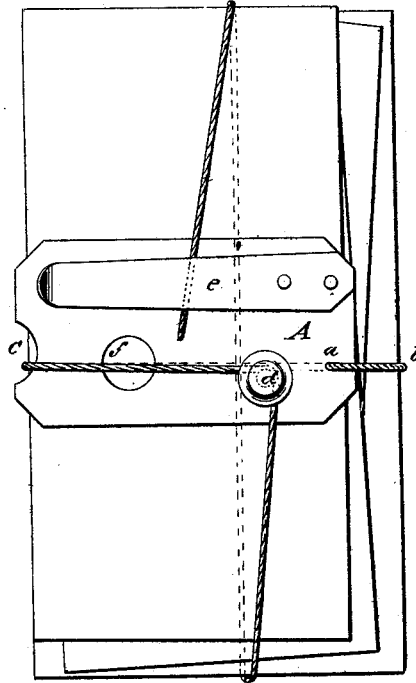


J. MERSELLIS.  
Tie for Letter-Packages.

No. 204,496.

Patented June 4, 1878.

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

*Chas. Nieta*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MERSELLIS, OF KNOWERSVILLE, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN TIES FOR LETTER-PACKAGES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **204,496**, dated June 4, 1878; application filed April 17, 1878.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN MERSELLIS, of Knowersville, in the county of Albany and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Tie for Letter-Packages, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a plan view of my improved tie. Fig. 2 is an edge view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The object of my invention is to provide a tie by means of which letter-packages may be quickly and securely fastened or tied.

The invention consists in a plate apertured to receive one end of the string, and also to receive the hook upon which the tie is hung when not in use, and having a button and clasp-spring, for engaging the string in the process of tying.

Referring to the drawing, A is an oblong plate, having its corners removed, and having at one end and near one of its edges an aperture, *a*, for receiving the string *b*, and having at the opposite end a semicircular notch, *c*.

Between the notch *c* and aperture *a* there is a button, *d*, which projects a short distance from the face of the plate and is located near the aperture *a*.

Near the opposite edge of the plate a flat spring or clasp, *e*, is secured, which runs parallel with the edges of the plate A, and is slightly turned up at its free end to facilitate the operation of tying.

In the plate A there are apertures *f* to receive the hook or nail upon which the tie is hung when not in use.

The operation of tying is performed as fol-

lows: The plate A is placed transversely across a package of letters, and the string *b* is carried once around the package into the notch *c* and under the head of the button *d*; thence around the letter-package lengthwise under the spring-clasp *e*, and is finally carried around the button *d* and the spring *e* several times.

The tying is quickly accomplished, and when done is perfectly secure. The same string may, by means of my improvement, be used repeatedly, thereby saving an item of expense.

This tie is intended for the mail service; but it may be used wherever a tie of this character is required.

In some cases I may make the entire device from a single piece of metal, by stamping out the clasp-spring and the button or a hook from the body of the plate A. Therefore I do not confine myself to the exact construction herein described.

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

As a new article of manufacture, the tie for letter-packages herein described, consisting of the plate A, having the opening *a*, notch *c*, button *d*, and spring-clasp *e*, all constructed and arranged as herein described, to operate, in connection with a tying-string, in the manner set forth.

JOHN MERSELLIS.

Witnesses:

ADAM C. SEND,  
JOSEPH W. WRIGHT.