

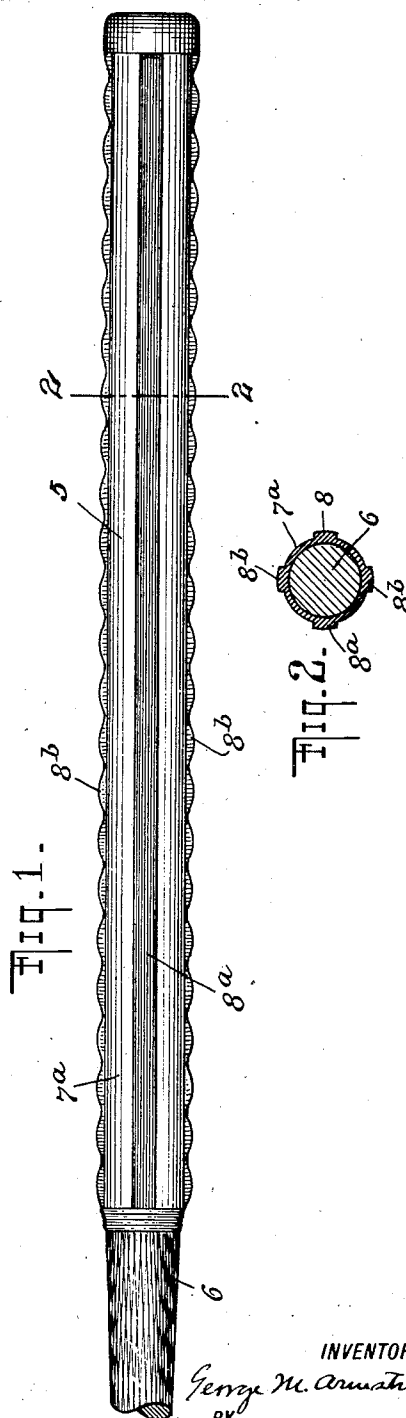
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GRIP

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WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE M. ARMSTRONG, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, ASSIGNOR TO ARMSTRONG GOLF GRIP CORPORATION, OF BALTIMORE, MARYLAND, A CORPORATION OF MARYLAND.

GRIP.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. ARMSTRONG, a citizen of the United States, and resident of Baltimore, county of Baltimore, State of Maryland, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Grips, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to grips and more particularly to grips for golf-clubs and the like. In playing certain games in which clubs or their equivalent are utilized, such as golf, for instance, it is essential in order to secure satisfactory playing results to hold the club or its equivalent in a correct manner. In golf, for instance, the base of the head of the club should rest upon the ground in a designated position, provision for which is made by the manufacturers of the clubs by the manner in which said clubs are built; that is to say, the face of the club-head occupies a certain predetermined relation to the base and in the majority of clubs is laid back at certain predetermined angles, dependent upon the results to be accomplished. Thus, the clubs for distance, commonly termed drivers, have faces which are intended to be set at right angles, or approximately so, to the ground while in other clubs, for instance of the type known as cleeks, mid irons, mashies, niblicks, putters, etc., and intended for shorter distances or for pitching the ball higher in the air over obstacles, the angle of the face of said club is in accordance with the purposes for which it is intended. To correctly hold the various golf-clubs, the grip should rest between the thumb and forefinger in such a manner that two parallel V's are formed and the face of the head should be brought against the ball. The object of the present invention is to provide an improved grip of novel construction whereby the proper position in which to hold the club is attained without special effort on the part of the player. Other objects of my invention will appear from the description hereinafter and the features of novelty will be pointed out in the appended claim.

In the accompanying drawings which shows one example of the invention, Fig. 1 is a side elevation showing the improved grip applied to the handle end of a golf stick.

Fig. 2 is a detail cross-sectional view on the line 2—2 of Fig. 1.

In carrying forward the invention the im-

proved grip 5 is adapted to be applied, by means of a suitable tool to the handle end of a golf stick 6 or other playing club. As shown, the grip consists of an elastic rubber tube adapted to be stretched onto a golf stick handle and provided throughout its length with a longitudinally disposed sighting marker 8^a and throughout its external surface with non-slip gripping projections 8^b. The rubber tube 5 may be made by any suitable manner and by any of the processes known to the rubber manufacturer but in all forms of the invention a distinctive feature thereof is to make the tube such length and dimensions that the same can be stretched onto a golf stick handle in some suitable manner, such for instance as by a tool of the character disclosed in Patent No. 1,488,901 dated April 1, 1924. When once applied the elastic rubber tube will remain firmly in place throughout its length and will provide a comfortable non-slipping grip for the hands of the player, the effectiveness of the grip being substantially increased by providing the external surface of the tube with superficial gripping projections of some suitable character. These gripping projections may necessarily vary in degree of projection from the surface of the tube and may be of any suitable form, and one example of these projections is shown in the drawings which illustrate the tube as being formed with a plurality of corrugated or waving bands 8^b extending throughout the length of the tube and together providing the non-slipping projections for the external surface of the tube.

The marker band designated by the reference number 8^a is vulcanized or otherwise suitably formed in or with the tube and may be of the same or a distinguishing color, but in all forms of the invention this longitudinally disposed marker band 8^a constitutes a sighting line which aids the player in properly addressing the club head to the ball and also in taking "his grip" on the club handle. As well understood, both of these conditions are necessary to enable the golfer to obtain the proper stroke and properly to hit the ball.

It will be understood that the grip itself may be either plain or perforated and, as previously stated, constructed of any suitable material, this being also true of the designations. It will further be understood

that the designations may be in forms other than bands without in any way decreasing the efficiency thereof as means to indicate the correct holding of the grip.

5 While the grip is primarily intended for use in connection with golf-clubs and is intended to reduce the correct holding or gripping of such clubs to the simplest possible form, it will be understood that the grip 10 may also be efficiently utilized in connection with other types of clubs which may be incorrectly held, due to lack of experience or other causes.

15 In the playing of many games in which clubs of one kind or another are used and more particularly in the game of golf, it is essential to hold the club in a correct manner in order to secure the best results for the player. The correct grip may, as previously 20 stated, be dependent upon the particular form of the club being used or it may result from an individual development in the use of the club and in either case, without long practice, is difficult of duplication in successive 25 playings of the game. By locating the designation in conformance with the correct holding of the grip, such correct grip may easily be duplicated in successive uses of the club without requiring any special effort on the part of the player and without 30 necessitating any special concentration of mind in order to avoid mistakes. While

the above is particularly true of golf-clubs, it is also true of clubs of other types, such as polo mallets and the like, and it will be 35 understood that my invention is equally well adapted for use in connection with such clubs of other types.

By making the grip of rubber and providing the same with external non-slip gripping projections which are raised with respect to the contiguous portions of the grip, 40 the latter is of maximum efficiency for holding the club and particularly in wet weather prevents slipping thereof when the stroke 45 is made. The reliability of the club is thereby increased, this being true also, although perhaps to a lesser degree, of the grip in which the bands are countersunk or level 50 with the remainder of the grip.

Various changes in the specific forms shown and described may be made within the scope of the claim without departing from the spirit of my invention.

I claim:

55 A golf stick grip consisting of an elastic rubber tube adapted to be stretched onto a golf stick handle and provided throughout its external surface with non-slip gripping projections and also with a longitudinally 60 extending sighting marker.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

GEORGE M. ARMSTRONG.