

(No Model.)

R. S. MOSS.
BAT FOR LAWN TENNIS.

No. 346,858.

Patented Aug. 3, 1886.

FIG. 1.

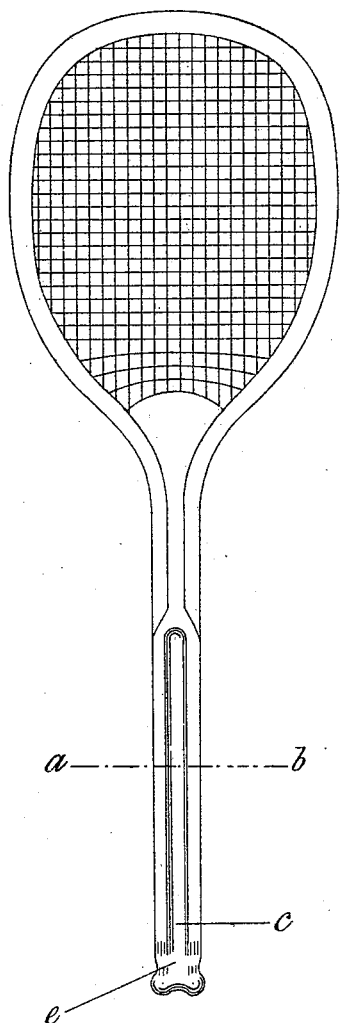
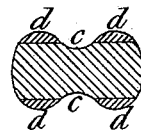


FIG. 2.



Witnesses,

George H. Rea

Robert Everett.

Inventor

Ralph S. Moss.

By James L. Norris.
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RALPH SLAZENGER MOSS, OF LONDON, ENGLAND.

BAT FOR LAWN-TENNIS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,858, dated August 3, 1886.

Application filed July 5, 1884. Serial No. 136,881. (No model.) Patented in England January 1, 1884, No. 226, March 25, 1884, No. 5,457, and April 3, 1884, No. 5,886.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RALPH SLAZENGER MOSS, a subject of the Queen of Great Britain, residing at 56 Cannon street, in the city of London, England, manufacturer, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in the Construction of Bats for Lawn-Tennis and other Games, (for which I have obtained patents in Great Britain, No. 226, bearing date January 1, 1884, No. 5,457, bearing date March 25, 1884, and No. 5,886, bearing date April 3, 1884,) of which the following is a specification.

This invention has reference to bats in general, but more especially to the bat known as "the demon bat."

My invention consists of the several improvements in the construction of bats, hereinafter fully set forth, and specifically pointed out in the claims annexed to this specification.

The custom hitherto has been to make the handle of the bat perfectly plain; but in order to furnish a perfect grip I finish the handle by running a transverse groove near the end; and my improvement in the handles of such bats also consists in forming the grooves or projections upon such handles by means of slips of wood, rubber, ebonite, or other suitable material, being glued, pinned, screwed, or otherwise attached thereto.

The effect of the above arrangement is that an operator can know by feeling the handle how he is holding the instrument without taking the trouble to look at the handle for that purpose. His hold of the handle is also very firm and secure from the increase of surface in contact with the hand. The arrangement at the end also enables the operator to hold the handle at a farther distance from the striking or operating part of the bat or other instrument, and it affords a more powerful stroke

and additional force, and the handle is not likely to slip out of the hand.

In order that my said invention may be clearly understood, reference is hereby made to the accompanying drawings, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved bat, showing the handle constructed in accordance with my invention, having a groove, *c*, for the purpose of affording a firm grip when held in the hand at play. *e* is the grooved or enlarged end of the handle.

Fig. 2 shows in section my method of forming the projections *d*, which projections are varied in size, number, and proportion to suit the taste and fancy of the players. The pieces *d d* may be formed of cane, vulcanite, rubber, composition, or other suitable material.

In view of the explanations already given, no specific description of the illustrated construction is needed. I will state, however, that in Fig. 2, *d d* indicate strips of ebonite, rubber, or other material mounted on the handle longitudinally to form or deepen the groove *c* therein.

I claim—

A lawn-tennis racket or bat having a handle provided with longitudinal grooves formed by convex strips of ebonite or other suitable material attached to its surface, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

RALPH SLAZENGER MOSS.

Witnesses:

GEO. C. DARING,
8 Quality Ct., London,

J. WATT,
17 Gracechurch St., London.