T. C. RICHARDS.

COFFIN-HANDLE.

No. 169,922. Patented Nov. 16, 1875.

Fig: 1

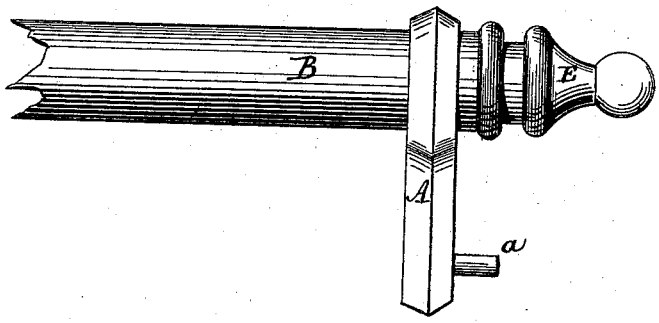


Fig: 3

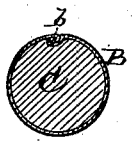


Fig: 2

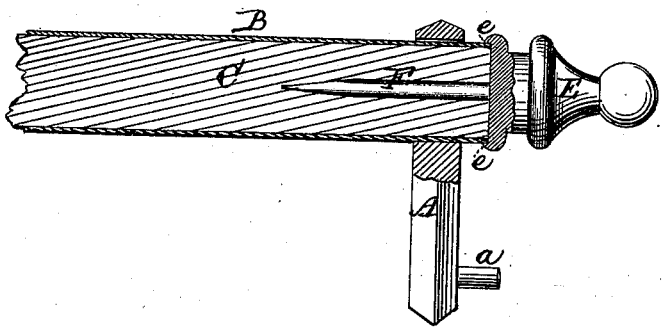
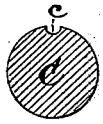


Fig: 4



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS C. RICHARDS, OF WEST WINSTED, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN COFFIN-HANDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,922**, dated November 16, 1875; application filed April 26, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS C. RICHARDS, of West Winsted, in the county of Litchfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain Improvements in Coffin-Handles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms part of this specification.

My invention consists in a novel construction of the bar of the handle, whereby simplicity, cheapness, lightness, strength, and durability are obtained.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side view of a portion of a handle constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view. Figs. 3 and 4 are transverse sections.

A represents one of the arms of the handle, having a ring at the outer end for engagement with the bar, and a pivot, *a*, at the inner end for attachment to the plate. The bar of the handle is composed of a metal tube, B, and a wooden core, C. The tube B is constructed with a lock-seam, *b*, such as is commonly employed in various branches of metal-working to join two edges of sheet-metal, the projecting portion of the seam being on the inner side of the tube, so as to leave the outer surface smooth.

The wood used for the core C may be of any suitable kind which will give the requisite degree of lightness, strength, and solidity to the bar. On the surface of the core is a longitudinal groove, *c*, for the reception of the seam *b* when the tube and core are placed together. The core is inserted in the tube B, which is then submitted to a drawing process in a suitable machine, by which the diameter of the bar is reduced, not only by compressing the metal of the tube, but also by compressing the wood of the core. By this means the tube and the core are closely and firmly united to each other, and the requisite degree of solidity is imparted to the bar.

By this construction I am enabled to use a thin piece of metal, and to produce a lighter and stronger bar than one made entirely of metal, and thereby to greatly reduce the cost of manufacture. Moreover, as the metal is used principally on account of the facility with which it may be polished or plated, I am enabled to use a cheap article of metal without impairing the strength of the bar.

After the core and the tube have been attached together, and have passed through the drawing process, the ends of the bar are dipped into melted asphalt or other suitable water-proof substance, by which means the wood is sealed and rendered impervious to moisture, so as to prevent the expansion thereof by the absorption of moisture into the pores.

The tip for giving an ornamental finish to the end of the bar is composed of a head, E, on a nail, F. The head may be of any suitable form to give an ornamental appearance to the tip, and the base may have its edge *e* constructed to surround or overlap the end of the bar, so as to conceal and protect the substance used for sealing the wood. It is attached to the bar by driving the nail F into the wood, as shown in Fig. 3, and the head E constitutes the ornamenal tip.

The base of the head E may be constructed to fit even with the end of the bar when it is not found necessary or desirable to make it overlap the end of said bar.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A coffin-handle having its bar composed of a lock-seamed tube and a wooden core, upon which said tube is drawn in such a manner as to compress the wood, substantially as herein described.

2. The bar composed of a metal tube and wooden core, having the ends of the wood sealed and rendered impervious to moisture by means of a water-proof substance or composition, substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

T. C. RICHARDS.

Witnesses:

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