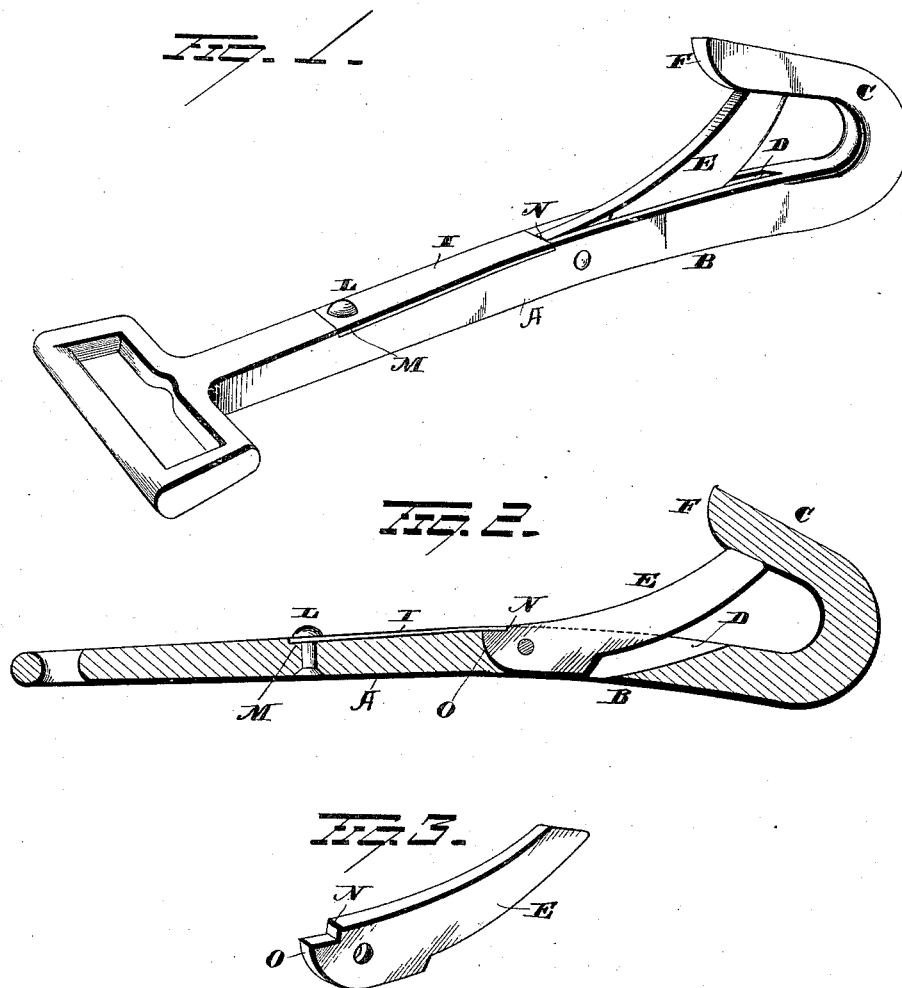


(No Model.)

J. W. WHEELER.
SNAP HOOK.

No. 306,198.

Patented Oct. 7, 1884.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. WHEELER, OF COUNCIL BLUFFS, IOWA.

SNAP-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 306,198, dated October 7, 1884.

Application filed March 20, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN W. WHEELER, of Council Bluffs, in the county of Pottawattamie and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Snap-Hooks; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in snap-hooks, the object of the same being to provide a device of this character which shall be especially adapted for use in connection with hose-carriages, engines, &c., in fire-departments, a further object being to provide a device of this character which shall be so constructed as to permit of great speed, certainty and security in attachment, a further object being to provide means for effectually preventing water and dirt from lodging into and clogging the action of the spring, and so depriving it of its efficiency, a further object being to provide a device of this character which shall be economical in construction and durable and efficient in use; and with these ends in view my invention consists in the certain features of construction and combinations of parts as will be more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of my invention. Fig. 2 is a sectional view thereof, and Fig. 3 is a separate view of the tongue or snap.

A represents the shank, slightly curved at B, and provided with the hook C, and having formed in the upper surface the elongated oblique slot D, which extends through the said shank, thus permitting the free passage of water and dirt through the same, and preventing it from becoming clogged.

In the slot D is pivotally secured the curved tongue or snap E. The slot D is made longer on the upper surface of the shank, in order to accommodate the curved tongue or snap E when it is pressed down to admit a ring or other object to the hook C. The point of the hook C is rounded, as shown at F, for the purpose of guiding the ring or other object with which it comes in contact into the bite of the hook. The tongue or snap E is preferably curved, and rests, when in its normal position, a short distance back from the end of the hook, the object being to accurately and effectively guide the ring or desired ob-

ject to be fastened into the hook C. The shank A is cut away, as shown, forming a recess to accommodate the stiff flat metallic spring I, thus permitting the spring to rest flush with the top of the shank A, the said spring I being secured to the shank by means of the rivet L at its end M. The tongue or snap E is preferably curved or cut away at its end O, as shown, and is provided with the shoulder N, upon the face of which rests the spring I, and serves to hold the tongue or snap E in position. The end P of the tongue fits snugly against the rear face, Q, of the slot D, thus entirely relieving the free end of the tongue from any backward strain that may be brought against the same. The tongue E, being provided with the shoulder N, permits the spring to rest flush with the tongue. At this point they are both flush with the shank, thus permitting the ring to slide easily over the joint.

For convenience in use the hook may be provided at its end with a ring or loop made integral therewith and of any desired shape.

The construction and method of attaching the spring I to the shank A is such that when the spring becomes disabled it can be replaced at a small expense and without disturbing other portions of the hook.

Having fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a snap-hook, the combination, with a shank having a hook on one end thereof, a recess on its front face, and a slot, of a tongue one end of which rests within the slot, while the opposite end bears against the hook, and a spring secured within the recess and bearing against the tongue, all of the above parts being constructed and combined substantially as set forth.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a snap-hook consisting, essentially, of the shank A, provided with the oblique slot D and recess K, the tongue or snap E, provided with the shoulder N, and the spring I, all of the above parts combined and adapted to operate substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

Witnesses: JOHN W. WHEELER.

M. D. HARDIN,

F. A. BURKE.