

Chapter 8.4.1

Richard Thomas Bramhill - Inventor

By Alan Jack Bramhill

Richard Thomas Bramhill was born in 1874 in Leeds, England. Richard was an inventor. One of the items he invented and patented was a design to fix broken umbrella ribs. He called it the **"The Gampclip"**.

The **"Gampclip"** was probably dated and patented in the early 1920s since my Grandfather Richard Henry Bramhill emigrated to Canada in 1926 on the SS Montcalm along with my grandmother Alice, my father Alan Richard Bramhill (3 years old) and my Aunt Mary Bramhill (age 2). Richard Thomas Bramhill gave my grandfather several packages of the **"Gampclip"** invention as souvenirs to remember him by.

"Gamp" is a British term meaning **"large, unwieldy umbrella."** I've never heard that word used in Canada and I don't think that is used in the US either.



Gampclip was a piece made of metal that could be put onto a broken umbrella rib so that the umbrella could continue to be used.



The following illustrations show Richard himself actually fitting the Gampclip in place on an umbrella rib.

Illustration No. 1

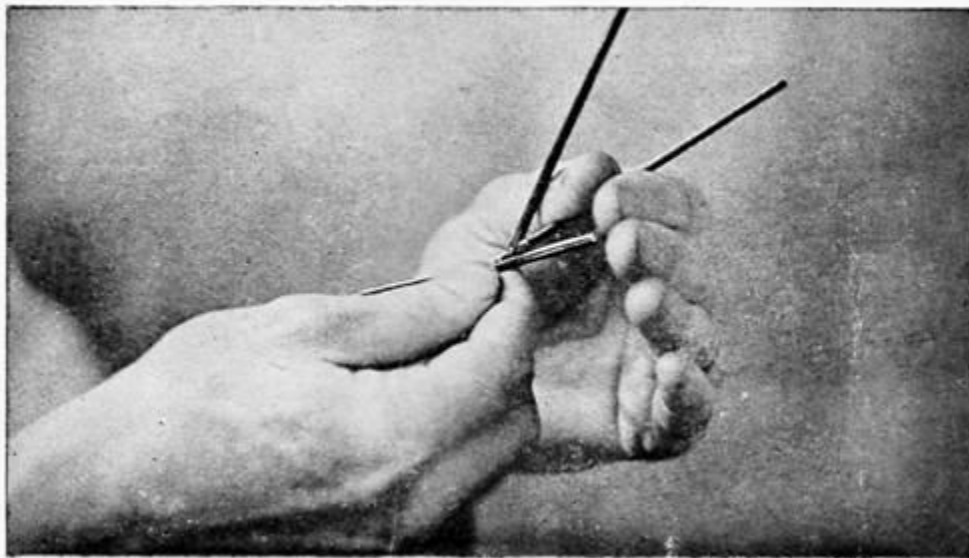


Illustration No. 2.

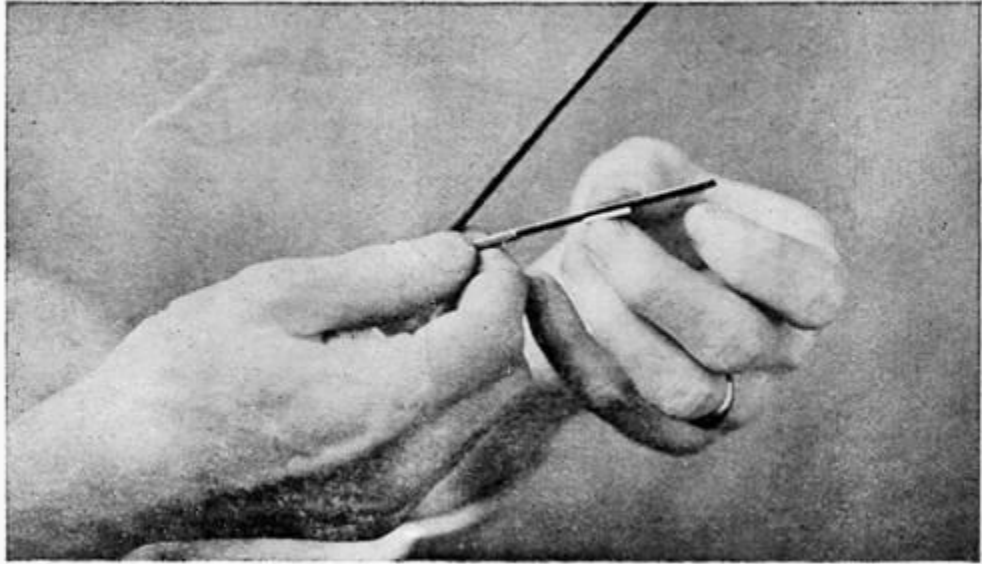
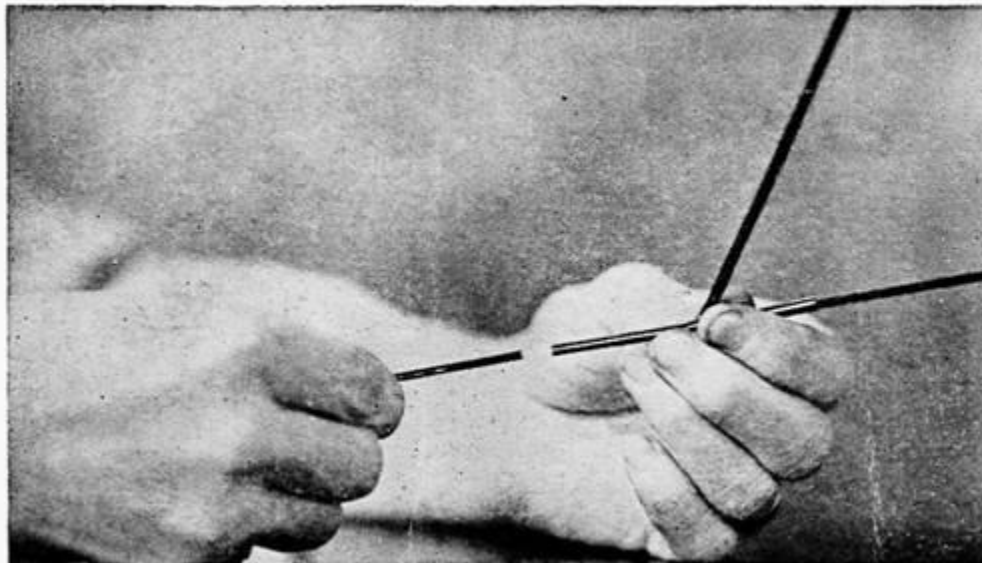


Illustration No. 3.



The "Gampclip" was patented in the early 1920s.

THE "BRAM" PATENT, No. 161800

**Ever-ready Improved Device for Repairing
BROKEN UMBRELLA RIBS OR WIRES.**

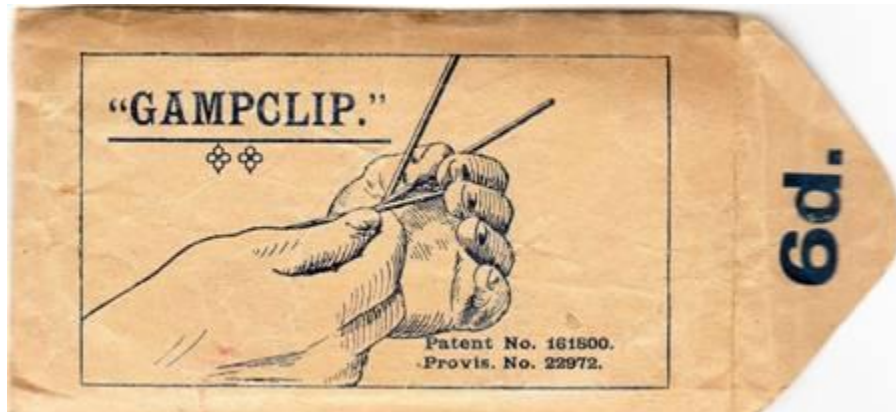
Read Instructions Carefully before Fixing.

First—If the Rib is broken close to joint, the stump portion remaining, place into Slot or Sleeve. Then take the groove portion opposite end of Sleeve, taking thumb and four fingers, pressing the Rib tight so that the Slide will slip over with ease.

Second—To place the Slide on the Rib, take the Slide sideways, allowing the flange to dip into the groove of Rib, and by a gentle turn of the Hand it slips freely on and off.

Third—The remaining portion of broken Rib simply requires to be slipped into the end of Sleeve. Should the Ribs in breaking get slightly turned at the ends, a touch with a smooth three-cornered file is quite sufficient to allow the Ribs to work freely into the Sleeves as required. For a break a good distance from the joint, the straight Sleeve may be used.

SOLE AGENT:
H. GOODMAN,
7 EAST PARADE, LEEDS.
Telephone 21108.



Richard Thomas Bramhill never got rich making this, but it did show his creativity. He tried lots of ways to get rich: operating a book store, selling life insurance and inventions, but times were tough and it was hard going.

--- End ---