

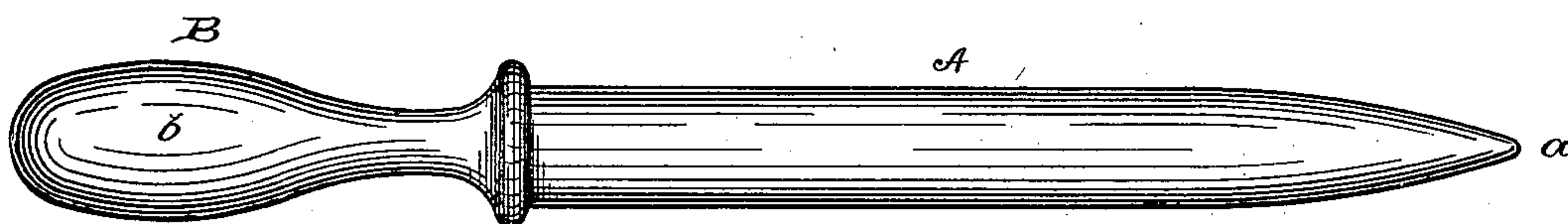
(No Model.)

G. E. TREADWELL.  
CLAY SHARPENING IMPLEMENT.

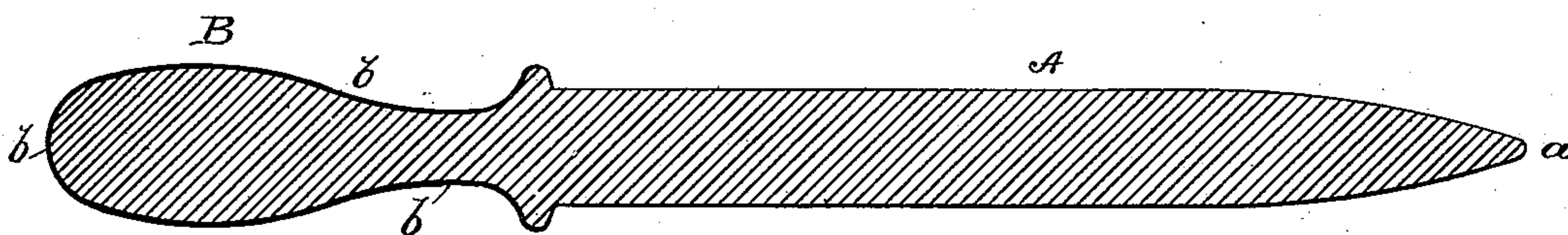
No. 361,559.

Patented Apr. 19, 1887.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses

Percy White.

Robt. M. Bell

George E. Treadwell

Inventor

By *Wm* Attorney

*Wm*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE E. TREADWELL, OF NEW CASTLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

## CLAY SHARPENING IMPLEMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 361,559, dated April 19, 1887.

Application filed December 30, 1886. Serial No. 223,022. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. TREADWELL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Castle, in the county of Lawrence and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clay Sharpening Implements; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to "steels" for sharpening table-knives, carving-knives, and other cutting implements; and the object of my invention is to dispense with the use of iron, steel, or other materials heretofore employed in the manufacture of this class of implements, and to substitute therefor a material which will produce a lighter, cheaper, and more efficient sharpener than any heretofore devised.

To the above purpose my invention consists in a steel which is made wholly of clay suitably prepared for effecting the required abrading action when operating upon the cutting-knife, and wrought into the proper form for this class of implements, as hereinafter described and claimed.

My invention further consists in the precise novelty of construction of the steel, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improved steel. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the same, showing the glazed handle portion thereof.

In the said drawings, Fig. 1, A designates the barrel of the steel, which is of tapering cylindrical shape, terminating at one end in a point, *a*, and at the opposite end joined integrally with the handle portion B. The barrel A and handle B are formed of any clay which contains sufficient gritty matter to produce an abrading-surface. For this purpose fire-clay, (silicate of alumina,) which is prepared in the ordinary manner and molded into the form shown, is preferred. After having been thus molded the clay is placed in a kiln and properly fired or burned.

The handle portion B is preferably treated with a coating, *b*, (see Fig. 2,) of potter's glaze previous to the burning, so that a clean smooth handle is produced in the finished article.

A steel produced as above described is lighter and cheaper than metal steels, and possesses the additional important advantage of preserving an effective abrading-surface in the barrel A as long as any of the latter remains.

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

1. An improved steel having its abrading portion composed wholly of fire-clay, substantially as specified.

2. An improved steel formed wholly of abrasive clay and having its rubbing-surfaces and handle formed integrally with each other, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE E. TREADWELL.

Witnesses:

HIRAM G. MILLER,  
D. JAMESON.