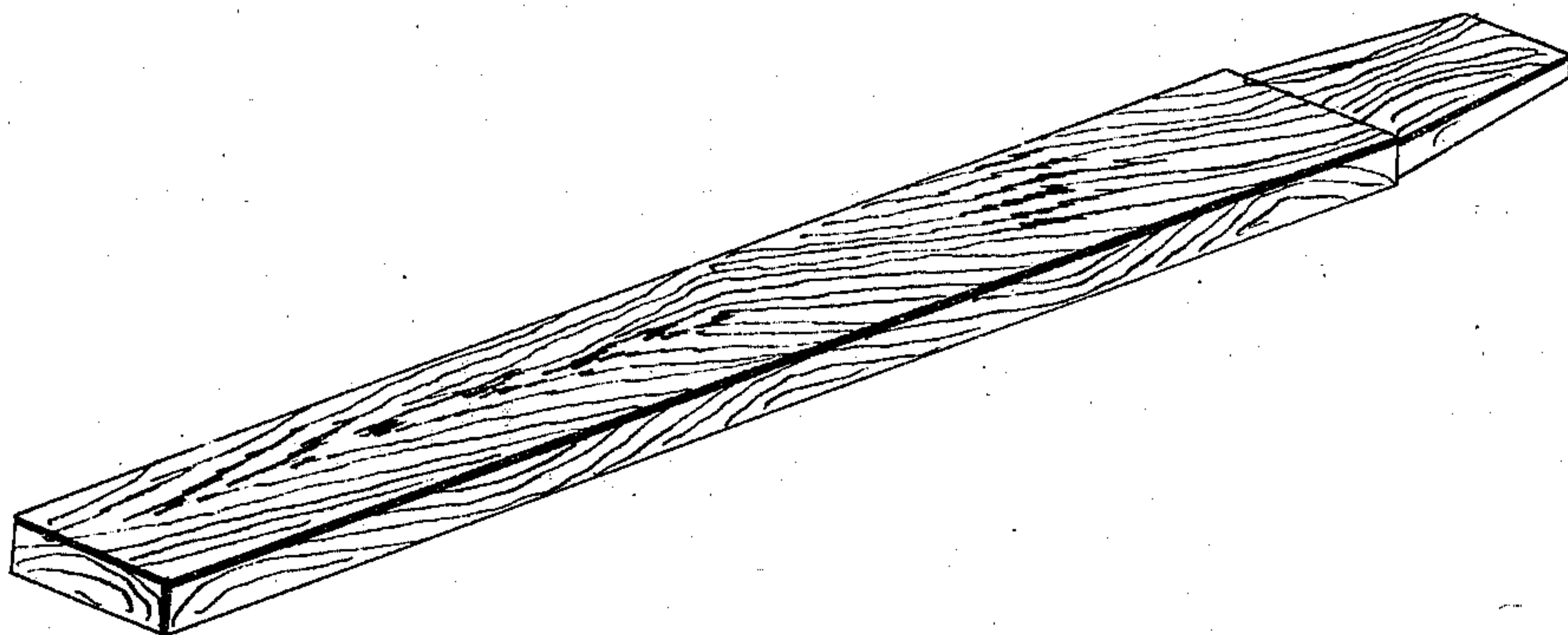


A. I. Ditmars,

Razor Sharp.

No. 86,053.

Patented Feb. 9. 1869.



Witnesses:

Wm B. Wiley
Geo M. Kline

Inventor:

A. I. Ditmars

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

A. D. DITMARS, OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN RAZOR-STRAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **86,653**, dated February 9, 1869.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, A. D. DITMARS, of the city and county of Lancaster, and State of Pennsylvania, have discovered useful Material, consisting of various kinds of woods, for the Manufacture of Razor-Straps; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

The nature of my discovery consists in the fact that certain hard woods, when dressed smooth and polished, possess certain necessary important qualities for a razor-strap, to produce a very smooth and keen edge.

To enable others skilled to apply or use my discovery, I will proceed to describe the same.

The figure in the drawing illustrates a simple form of razor-strap made of wood.

Certain woods possess the requisite qualities or properties in a greater degree than others—for instance, the hard yellow pine of Georgia, lignum-vitæ, locust, &c.

Such woods alone should be used for the manufacture of razor-straps which, when dressed smooth, will become more and more

polished by the friction of the tool upon the face thereof.

The face of the wood is to be used without the composition, paste, or leather, and it should be kept free from dust and moisture.

I have found, by practice, that a razor-strap, as above described, will produce a much finer edge than the different articles of composition now in use.

I am aware that shoe-makers and saddlers have long been in the habit of whetting their knives upon the bench; but this does not in any way anticipate my improvement in razor-straps.

These straps may be constructed in various forms and sizes, to suit the wants of the trade.

Having thus described my improved strap, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

A razor-strap made of wood alone, as above specified, as a new article of manufacture.

A. D. DITMARS.

Witnesses:

WM. B. WILEY,
GEO. M. KLINE.