S. A. WOODARD.

HAME-FASTENING.

No. 190,661. Patented May 8, 1877.

Fig. 1.

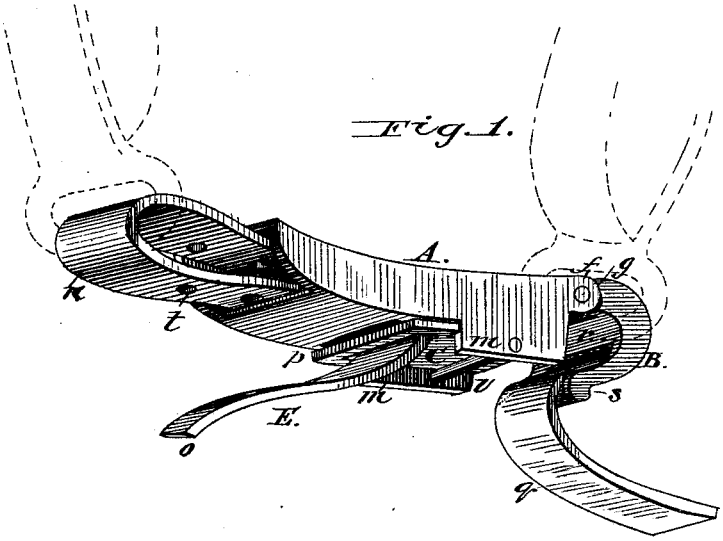


Fig. 2.

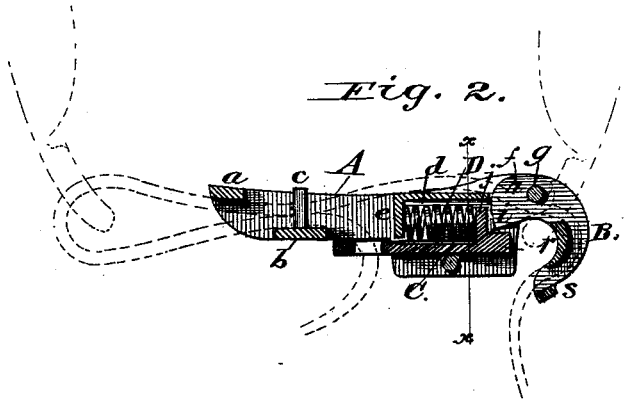
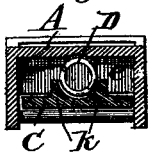


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL A. WOODARD, OF HORNELLSVILLE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAME-FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **190,661**, dated May 8, 1877; application filed March 21, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL A. WOODARD, of Hornellsville, in the county of Steuben, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hame-Buckles, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to certain improvements in hame fasteners or buckles; its object being to furnish a fastening device which can be conveniently and rapidly manipulated to fasten and unfasten the hames, while such fastening device is most reliable in use, there being no possibility of its being accidentally unfastened.

To this end my invention consists of a metallic frame provided at one end with a pivoted hook, which has toes projecting in rear of its pivotal points, which toes are adapted to be engaged with and disengaged from a sliding plate, arranged on the buckle-frame, said slide being operated by one end of a strap which passes through a slot in the end of the sliding plate, said strap being attached to one ring of the hames while the hooked end of the buckle is engaged with the other ring of the hames, as will hereinafter more fully appear.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my improved hame fastener or buckle; Fig. 2, a longitudinal vertical central section; and Fig. 3, a transverse sectional view on the line *x x*.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the frame of the buckle, having the slot *a* and cross-bar *b*, provided with the pin or lug *c*, with which the strap engages. The buckle-frame is constructed with a seat, *d*, and a shoulder, *e*, at the back of the same, and its forward end is provided with two ears or flanges, *f f*, one on each side, between which is pivoted, as at *g*, a hook, B. This hook is formed with toes *i*, which extend in rear of the pivots *g*, and their upper edges are rounded at *h* so as to automatically press back the slide C, in order that said toes can engage therewith. This slide consists of a metallic plate, having a flange, *j*, and parallel ribs or flanges *k k* on its side, and between such ribs and the flange *j* of the slide and the shoulder *e* of the buckle-frame, is located a coiled or other suitable spring, D, which automatically throws the slide forward when it has been pressed back for the passage of the toes *i*. A cross-bar, *l*, connects the depending flanges *m m* of the buckle-frame together, and also serves to retain the sliding plate C in its proper position. E represents a strap, the looped-end *n* of which is secured to one ring of the hames, and its ends are then passed through the slot *a* and its end *o* passed downward through the slotted end *p* of the slide, and the projecting end serves to draw back the slide to release the toes of the hook, which latter, it should here be stated, is, when in use, hooked onto the other ring of the hames and its toes engaged with the slide C. The end *q* of the strap is passed along the back of the frame and under the cross-bar *r* of the hook, and then down and behind the cross-bar *s* of the same, the strap being prevented from displacement by the pin or lug *c* engaging with the holes *t* in the strap, as shown in Fig. 1.

It will be seen that the spring which operates the sliding plate is concealed in the recess formed by the buckle-frame and said plate, and is prevented from twisting or becoming displaced by the parallel ribs *k k*.

By this means a hame-fastener is constructed which is most efficient as a fastening, and it can be so readily manipulated to fasten and unfasten the hames to recommend itself to favor.

I claim—

In a hame-fastener, the combination of a frame, A, a hook, B, pivoted to one end of said frame, and having toes *i i* projecting in rear of the pivot, the sliding plate C, the spring D, and the strap E, arranged, as described on the frame to form a loop, *n*, all substantially as and for the purposes described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of the subscribing witnesses.

SAMUEL A. WOODARD.

Witnesses:

HOMER HOLLIDAY,

JOHN CAMERON.