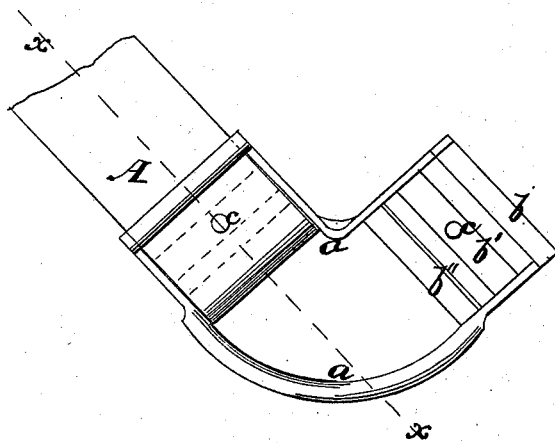


*J. Shepard,*  
*Harness Buckle,*  
*No. 47,500,      Patented Apr. 25, 1865.*



*Witnesses:*  
*McAhearn*  
*Geo. F. S. C.*

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*J. Shepard.*  
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*Attys.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH SHEPARD, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND RICHARD BUTLER, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVED FASTENING FOR HARNESS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 47,500, dated April 25, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSIAH SHEPARD, of New Britain, in the county of Hartford and State of Connecticut, have invented a new and Improved Fastening for Harnesses and for Similar Purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention; Fig. 2, a section of the same, taken in the line *x x*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to a new and improved fastening for harnesses and for similar purposes, and is designed to connect together straps which have an angular position relatively with each other—such, for instance, as the breeching-straps of a harness, the straps of a headstall or bridle, &c.—and is intended to supersede the ordinary “D-fastening,” so termed.

The frame of the fastening is composed of two side pieces, *a a*, which are of curved form, and connected at their ends by cross-pieces *b b'*. These side and cross pieces may all be cast in one piece, and the side pieces, *a a*, are of such a curve that the ends of the frame will be in line with the two straps which the device is to connect. The cross-pieces *b b'* have different positions between the side pieces, *a a*, the outer cross-piece, *b*, being at the outer or exterior sides of the side pieces, the center cross-piece, *b'*, at the inner sides of the same, and the cross-piece *b''* about at the center of the side pieces, as shown clearly

in Fig. 2. The center cross-piece, *b'*, is provided with a pin, *c*. This pin is at the center of cross-piece *b'*, as shown in Fig. 1.

In the drawings only one strap, *A*, is shown attached to the device. This is sufficient, as both straps are applied in precisely the same way. Besides, by only showing one strap one end of the device is fully exposed, in order to show the construction of the ends. The straps *A* are first passed under the outer cross-pieces, *b*, from the outer ends of the device and over and around the inner cross-piece, *b'*, and then outward over the center cross-piece, *b''*, and a hole in the strap is fitted on the pin *c*, and this pin also passes through another hole in the strap, when the latter is drawn tautly outward. By this arrangement a simple, efficient, and cheap fastening or connection is obtained for the straps of harnesses and other articles, and one which renders stitching and sewing of the straps entirely unnecessary. Its adoption will materially reduce the expense of the construction of articles to which it is applied, and it possesses the advantage of being capable of being applied by any one at any time without any difficulty whatever.

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

A strap-fastening for harnesses and for similar purposes, composed of two curved side pieces, *a a*, connected at their ends by cross-pieces *b b' b''*, placed relatively with each other as shown, and the center cross-piece, *b'*, provided with a central pin, *c*, substantially as described.

J. SHEPARD.

Witnesses:

C. L. TOPLIFF,  
THEO. TUSCH.