W. MOFFAT.

Hame-Fastener.

No. 198,951 Patented Jan. 8, 1878.

Figure 1.

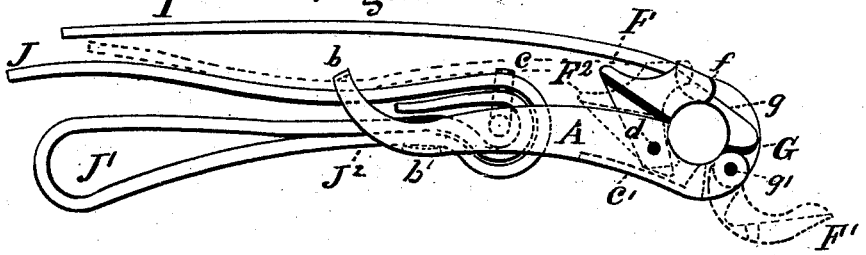


Figure 2.

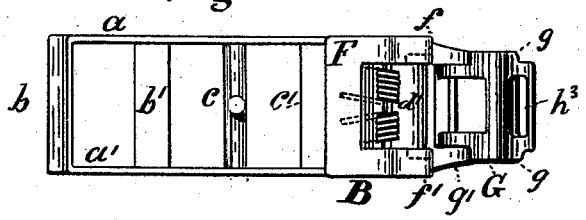
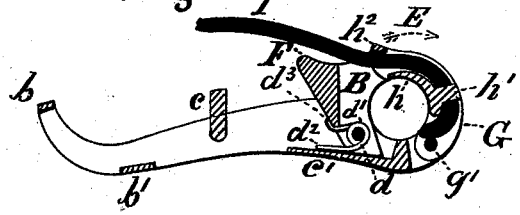


Figure 3.



Witnesses

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Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLOUGHBY MOFFAT, OF HORNELLSVILLE, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO BARNEY W. SHORT, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAME-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,951**, dated January 8, 1878; application filed November 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLOUGHBY MOFFAT, of Hornellsville, in the county of Steuben and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hame-Fasteners, which improvements are fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation; Fig. 2, a plan or top view; and Fig. 3 represents a vertical longitudinal section through the center of the device.

My invention consists of a hame-fastening frame, arranged so that the length of the connecting-strap may be conveniently adjusted, and having jointed thereto a curved strap-plate, provided with a recess or depression, and a stub-tongue to receive and firmly hold the end of the strap, in combination with a thumb-piece and spring jointed thereto, so as to swing upon a center-pin, and provided at its lower side with projections to limit its movement in the direction actuated by the spring, and with side projections on its upper side to limit its movement in the opposite direction, the inner sides of the thumb-piece being so formed as to catch over the side projections of the curved fastening, and thereby hold it firmly and securely in position when closed, the arrangement being such that while the thumb-piece is held in the required position by the spring, so as to firmly keep the curved holding-plate in place when closed, it may be easily and quickly pressed back by the thumb, so as to release it, as will be more clearly hereinafter shown.

In said drawings, A is the hame-fastening frame, which is made of metal or other suitable material. It consists of the sides *a a'*, cross-bars *b b'*, cross-bar and stud-tongue *c*, and back plate *c'*.

B represents the thumb-piece; *d*, the center-pin upon which its turns. It is provided with a spring, d^1, the ends of which, d^2, press down against the back plate *c'*, and the ends d^3 press upward against the under part of the thumb-piece, as shown, (see Fig. 3,) so as to force the upper part forward in the direction of the arrow E, Fig. 3.

In operating it, it is pressed by the thumb or fingers on the part F, which moves it back in the position shown in Fig. 1 by the dotted lines F^2, causing the parts *f f'* to slip off from the side projections *g* on the curved strap-plate G, thereby releasing it and allowing it to be opened back, as shown by the dotted lines F^1, Fig. 1. *g'* is the joint on which it turns, and by which it is fastened to the frame A. It is provided with a curved portion, *h*, a stub-tongue, h^1, and cross-piece h^2, leaving an opening, h^3, between them, through which the strap I is inserted, and the hole passed over the stub-tongue. The end is bent, as shown in Fig. 3, so as to hold it securely. The operation of closing it is simple, and will be readily understood.

J represents the adjusting-strap.

To decrease the length of the loop J^1, remove the end of the strap at J, push the end at J^2 under the bar *b'* to the required distance; then pull on the end of the strap J, replace it in position over the stub-tongue and through the box-loop. The short strap I is also passed through the box-loop, when the hame-ring is fastened in place by the closing of the curved plate G, which may be done by pulling it shut by the strap I with sufficient force to cause it to lock itself.

The centers *d* and *g'* are arranged in position with reference to the strain upon the parts, as will be readily seen by reference to the drawing, so that the greater the strain the more securely it will be locked.

I claim as my invention—

A hame-fastener consisting of the frame A, thumb-piece B, jointed at *d*, and provided with the spring d^1, arranged substantially as described, in combination with the curved strap-plate G, as and for the purposes specified.

WILLOUGHBY MOFFAT.

Witnesses:

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CHAS. F. COMPTON.