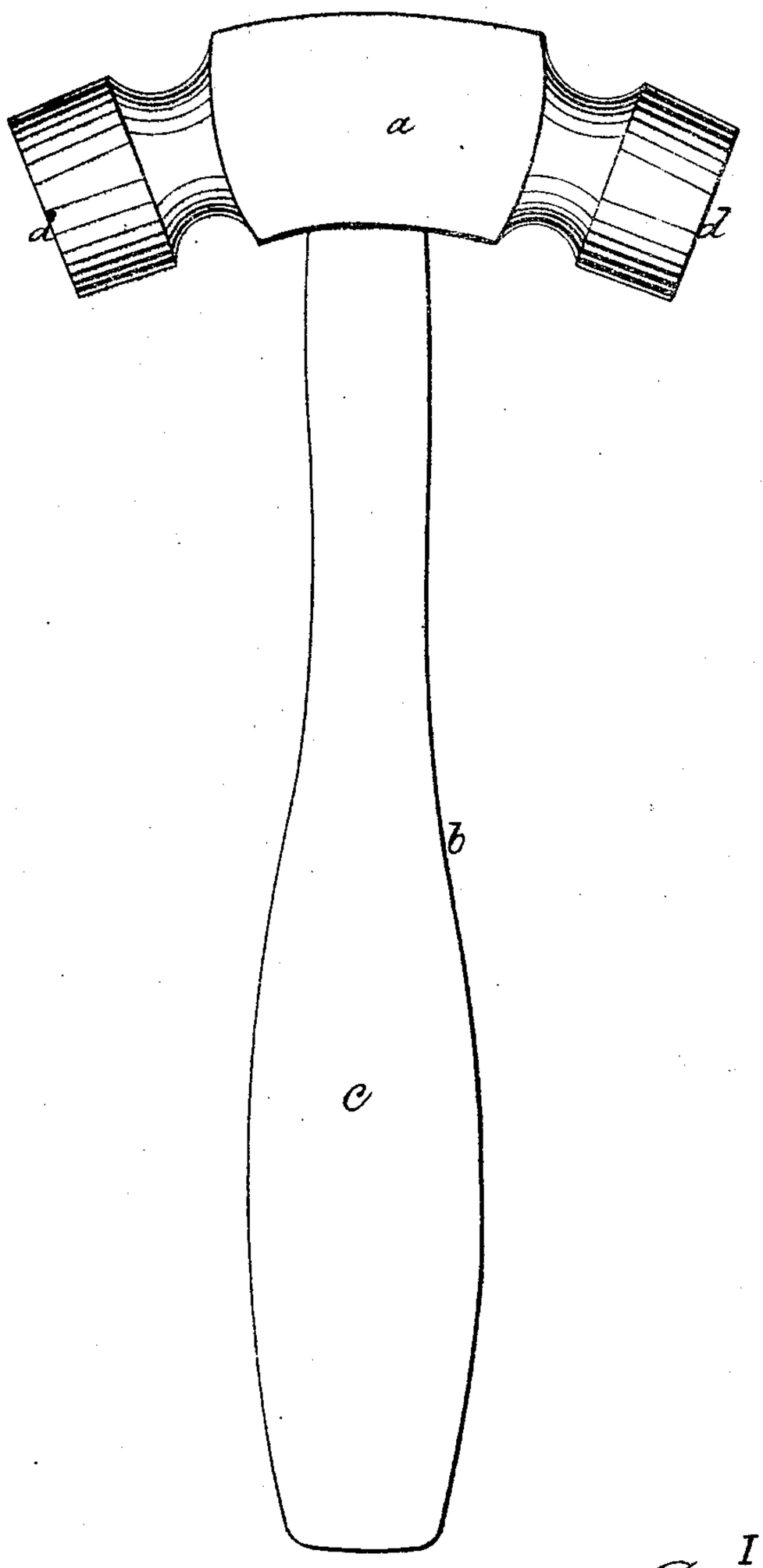
J. Vigeant.

Shoemaker's Hammer.

No 73141 Patented Jan. 7, 1868.



Witnesses
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United States Patent Office.

JACOB VIGEANT, OF MARLBORO, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 73,141, *dated January* 7, 1868.

IMPROVED SHOEMAKER'S HAMMER.

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, JACOB VIGEANT, of Marlboro', in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Shoemakers' Hammers; and I do hereby declare that the following, taken in connection with the drawings which accompany and form part of this specification, is a description of my invention sufficient to enable those skilled in the art to practise it.

The invention relates particularly to the construction of shoemakers' hammers, or that class of hammers where it is desirable to rest the hand (at or near to the wrist-joint) against the article being worked upon.

As generally constructed, the face of the hammer, or the edge thereof, is in a plane parallel or essentially parallel with the axis of the handle, and, consequently, to strike fair blows successively, the hand must be held at a distance, above the surface being struck, equal to the distance from the handle (at the socket) to the hammer-face, a position which soon tires the hand or exhausts the strength of the wrist-joint.

To remedy this defect, I construct the hammer with a striking-face, the plane of the surface or edge of which is at such angle to the handle, that, projected inward, it would strike the centre of the handle, about where the thumb side of the hand grasps the handle; and it is in this construction that my invention consists, as also in forming the hammer with two such inclined faces, each standing at the same angle with the handle.

The drawing represents a hammer embodying the invention.

a denotes the metal, having a suitable socket for receiving a handle, *b*, which handle is made with an enlargement, *c*, (where grasped by the hand,) as seen in the drawing. The hammer has two faces, *d d*, and each, instead of being parallel to the axis of the hammer, is set at an angle thereto, as shown, the planes of the faces striking the axis of the handle at the point denoted by the red lines.

Now, it will readily be seen that, when a workman—as a shoemaker, for instance—uses the tool, he can carry his hand down to the sole, or even below the sole, at the side of the shoe, there resting or guiding his hand, and striking squarely with the face of the hammer, instead of using the tool with an unsupported hand, as he must needs do to strike properly, if the hammer-face is parallel to the axis.

By applying the two faces, each made in this manner, he may use one face as the other becomes marred or injured, the relative position of each face, with respect to the handle, permitting both to be used with the same facility, and, both sides of the handle being alike, thus the hold of the hand upon the handle is the same, whichever face may be used.

I claim constructing the hammer with the inclined striking-face set at an angle with the handle, substantially as shown and described.

Also, combining with the handle, having uniform opposite sides, the two inclined faces, arranged with respect to each other and to the handle, substantially as shown and described.

JACOB VIGEANT.

Witnesses:

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