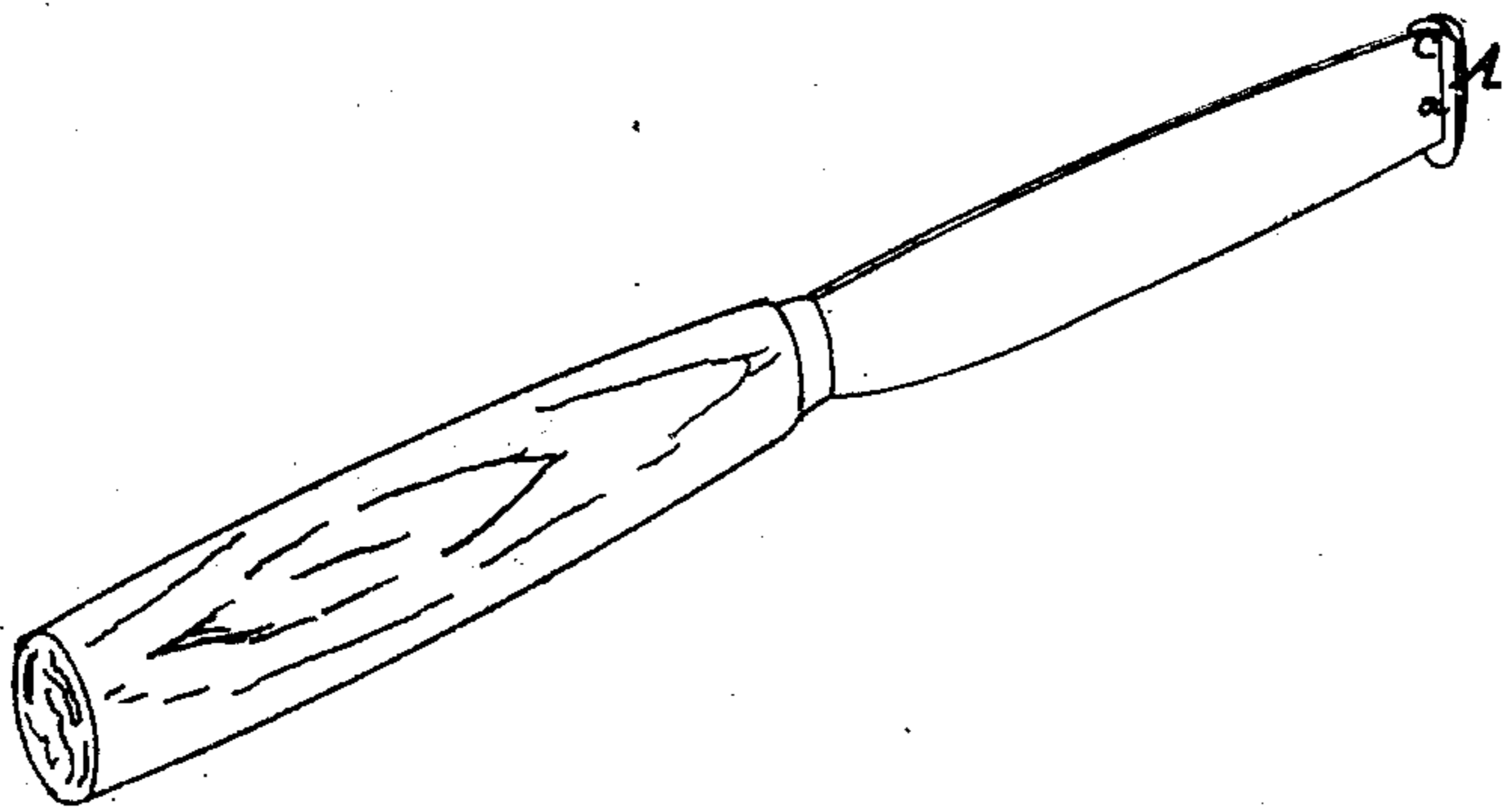


*N. M. Ray,  
Shoe-Knife.*

*Nº 75.975.*

*Patented Mar 24. 1868.*



*Witnesses*

*W. C. Ashkettle*

*J. A. Service.*

*Inventor.*

*N. M. Ray*

*per Munn &  
attorneys*

# United States Patent Office.

N. M. RAY, OF ELLSWORTH, MAINE.

*Letters Patent No. 75,975, dated March 24, 1868.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN SHOE-KNIVES.

*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, N. M. RAY, of Ellsworth, in the county of Hancock, and State of Maine, have invented a new and improved Shoe-Knife; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in knives, which are used, in manufacturing boots and shoes, for paring the soles; and

The invention consists in securing to the end of the knife-blade a detachable cap or guard, whereby the upper leather of a boot or shoe is secured from injury in the process of paring the sole, as will be hereinafter more fully described.

The drawing represents a view of a knife with my improvements attached.

A represents the cap, which is made with a rectangular slot, which is formed at one end so as to fit a bavel or dove-tail on the knife, as indicated by dotted lines in the drawing, at *a*. At *c* the end of the knife is slightly bevelled, which the end of the slot in the cap is made to fit in such a manner that, when the cap is hooked on to the dove-tail, it can be pressed on to the knife sufficiently hard with a slight pressure to secure it in place on the knife.

When it is necessary to sharpen the knife, a slight tap upon the end of the cap opposite the hook or dove-tail will loosen it at once. This cap forms a flange around the blade of the knife which, in paring the edge of the sole, effectually protects the upper leather from injury, forming, as it does, a guide or gauge for the operator, which greatly expedites his work. At least double the work can be performed with a knife having this cap or guard upon the end that can be done without it, while the work can be much better performed. The cap allows the operator to draw the knife with a steady and uniform motion, making a smooth and even cut without danger of cutting or injuring the upper leather with the point of the knife.

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

In combination with a shoe-knife, the detachable cap A, when attached to the knife by a hook, at one end of a slot, and fastened by friction at the other end of the slot, substantially as shown and described, for the purposes specified.

N. M. RAY.

Witnesses:

W. S. BLACK,  
REUBEN B. SALISBURY.