

(No Model.)

J. L. BROWN.

BASE BAG.

No. 367,889.

Patented Aug. 9, 1887.

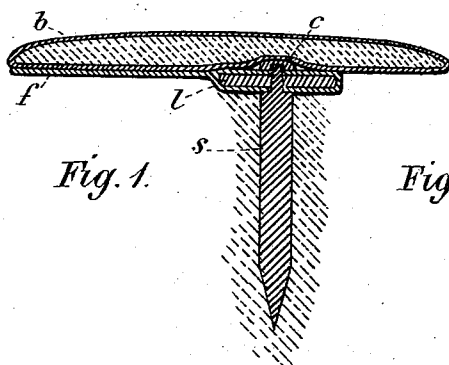


Fig. 1.

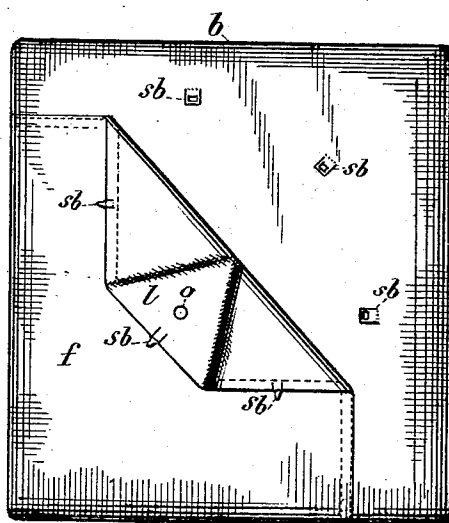


Fig. 2.

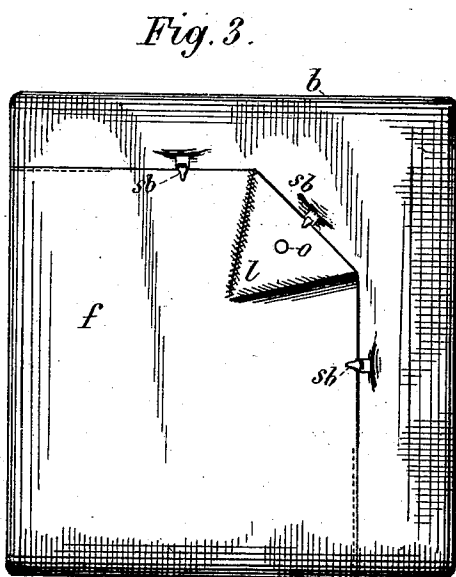


Fig. 3.

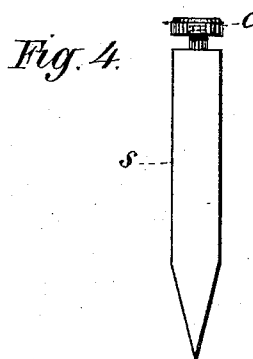


Fig. 4.

WITNESSES.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BASE-BAG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 367,889, dated August 9, 1887.

Application filed March 24, 1887. Serial No. 232,345. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES L. BROWN, of Evansville, county of Vanderburg, and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Base-Bags; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which like letters refer to like parts.

My invention relates to the construction and methods of securing in place the canvas bags used as bases in games of base-ball, and will be understood from the following description.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a cross-section through the bag and stake which secures it to the ground, showing the relative position of the parts when the bag is in place for use. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the bag, showing the flap turned back. Fig. 3 is a similar view, showing the flap buckled down in place. Fig. 4 is a side view of the stake and removable cap.

In detail, *b* is the bag, which is made of canvas, and intended to be filled with sand when in use. The top is made smooth, so as to present no obstruction whatever to the foot of the runner. On the bottom of the bag is secured a flap, *f*, which is stitched to the bag upon two sides and a part of the remaining sides, as shown in Fig. 2. This flap has a triangular piece of leather, *l*, inclosed between its folds at one corner, and through this leather and the folds of the flap an opening, *o*, is made, to receive the shouldered upper end of the stake *s*, this stake being driven into the ground in the manner shown in Fig. 1.

s b are spring-buckles for fastening the flap down upon the under side of the bag, as shown in Fig. 3.

The stake being driven into the ground up to the shoulder, the bag is placed over the stake, so that the small end of the latter will enter and pass through the opening *o*. The cap *c* is then screwed down upon the flap, fastening it securely between the cap and the shoulder below. The flap is then buckled down in the manner shown in Fig. 3, and the bag is ready for use, all parts then being in the position shown in Fig. 1.

The object of my invention is to dispense

with all means of attachment of the bag to the stake which pass over the top of the bag, for which purpose straps have been used to a large extent; but these are dangerous, inasmuch as the base-runner is liable to catch his foot in these outside fastenings, and thus trip him and throp him to the ground, subjecting him to painful injuries, while in the use of my device no impediment whatever is presented to the base-runner, and the danger from the use of these outside fastenings is entirely obviated.

The stake should be made large enough and broad enough to take firm hold upon the ground, and the shoulder only long enough to admit of the cap being screwed firmly down upon the flap when in place. The head of the cap is flattened as much as possible, so as not to project too much above the flap and raise the lower portion of the bag.

When secured in the manner herein described, the bag cannot turn over nor slide nor get away from its place, while the cost of construction is economical in every respect.

I am aware that base-bags having fastenings beneath are not new, and do not broadly claim the same as my invention; but

What I do claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is the following:

1. The bag *b*, having under flap, *f*, provided with opening *o*, to receive the shoulder of stake *s*, for fastening the bag to the ground, substantially as shown and described.

2. The bag *b*, having under flap, *f*, provided with leather *l*, and opening *o* through the flap and leather for admitting the end of stake *s*, substantially as described.

3. The bag *b*, having under flap, *f*, stitched to the bag on two sides, and at the corners having openings *o* to receive the head of a stake, with means, such as buckles, for fastening the loose portion of the flap to the bag after it has been placed over the stake, substantially as shown and described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 12th day of March, 1887.

JAMES L. BROWN.

Witnesses:

JAMES M. SHACKELFORD,
J. W. COMPTON.