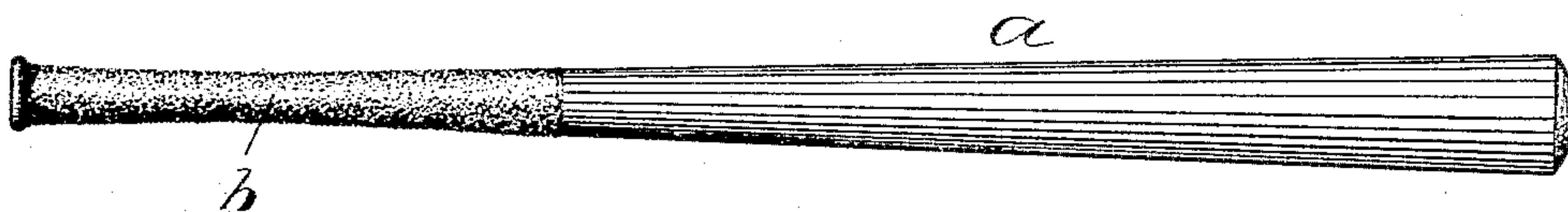


(No Model.)

W. GRAY.  
BASE BALL BAT.

No. 300,360.

Patented June 17, 1884.



Witnesses:

W. M. Sporkmann.

Ed. J. Dimock.

Inventor:

William Gray.

By Simonds & Burdett,

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM GRAY, OF HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO  
ERNEST CADY, OF SAME PLACE.

## BASE-BALL BAT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 300,360, dated June 17, 1884.

Application filed March 27, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM GRAY, of Hartford, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and  
5 useful Improvements in Bats for Ball-Playing; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, whereby a person skilled in the art can make and use the same, reference being  
10 had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The figure is a side view of a base-ball bat embodying my improvement.

My improvement relates to the class of im-  
15 plements used in playing games of ball—such as base-ball or cricket-bats, tennis, racquets, lacrosse-sticks, and the like—which are held by the player in striking the ball.

It consists in a bat or implement of the  
20 above-described class, with the handle, or the portion that is grasped by the hands, of the player, roughened by the application of sand or the like granulated substance firmly attached to the bat-handle.

25 I am aware that handles of bats have been wound with string, and have been made of irregular outline, in order that they be more securely held by the player, and such methods of covering or roughening the handle to  
30 aid the grasp are not within the scope of my invention.

In the accompanying drawing the letter *a* denotes a base-ball of ordinary outline and material, with the handle-section *b* covered  
35 with a hard granulated material, as sand, firmly attached to the surface of the handle by means of shellac or any equivalent cementing substance. The shellac may be applied in a liquid state by means of a brush, and the

sand or other roughening material dusted on 40 to any desired extent; but preferably only so much of the sand is applied as can be firmly held in place by the cementing material used. The bat, as thus prepared, can be firmly  
45 grasped in the hand of the player, with no danger of its slipping from his grasp, as so often occurs in the use of the bats of the prior art.

It is evident that the class of articles to which my improvement is adapted is not limited to bats or implements in any single or particular game of ball, but that the said improvement is applicable to a wide class, and for such I desire to claim it. 50

The roughening material may be sand or  
55 any other comparatively hard substance in a granulated form, and the substance—as shellac—by means of which it is attached to the surface of the handle is preferably of a water-proof nature. 60

I claim as my invention—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a base-ball or cricket bat or the like implement having its handle-section covered with sand or the like granulated material firmly cemented thereto, all substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth. 65

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a base-ball bat, *a*, having the surface of its handle-section *b* roughened by a covering-  
70 layer of granulated material firmly attached thereto by shellac or the like cementing material, all substantially as described.

WILLIAM GRAY.

Witnesses:

CHAS. L. BURDETT,  
H. R. WILLIAMS.

Correction in Letters Patent No. 300,360.

It is hereby certified that in Letters Patent No. 300,360, granted June 17, 1884, upon the application of William Gray, of Hartford, Connecticut, for an improvement in "Base-Ball Bats," an error appears in the printed specification requiring correction, as follows: In line 33, the words "base-bolt ball" should read *base-ball bat*; and that the Letters Patent should be read with this correction therein to make it conform to the record of the case in the Patent Office.

Signed, countersigned, and sealed this 24th day of June, A. D. 1884.

[SEAL.]

M. L. JOSLYN,  
*Acting Secretary of the Interior.*

Countersigned:

BENJ. BUTTERWORTH,  
*Commissioner of Patents.*