

J. B. Brown.

Hat Block.

N<sup>o</sup> 69172

Patented Sep. 24, 1867.

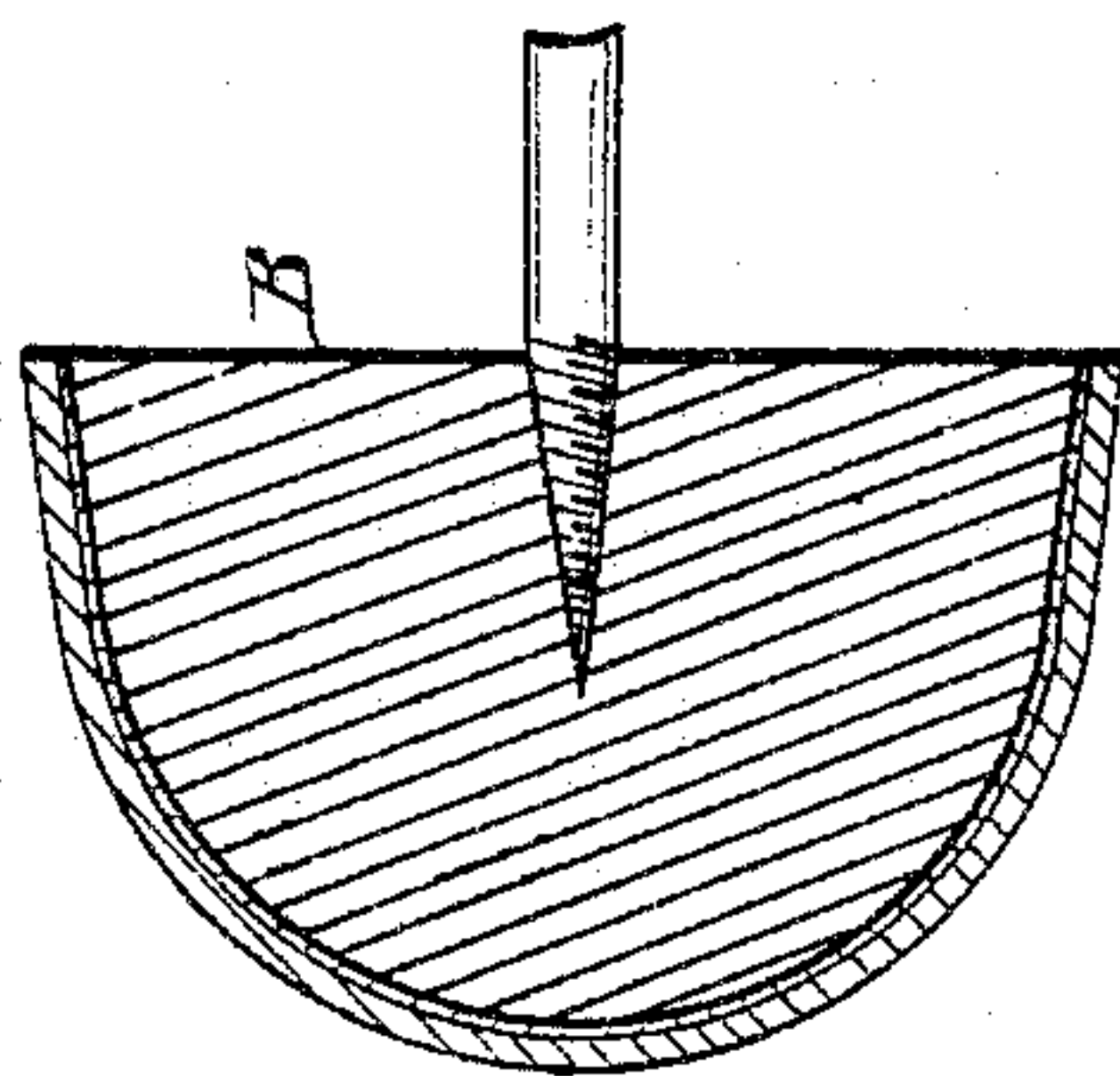


Fig. 2

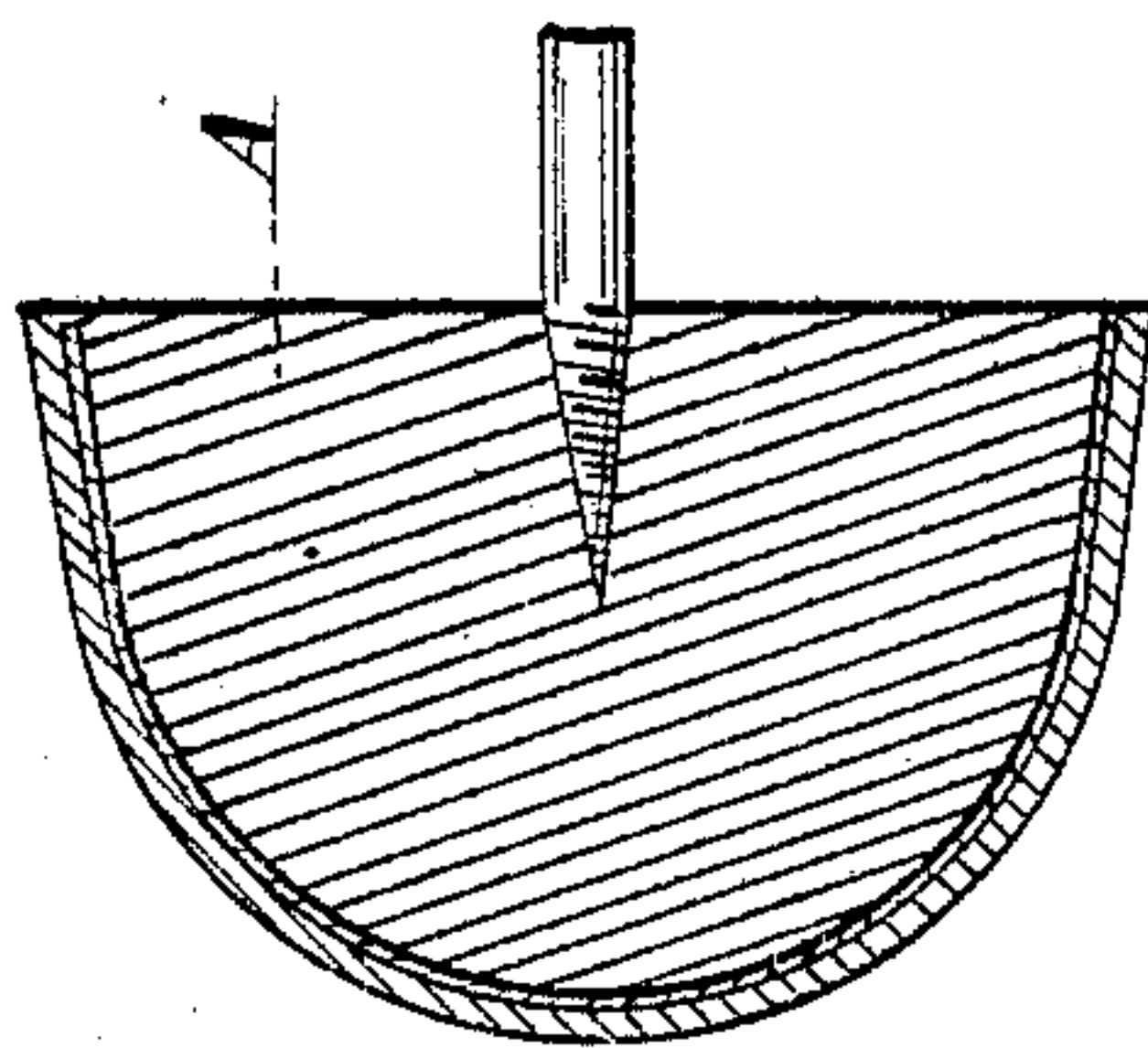


Fig. 1

Witnesses

H. A. Jackson  
J. A. Service

Inventor

James B. Brown  
Per. *[Signature]*  
Attorneys

# United States Patent Office.

JAMES B. BROWN, OF MIDDLETOWN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF  
AND JOSHUA DRAPER.

*Letters Patent No. 69,172, dated September 24, 1867.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN HAT-BLOCKS.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JAMES B. BROWN, of Middletown, in the county of Orange, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Manner of Retaining Hat Bodies on Blocks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a hat-block which is so made and arranged that the inconvenience of hooking or otherwise securing the hat body to the same may be overcome.

The invention consists in covering the surface of the said cone with emery, sand, or sand-paper, whereby the hat body may be held on the block without the use of hooks or other fastening devices. For pouncing and finishing hats it is necessary to spread the hat body upon a block of suitable shape. To the block is then imparted a rapid rotary motion, and if not well secured to the same the hat body would easily slip off the block. It was therefore found necessary to secure the hat to the block by means of pins, hooks, or other devices, which were arranged on the base of the cone. This manner of securing the hat to the block not only occasioned much waste of material, as the body had to be made long enough to reach the said hooks or pins on the base of the cone, but it also occasioned the making of a greatly poorer article, as the hat body had to be stretched in certain places to reach the hooks, leaving those portions between the hooks unstretched, so that an article of unequal texture was the result. Furthermore, a considerable waste of time was occasioned by this manner of securing the hat body to the block. All these difficulties are completely overcome by my invention. The hat body is, by the aid of my improvements, simply laid over the block, and will be retained thereon without the use of any fastening devices whatever. In the annexed drawing my invention is illustrated.

Figure 1 is a sectional view of a hat-block covered according to my invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

The cones are covered with emery or sand, whereby the hat body may be held secure on the block. Card-clothing, *i. e.*, a series of small pins, or a covering of short bristles, will answer the purpose. The shape of the block need not be conical, but may be of any desired shape, so as to conform to the required shape of the hat. A block thus prepared will retain a hat body without the use of any other fastening devices.

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

As an article of manufacture, an emery or sand-covered cone, for the purpose described, substantially as specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this third day of December, 1866.

JAMES B. BROWN.

Witnesses:

GEO. L. DENTON,

JAS. B. HULSE.