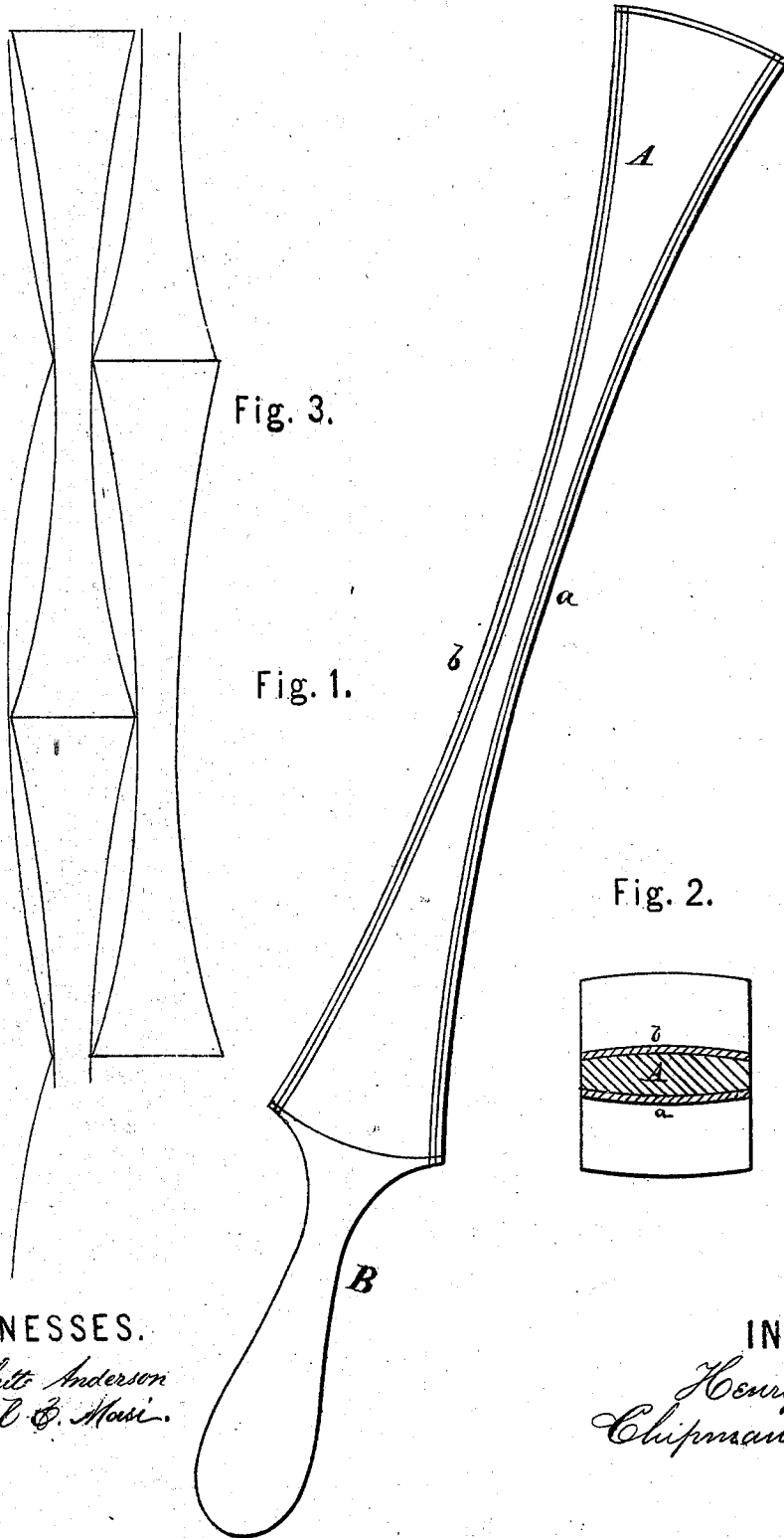


H. CROFT.
Improvement in Razor-Strops..

No. 131,856.

Patented Oct. 1, 1872..



WITNESSES.

Villeto Anderson
Phil B. Hosi.

INVENTOR.

Henry Croft,
Chipman & Hosmer & Co
Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY CROFT, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN RAZOR-STROPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **131,856**, dated October 1, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY CROFT, of Springfield, in the county of Clarke and State of Ohio, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Razor-Strops; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawing making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawing is a representation of side view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section of my invention. Fig. 3 is a detail view of my invention.

This invention has relation to razor-strops; and it consists in the construction of a double-concave body of hard wood made transversely convex, and isometric with regard to its sharpening-surfaces, said surfaces being covered with leather prepared for the purpose, as hereinafter described.

In the accompanying drawing, the letter A designates the wooden core or body, which is preferably made of lignum-vitæ, box, or other hard and elastic wood which will not readily lose form under the pressure of the razor. In the manufacture of this body a handle, B, is turned at one end. The opposite concave surfaces lying lengthwise of the block may then be sawn out, and these surfaces then dressed in a lathe or otherwise until they assume a transversely convex form, equal in curvature from end to end, both on the sharpening and on the finishing side of the strop. These surfaces are then finished by sand-papering and polishing them until they are free from roughnesses and inequalities, when the body of the strop is completed.

If it is desired to economize the hard wood, the handle may be made of softer wood, and the strops may be sawn out of the hard wood plank in the economical manner indicated in Fig. 3 of the drawing.

The concave curve which runs lengthwise of the block on each side is an arc of a circle, the circle being the same for both surfaces, the object being to preserve a uniform effect upon the edge of the razor from end to end of the strop. The contour of the transverse convex curve is preferably that of a flat ellipse.

The wooden body of the strop having been prepared, the leathers are secured to the curved surfaces thereof. These leathers consist of a hone-leather, *a*, and a finishing-strop, *b*. These leathers are prepared in the following manner: First, the leather is saturated with pure castor-oil, and is then what is called "buffed." The leather thus prepared is used for the finishing-side of the strop. For the hone-side a compound or paste is made by combining with the castor-oil superfine flour of emery and lamp-black. Hog-skin is preferable to other leather, as it holds the paste better.

The above description will enable any one skilled in the art to make my strop.

I am well aware that it is not new to make a strop with a side concave lengthwise and transversely convex. Hence I do not claim, broadly, such invention.

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

The strop herein described, consisting of the body having double-concave and transversely-convex hard-wood surfaces isometric with each other, polished and covered, respectively, with hone-leather and finishing-leather, fitting closely to the said hard and curved surfaces, all as herein described and shown.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY CROFT.

Witnesses:

T. J. PRINGLE,
SAML. SHELLABARGER.