J. MANN.

CONNECTING LINKS FOR CHAINS.

No. 185,037. Patented Dec. 5, 1876.

Fig. 1.

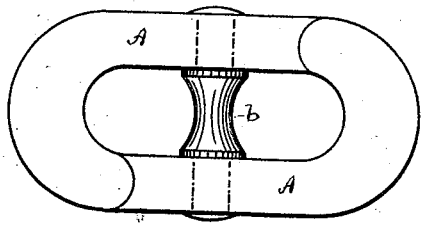


Fig. 2.

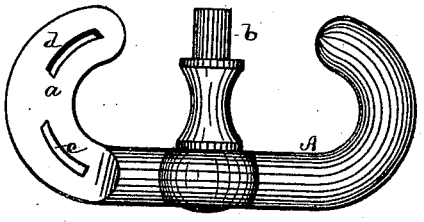
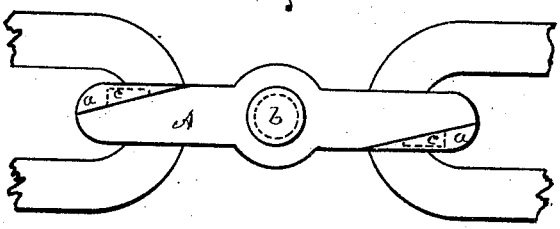


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Thomas H. Parsons.
J. R. Drake.

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By
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES MANN, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF OF HIS RIGHT TO MANN BROTHERS, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN CONNECTING-LINKS FOR CHAINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **185,037**, dated December 5, 1876; application filed September 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES MANN, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, (assignor of one-quarter interest to WILLIAM ALEXANDER MANN, and one-quarter to DANIEL MANN, both of same place,) have made certain Improvements in Connecting-Links for Chains, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to an independent coupling-link, conforming in general appearance to the usual oblong link of chains, and is for the purpose of coupling or uncoupling two loose ends of a chain, or one end to a ring, staple, or any other attachment; and the invention consists in constructing the said link of two equal halves, attached and swinging open in the center on a pivot or pin, the ends being beveled and lapping on each other, and each being provided with a feather or lug, with a corresponding recess to receive the lug when closed, to prevent spreading, &c., all as hereinafter described.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of the link closed; Fig. 2, a plan of one-half of the link; Fig. 3, a side elevation, showing its connections.

A A represent the two parts or halves of the coupling-ring, both constructed alike, and with the ends flattened or beveled off, as shown at *a a*, Figs. 2 and 3, so that one part shuts over the other when closed, presenting an unbroken and smooth surface, as in Figs. 1 and 3.

The two halves are held together by a center pin or pivot, *b*, which is fastened to one-half, the other half swinging open, or both may be loose on the pin.

On the inside of each of the flattened ends *a a* are short upright lugs or feathers *c c*, which shut into corresponding recesses or openings *d d* in each opposite half. This is to prevent any spreading by an undue strain on the chain, and when the chain is attached locks and binds the whole together. The parts are made of steel or iron, to insure strength.

The connection with a chain is made as follows: The two ends are opened by the fingers, and the end link of a chain is first put over one of the flat ends *a*, and then over the other. The link is then over both of the parts of one end. To unite it to the other end of the chain, the opposite ends of the link are then opened, and the other end link first put over one end, *a*, and then the other, as at the opposite end, and the link shut, where it stays and cannot be opened by any jarring, wear, draft, or shaking. It is only opened by the hand separating the two halves and swinging them apart, and taking the chain-link from each end piece *a a* at a time.

There is no spring connected with it. It is strong and not liable to come apart, or to be broken in any way, and, in fact, is stronger than the usual chain-link. It is operated without punch, hammer, or rivet, and no amount of shaking or twisting will unhook it.

I claim—

In combination with the two centrally-pivoted halves A A, the lugs *c c*, and corresponding recesses *d d*, constructed and operating substantially as and for the purpose specified.

In witness whereof I have hereunto signed my name in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JAMES MANN.

Witnesses:
J. P. DRAKE,
DANIEL MANN.