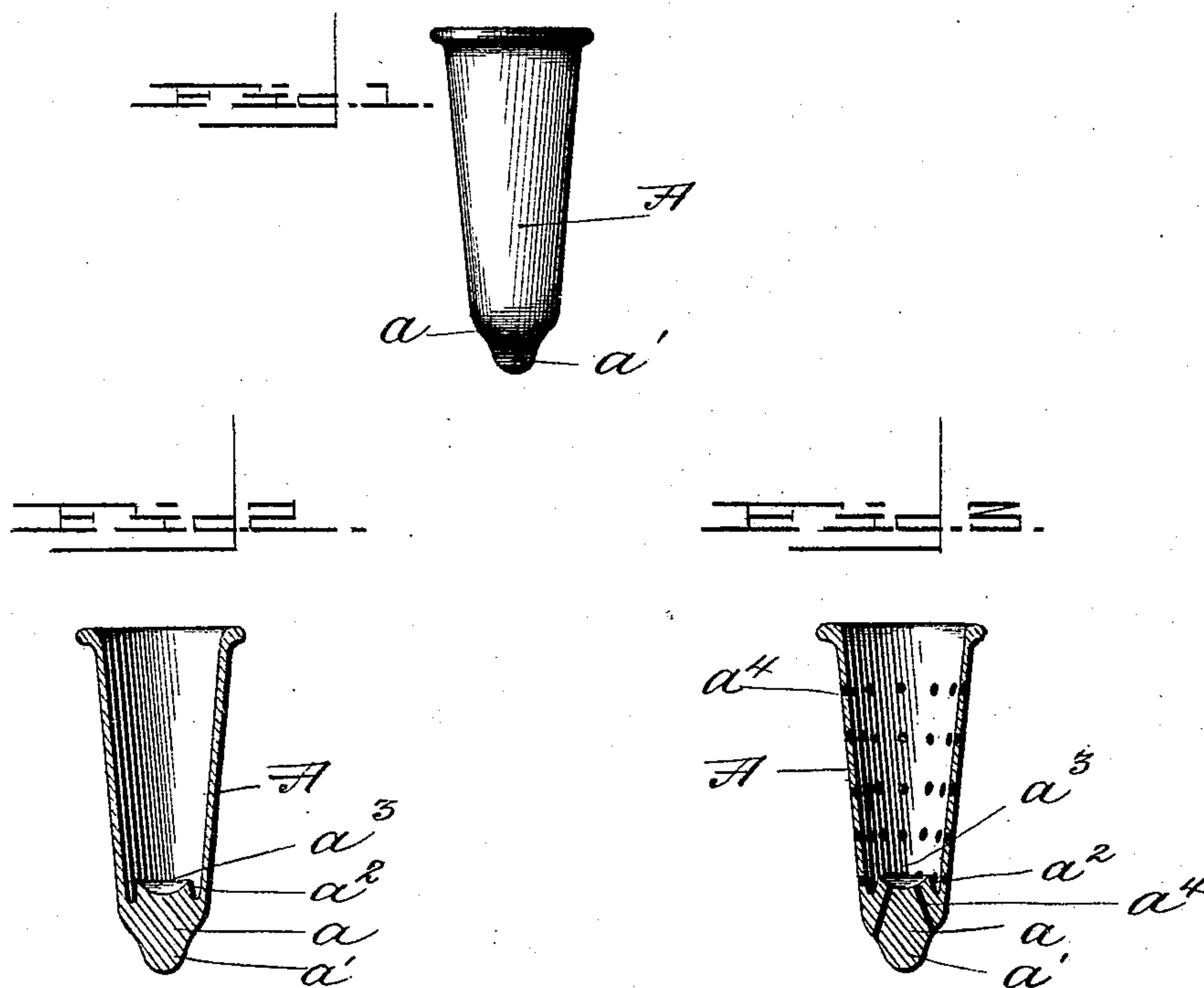


(No Model.)

T. ARMAT.  
FINGER PROTECTOR.

No. 490,733.

Patented Jan. 31, 1893.



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS ARMAT, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## FINGER-PROTECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 490,733, dated January 31, 1893.

Application filed August 20, 1892. Serial No. 443,650. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, THOMAS ARMAT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Finger-Protectors; 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.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in finger-protectors. The object of the invention being, to produce a thimble of such peculiar and novel construction whereby it shall be particularly adapted for use in operating typewriting machines, to relieve and effectually protect the finger tips of the operator from the injurious effects incident to continuous practice. A further object being to provide means, in a thimble, whereby the shock or concussion occasioned by the action in operating a machine, shall be absorbed and reduced to a minimum before reaching the finger tip. A further object being to provide a thimble, the tapering body portion thereof being formed of gutta-percha or any suitable material capable of long wear, strength and durability, and the cap portion thereof being preferably formed of some yielding or elastic material, such as soft rubber, to act as a cushion to receive and absorb the shock; or both the tapering portion and the cap may be made of soft rubber, furthermore, the interior formation of said body portion being such, that the fingernail shall be well protected, and receive no part of the shock; furthermore, means for obviating, to a great extent, the natural tendency of that portion of the finger inclosed by said thimble to perspire; and finally the object of the invention being to produce a thimble that shall be thoroughly efficient in use and comparatively inexpensive of manufacture.

With these objects in view, the invention consists in certain novel details, arrangements and combinations of parts hereinafter to be more fully described.

In describing the invention in detail, reference is had to the accompanying drawings

forming part of this specification, wherein like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several views, in which,

Figure 1;— is a view in side elevation of one form of device embodying my improvements. Fig. 2;— is a sectional elevation of the same. Fig. 3;— is a similar view of a modification.

In the drawings: A, indicates a tapering body portion terminating at its smaller end in a thickened cap portion  $a$ , the latter being preferably formed of smaller diameter than the body portion, to facilitate and allow for the rapid action of an operator when using the device in connection with a type writing machine. To overcome the injurious effects resulting from the shocks and concussion occasioned by the force of the blows necessary to properly operate the keys of a type writing machine, the cap portion is reinforced or thickened as at  $a'$ , whereby said shocks or concussion shall be almost wholly absorbed and reduced to a minimum before reaching the finger.

To obtain a proper position for the finger after being inserted into the thimble, that is to say, with the end of the finger nail out of contact with the inner walls, the body portion is provided with an upwardly projecting stud having a hollowed out portion  $a^3$ , forming an annular space  $a^2$ , for the reception of the nail.

As above stated, the device may be formed entirely of soft rubber, or only partly so and owing to the impervious nature of this material, the body portion may be provided with a series of perforations  $a^4$ , see Fig. 3.

It will be particularly noted that various changes may be made in the detail construction of the device, without materially departing from the general idea involved.

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

1. In a thimble, a tapering body portion, a thickened cap portion formed at the smaller end thereof and interiorly of said body portion an upwardly projecting stud, substantially as specified.

2. In a thimble, a tapering body portion



having one or more beads formed thereon and terminating in a reduced and thickened cap portion and interiorly of said body portion an upwardly projecting and hollowed out stud  
5 with an annular space around the same, substantially as specified.

3. In a thimble, a tapering body portion, reduced at its smaller end to form a cap, the upwardly projecting stud on the interior of

said body portion and the perforations, as is specified.

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

THOMAS ARMAT.

Witnesses:

J. J. MALONE,

F. O. NORDEMAN.