

A. Scharff,
Whip.

No. 92,372.

Patented July 6, 1869.

Fig. 1.



Fig. 3.

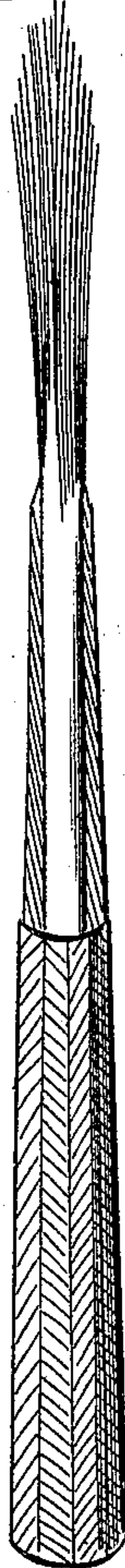
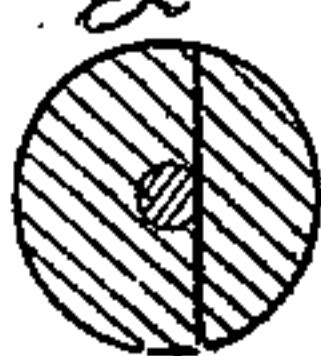


Fig. 2.



Witnesses { *Wm. A. Steel.*
John Parker

A. Scharff
By his atty.
H. Howson

United States Patent Office.

ANTHONY SCHARFF, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

Letters Patent No. 92,372, dated July 6, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN WHIPS.

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, ANTHONY SCHARFF, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Improvement in Whips and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same.

My invention consists in the substitution of a steel wire, or its equivalent, for the strips of whalebone which are ordinarily used for stiffening and for imparting the necessary degree of elasticity to whips, the said wire being perfectly elastic, not liable to become bent or broken, cheaper, and free from all the objections arising from the employment of whalebone in whips.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make and apply my invention, I will now proceed to describe the mode of carrying the same into effect, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, of sufficient of a whip to illustrate my invention;

Figure 2, a transverse sectional view of the same; and

Figure 3, a view of part of an ordinary whip.

The central portion of an ordinary carriage-whip consists of one or more rounded or partly-rounded pieces of whalebone, which are thickest at the but, and gradually taper to a small diameter at the opposite flexible end of the whip. To this central stiffening of whalebone are glued or otherwise secured strips of rattan or light flexible wood, which are also thickest at the but of the whip, but do not extend entirely to its opposite end, the strips being bound together by suitable cords, and the whole being covered by the outer wrapping of the whip, which may be of leather or any other suitable material.

The whalebone is used for the purpose of imparting the necessary degree of elasticity to the whip, an object which it accomplishes well for a short time, or so long as the whip is carefully handled and not exposed to wet or dampness.

The whalebone, however, is apt to become permanently bent or broken, if an unyielding object is accidentally struck by the whip; it also frays out at the end after a short period of use, as shown in fig. 3, and thus destroys the utility and appearance of the whip, and when exposed to dampness, it soon loses its elasticity, and becomes so warped and bent as to be almost useless.

All of these objections I have entirely overcome by substituting a finely-tempered steel wire, of small diameter, for the whalebone, this wire imparting the necessary degree of stiffness to the whip, being perfectly elastic, and not liable to bend or break, while its cost is considerably less than one-half of that of the whalebone.

It will be understood that this wire is of such small diameter, (less than a sixteenth of an inch,) and is so perfectly elastic, that the whip will be no more severe than one in which whalebone is used.

It will be seen, on reference to figs. 1 and 2, that no change whatever is made in the manufacture of the whip, the wire being enclosed between strips of rattan, and completely covered, in the same manner as the whalebone.

Although I prefer to use a steel wire, I do not confine myself to the same, if a wire of any other metal shall be found to answer the purpose.

I therefore claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A whip, consisting of an outer wrapper, enclosing a strip of rattan, within which a wire is secured as specified.

In testimony whereof, I have signed my name to this specification, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

A. SCHARFF.

Witnesses:

E. H. BAILEY,
LOUIS BOSWELL.