

No. 834,711.

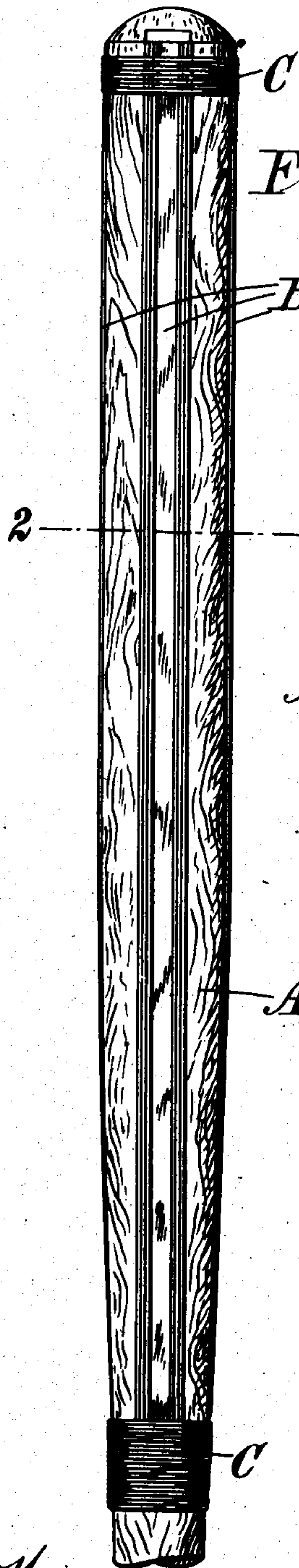
PATENTED OCT. 30, 1906.

H. O. CLARKE & J. W. WEEKS.

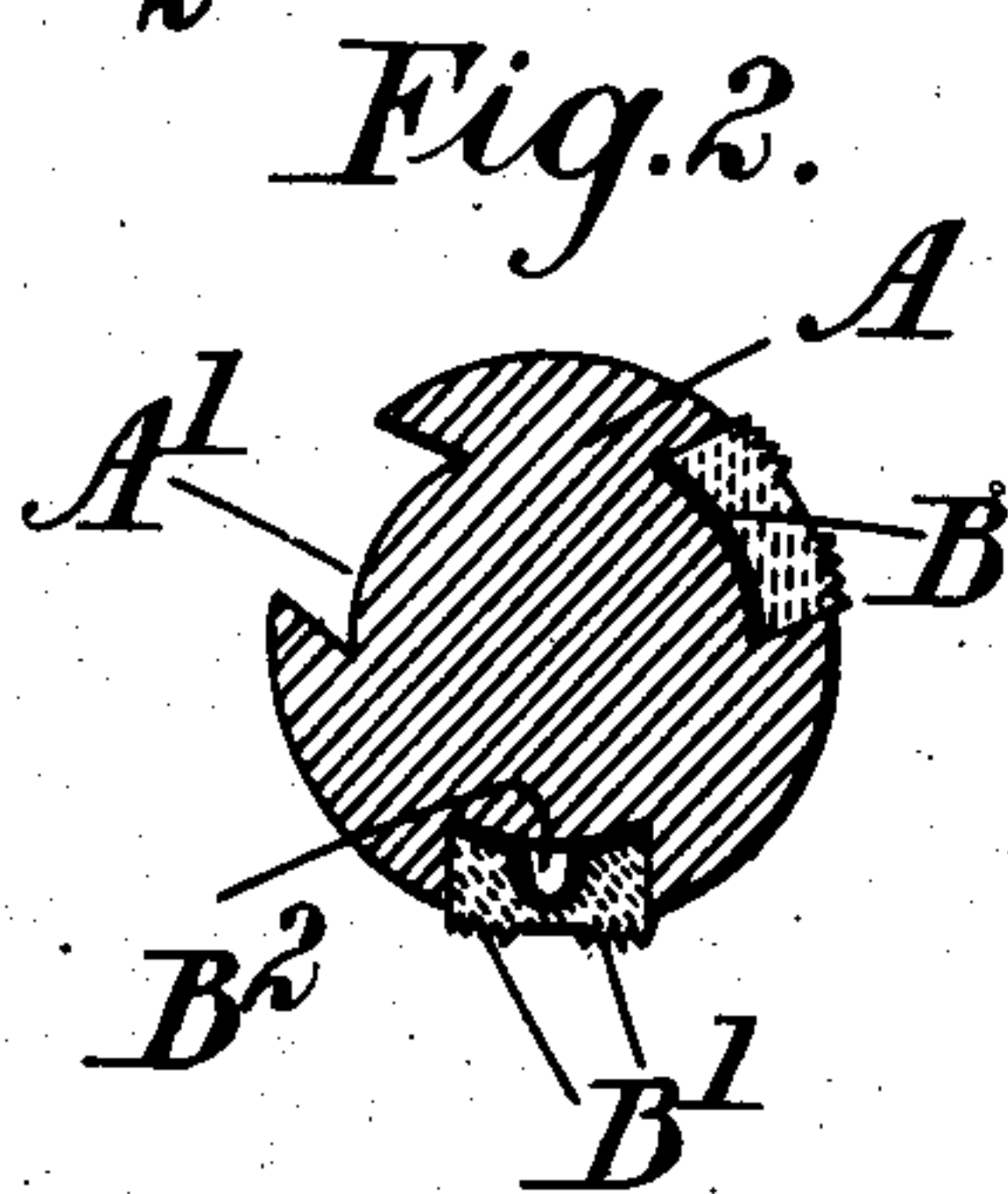
HANDLE GRIP.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 23, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.

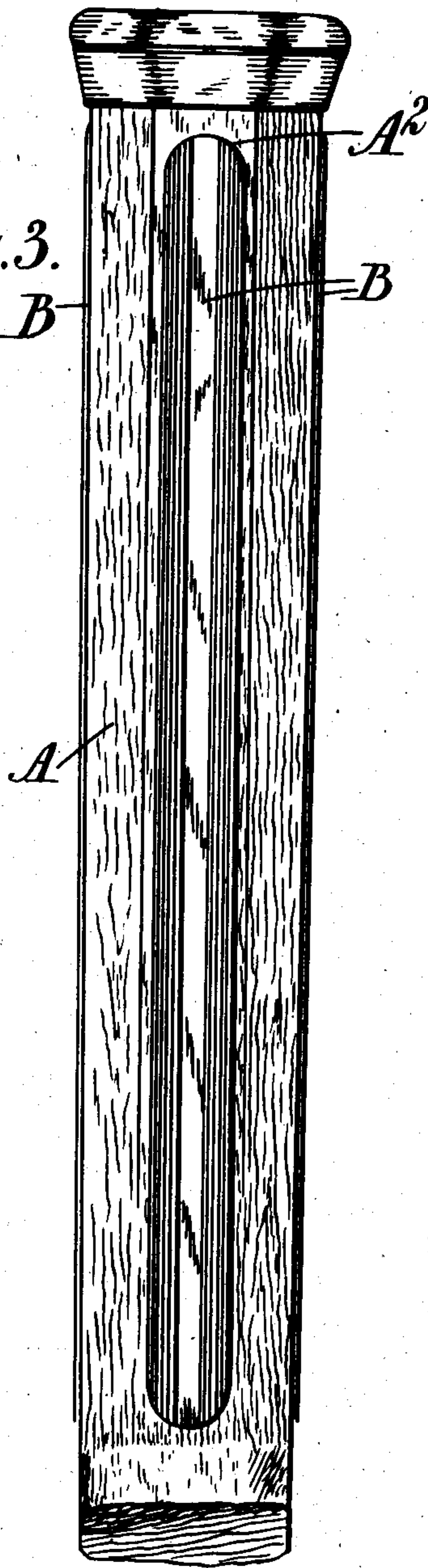


*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*

*Fig. 3.*



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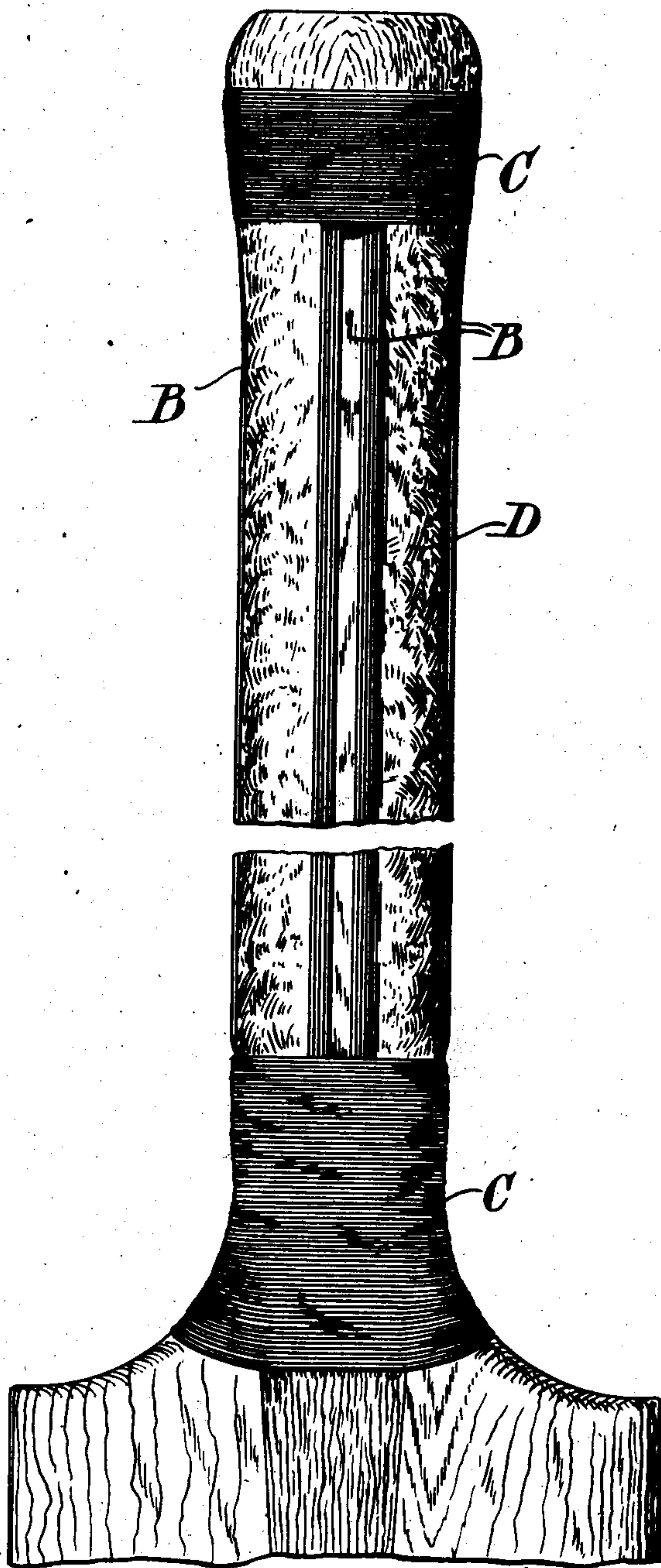
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2 SHEETS—SHEET 2.

*Fig. 4.*



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

HENRY OSMER CLARKE AND JAMES WILLIAM WEEKS, OF MAIDSTONE,  
ENGLAND.

## HANDLE-GRIP.

No. 834,711.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 30, 1906.

Application filed June 23, 1905. Serial No. 286,668.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, HENRY OSMER CLARKE and JAMES WILLIAM WEEKS, subjects of the King of England, residing at Maidstone, in the county of Kent, England, have invented certain new and useful Handle-Grips, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to handles for clubs, bats, rackets, and similar articles, and has for its object to provide a satisfactory gripping-surface.

According to this invention a handle formed, for example, of wood is provided with strips of rubber or similar material so attached to it that the surface is formed partly of rubber and partly of wood.

This invention is particularly suitable for the handles of base-ball and cricket bats, golf-clubs, tennis and other rackets, croquet-mallets, hockey-sticks, and the like; but it may be equally well used with handles for operating mechanism or for agricultural implements and tools or in other cases where it is necessary to retain a firm grip.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 illustrates a handle for a golf-club made according to one construction of this invention. Fig. 2 is a cross-section on the line 2 2 of Fig. 1, drawn to a larger scale; and Figs. 3 and 4 illustrate, respectively, the handle of a tennis-racket and a cricket-bat also according to this invention.

Like letters indicate like parts throughout the drawings.

With reference first to Fig. 1, A is the wooden portion of the handle of the golf-club. It is provided with three longitudinal slots or grooves A', extending throughout its length, and strips B, of rubber, are inserted in the grooves and secured in any convenient way, preferably by cementing them and binding their ends, as at C. The sides of the grooves A' may be square, or they may be undercut, as shown at one place in Fig. 2, where one of the strips B is removed for the sake of clearness. The strips B, of rubber, may be of any convenient form, but are preferably ribbed, as at B', to provide a better gripping-surface, and it is found advantageous to make a central groove or channel B<sup>2</sup> on the under surface, which forms a more or less elastic cushion between the center of the

strip and the substance of the handle A. Such central channel need not be provided, and one of the strips in Fig. 2 is shown without it.

In the tennis-racket handle illustrated in Fig. 3 similar strips B are inserted, although in this case they are not carried right out at the butt-end of the handle, as in Fig. 1, but are placed in slots having rounded ends, as at A<sup>2</sup>.

In Fig. 4 the invention is shown applied to a cricket-bat, longitudinal strips B being let into the material forming the handle D. As in the golf-club handle illustrated in Fig. 1, the ends of the strip B are shown in Fig. 4 as secured by binding C.

It will be understood that the strips B may be of any suitable material and shape, although it is preferred to form them of rubber grooved on the outside surface and provided with an inner channel. It is found that such rubber strips afford a very sure grip of the handle of the racket or other article and, especially when the hand is somewhat hot and moist, set up a suction, which obviates any tendency for the hand to slip relatively to the handle. The exterior surface of the strips B can project slightly above the surface of portion A of the handle, and in Fig. 2 we show the ribbed portion B' of the strips as projecting very slightly beyond the surface of portion A, and thus affording a somewhat better grip for the hands.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a non-slipping grip for a handle the combination with a handle-body having a series of grooves or recesses whose lengths extend longitudinally of the handle alternating circumferentially of the handle with ribs formed by part of the handle-body, of a separate rubber strip inserted in each recess in the handle-body for the purpose described.

2. In a non-slipping grip for a handle the combination with a handle-body having a series of grooves or recesses whose lengths extend longitudinally of the handle alternating circumferentially of the handle with strips of the handle-body, of a separate rubber bar inserted in each groove, for the purpose described.

3. In a handle the combination of a handle-body having longitudinal grooves and



rubber strips, channeled upon that face of the strip which is presented toward the center of the handle, secured in said grooves.

4. In a non-slipping grip for a handle the  
5 combination with a handle-body having a series of grooves or recesses whose lengths extend longitudinally of the handle alternating circumferentially of the handle with strips formed of the handle-body, of a separate rubber bar inserted in each of the said  
10 grooves and ribs on the exterior surfaces of the said strips for the purpose described.

5. In a handle the combination of a handle-body having longitudinal grooves and  
15 rubber strips, channeled upon that face of the strip which is presented toward the center of the handle, and ribbed on that face of the strip which is presented to the exterior surface of the handle, secured in said grooves.

20 6. In a non-slipping grip for a handle the combination with a handle-body having a series of undercut grooves or recesses alternating circumferentially of the handle with strips formed of the handle-body, of separate rubber bars each inserted in a separate  
25 groove the rubber strips and the grooves being wider at the base than at the outer surface, for the purpose described.

30 7. A handle having undercut grooves, rubber strips of transverse section corresponding

to that of the grooves adapted to engage said grooves and channeled upon that face of the strip which is presented toward the center of the handle.

8. In a non-slipping grip for a handle the  
35 combination with a handle-body having separate longitudinal undercut grooves alternating circumferentially of the handle with strips formed by part of the handle-body of separate rubber bars inserted one in each of  
40 the separate undercut grooves, the said bars being wider at the base than at the top to fit the grooves, of ribs on the exterior surface of the handle, for the purpose described.

9. A handle having undercut grooves, rubber strips of transverse section corresponding  
45 to that of the grooves adapted to engage said grooves, channeled upon that face of the strip which is presented toward the center of the handle, and ribbed on that face of the  
50 strip which is presented to the exterior surface of the handle.

In testimony whereof we have signed our names to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY OSMER CLARKE.  
JAMES WILLIAM WEEKS.

Witnesses:

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WILLIAM T. FOREMAN.