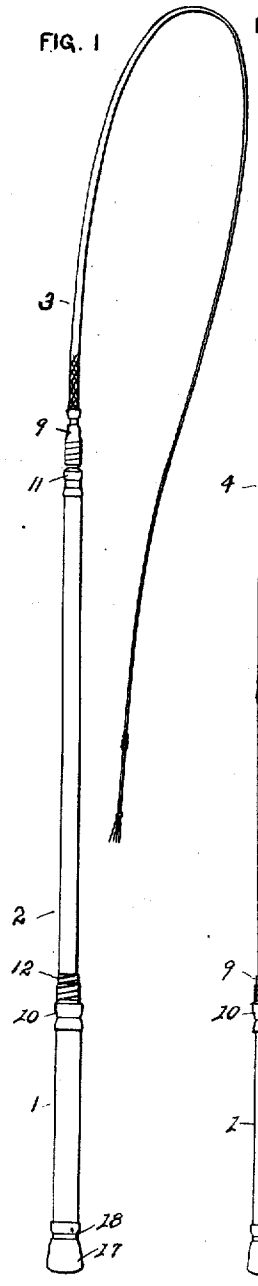


FIG. 2.

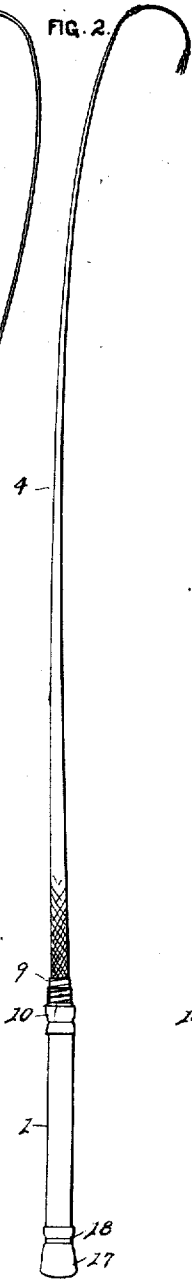


FIG. 3.

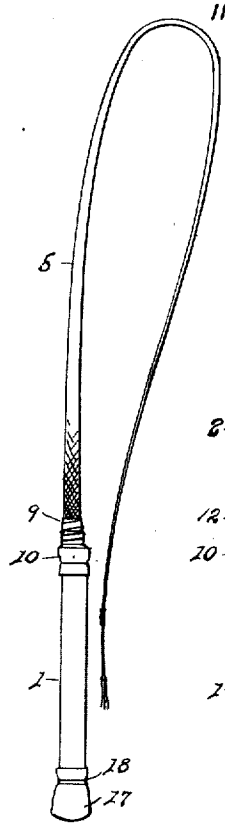


FIG. 4

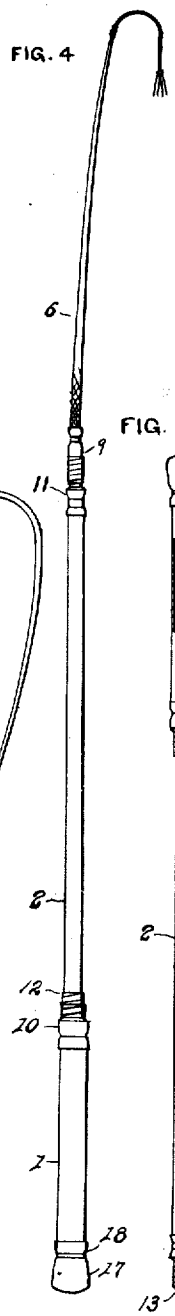


FIG. 5.

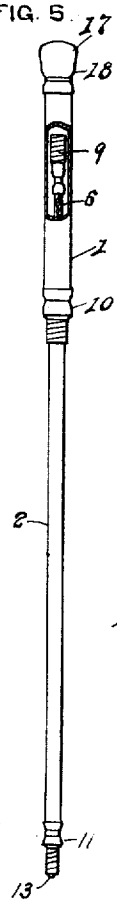
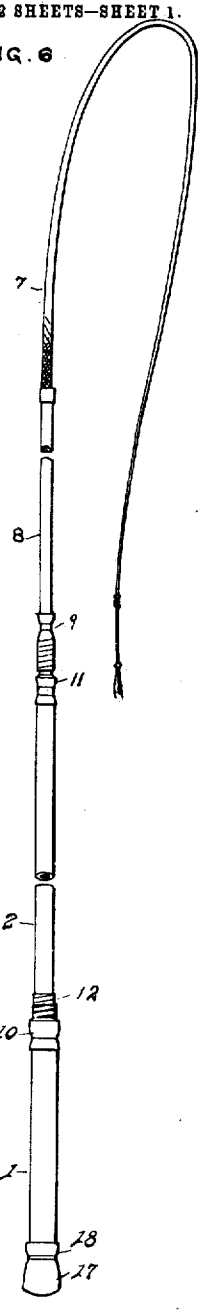


FIG. 6



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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

FIG. 7.

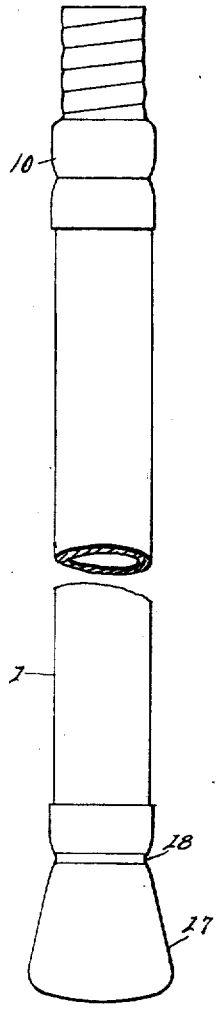


FIG. 8.

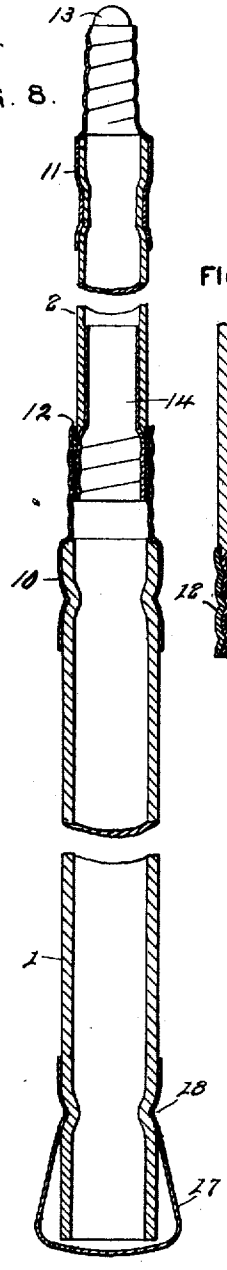


FIG. 9

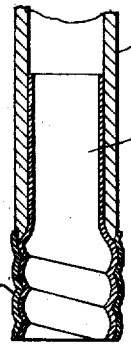
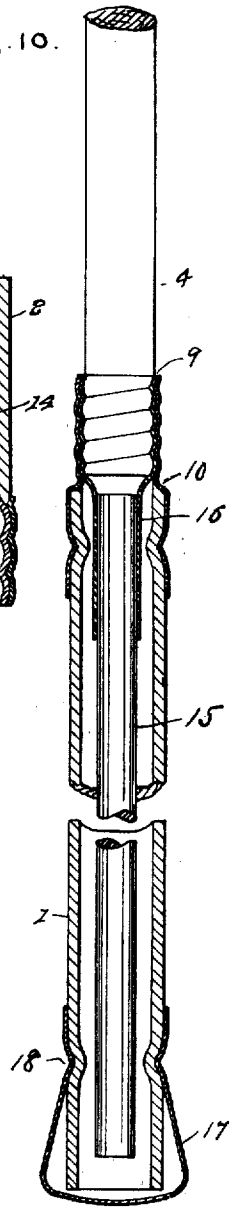


FIG. 10.



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WHIP.

No. 829,392. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 28, 1906.

Application filed May 5, 1905. Serial No. 258,992.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELANCHTHON O. FELKER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicora, in the county of Butler and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Whips, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention relates to improvements in horse-whips, and is applicable to the various types.

The invention consists, essentially and particularly, of two features, both of which I regard as entirely new and as constituting a radical departure and an important advance from and over anything heretofore developed or disclosed in this art. These two features are, first, one or more sections of the whip—say the handle and the body-section—made of a fibrous composition having the qualities of hardness, elasticity, strength, and smoothness, and which is practically impervious to water and other liquids, one illustration of this composition being what is known on the market as "indurated fiber," whereby in the construction of my whips an entirely new article is produced, the use of common platted covering eliminated, with its defect of readily staining and rotting and quickly wearing through and raveling, particularly on the handle portion, which is constantly inserted into and removed from the whip-socket, and with its expense of first production in labor and material, and whereby instead thereof a durable, smooth, and practically permanent whip-body capable of being washed and kept clean is produced; second, of making the whip in detachable sections united by a coupling capable of interconnecting the sections strongly, yet neatly, so that two results or advantages follow—namely, the renewability of the lash section or portion of the whip when worn or disfigured and the exchangeability of lash-sections of different types, so that with the same body-section the user may convert his whip into various different types or styles of whips; and my invention also comprehends certain features of detail which enter in a subordinate manner into the carrying out of the above-named general features.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a whip of the "park-drag" type, being composed of my improved body, consisting of the handle and body section proper and of a lash-section; Fig. 2, a like view showing a buggy or carriage whip composed of my improved handle and a lash-section of another type; Fig. 3, a similar view of a wagon-whip composed of my improved handle and another type of lash-section; Fig. 4, a similar view of a cane whip composed of my improved handle and body-section and another type of lash-section; Fig. 5, a side elevation of this cane-whip converted into a cane by having inserted the lash-section into the handle-section and having covered a portion of the lash-section with the body-section; Fig. 6, a side elevation of a binder or long whip composed of my improved handle, body-section, and lash-section of still another type; Fig. 7, an enlarged detail side elevation of my improved handle alone with its butt-tip and coupling; Fig. 8, a longitudinal sectional view, on an enlarged scale, of my improved handle and body-section, showing the construction of their couplings; Fig. 9, a more enlarged longitudinal section of a portion of the body-section and its coupling at one end; and Fig. 10 a longitudinal section of my handle and its coupling with a partial section and side view of one type of lash-section, its weight, and its coupling—for instance, the buggy or carriage or wagon lash-section shown in Figs. 2 and 3, respectively.

Referring to the drawings, 1 designates my improved handle, and 2 the body, both of these parts constituting the general body of the whip. These parts are the ones which carry into effect the first feature of my invention and are accordingly made of a fibrous compound having the qualities of hardness, strength, and smoothness. These sections so made are capable of a fine smooth finish and may be washed and kept clean without injuring them. They at once, by being so made, eliminate the old and objectionable feature of plaiting or thread-covering the body and handles of whips, which covering has the double objection of first cost in material and workmanship, with the investment in machines to perform the work, and the readiness with which it becomes stained, soiled, and worn or raveled out, particularly in the handle portion, which rubs against the whip-socket while the whip is held by the socket, as well as in the act of inserting and removing the whip. Indeed, the entire elimination of this objectionable feature in whips leads not only to a very much

superior article, but also so changes the method of manufacture and the cost thereof as to constitute an entire departure for the better in whip production. This improved body in my whip provides one which will wear indefinitely, will permanently maintain its fresh and original appearance, will not ravel or rub off, and will permit washing and cleaning without staining. As indicated in Figs. 7, 8, and 9, such improved handle and body-section are preferably tubular or in the nature of hollow rods, which gives lightness and additional elasticity and the proper "feel" to the whip, while affording economy in material. The proper size and taper are looked after in the process of producing these portions. Thus in carrying out the first feature of my invention I have added to the art an entirely new device and one of special value and utility, as clearly seen from the several advantages above pointed out. As one composition for the making of my improved handle and body-section, as before stated, I would designate what is known in the trade as "indurated fiber."

Referring now to the second feature of my invention, and which is particularly valuable when used in connection with my improved handle and body-section, though not limited to use in connection therewith, it will be seen that with one handle or with the one handle and the same body-section I use various types of lash-sections, so as to make up whips for different uses and so as to renew worn out lash-sections, while still using the same handle or handle and body-section. In the drawings, 3 represents a lash-section for a park-drag whip, 4 a lash-section for a carriage or buggy whip, 5 a lash-section for a wagon-whip, 6 a lash-section for a cane-whip, and 7 a lash-section for a long or binder whip, such section being composed of the lash proper and an extension 8. Each of these lash-sections carries a ferrule 9, composing a part of the coupling. One end of the ferrule is fitted to the lash-section and is swaged down upon the same, so as to unite it to the section rigidly, as also to prevent its being pulled off lengthwise. The other end of the tube is screw-threaded, the thread being impressed or spun, so that the inside as well as the outside of the tube will have the form of the thread, whereby it may act either as a male or female member of the coupling. On the other hand, the handle has at one end a similar ferrule 10 secured thereto, preferably by being swaged at one or more points, the swaging carrying the material of the tube down into a resulting indentation in the outer wall of the material of the handle, as seen particularly in Figs. 7 and 8. The projecting portion of the ferrule 10 is screw-threaded in the manner above referred to. The body-section 2 also carries ferrules, the one, 11, at its outer end and the other, 12, at its inner end. The ferrule 11 is likewise swaged down upon the material and body of this section, while its projecting end is screw-threaded in the manner above referred to. As this section becomes a part of the walking-cane in the type of whip shown in Figs. 4 and 5, it carrier a plug or tip 13, adapting it to come into contact with the ground without injury to the threaded portion of the ferrule. The ferrule 12 is preferably carried by a tube 14, one end of which extends within that end of the body-section 2, while the projecting portion is threaded, and, as stated, carries the ferrule 12. This is a mere modified form of constructing the ferrule at that end of the body-section. These parts are more clearly shown in Fig. 9.

It will be noted from Fig. 10 that the lash-section 4 carries an extended weight 15 in the nature of an iron rod. This is to give balance to the whip and is incident to some types of lash-sections. This rod in the instance illustrated is inserted tightly into an extension 16 of the ferrule 9. This weight or rod extends into the handle 1, which forms a convenient receptacle for it. The butt of the handle is armed with a cap 17, preferably of metal and also swaged into the wall of the handle, as seen at 18, the purpose being, first, to protect the end of the handle from injury when dropped or struck against the ground or other object, and, secondly, to afford an ornamental finish. Thus it will be further seen that in respect to the second feature of my invention I have developed and produced what I would term an "interchangeable whip," since with the permanent handle or handle and body-section I can change the whip from a whip of any one type to a whip of another type. The effect of this is not only a matter of novelty in a structural sense, but is one of radical departure in the trade and among users of whips. Tradesmen will carry a limited stock of my improved handles and body-sections, and a more extended stock of lash-sections made up of various varieties, so as to constitute different types or styles of whips. Users will purchase one handle or one handle and one body-section, and a set of these various styles of lash-sections, as the handle or handle and body-section are durable and will last indefinitely. They will serve for use with not only either style of a whole set of lash-sections, but will last for use with new or additional sets. From this it will be understood that I consider the interchangeable feature as one which is carried out more perfectly and fully by reason of my improved handle or handle and body-section; but it must also be understood that the interchangeable feature of my invention may be present with a handle or handle and body-section having the detachable coupling members to match with the coupling mem-

bers of lash-sections, even though the handle or handle and body-section in such case were not of a structure based upon the fibrous composition. On the other hand, it will be seen also that my improved handle or handle and body-section so made are capable of use with lash-sections where the interchangeable feature is absent.

It will further be observed that with the whip-cane the division in the general body is made between the handle 1 and the body-section 2. Usually in whip-canes the lash-section has been inserted into the body-section through an opening at the end of the latter—say at the outer end of the handle. In this device the one joint between the handle and body-section is utilized in inserting and removing the lash-section, as well as utilized in carrying out the other features of my invention.

I will further remark that the tube 14, (see Fig. 9,) fitted to the inside of the body-section 2, forms a support for the ferrule 12 instead of applying the ferrule directly to the outside of such section. The latter construction may be employed, but the former has the feature of sustaining the ferrule proper on the inner metallic tube without the danger of crushing it down by the act of forming threads on the ferrule. I would further state that this feature of an inner tube may be used elsewhere in the joints of this whip, if so desired, or where the metallic ferrules or tubular parts are to be applied to the composition portions of the whip.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a whip, a handle and a body-section, each composed of a fibrous composition, and each having a metallic tube swaged onto one end, said tubes being adapted to detachably interconnect.

2. In a whip, a body portion composed of a fibrous composition, with a metallic tube swaged onto one end, and a lash-section with a metallic tube swaged onto its butt-end, said tube being adapted to detachably interconnect.

3. In a whip, a body portion composed of a fibrous composition, with a tube swaged onto one end and having a screw-threaded extension, a lash-section having a tube swaged onto its butt-end and having a matching screw-threaded extension.

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

MELANCHTHON O. FELKER.

Witnesses:
R. H. CAMPBELL,
J. C. GAISFORD.