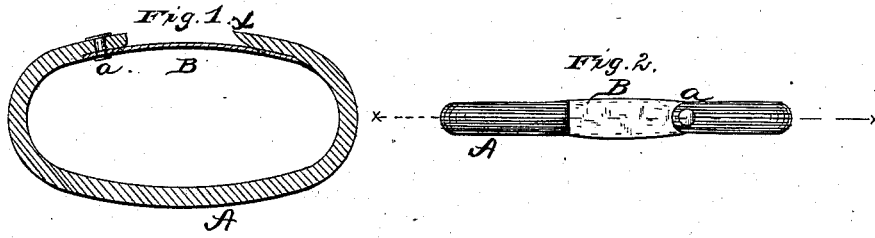


M. HOWARD.
Lap-Link.

No. 205,091.

Patented June 18, 1878.



WITNESSES
F. L. Oursand
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BY

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MATTHEW HOWARD, OF PARIS, KENTUCKY.

IMPROVEMENT IN LAP-LINKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **205,091**, dated June 18, 1878; application filed May 15, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MATTHEW HOWARD, of Paris, in the county of Bourbon, and in the State of Kentucky, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Lap-Links; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the peculiar construction of an open link, with spring secured thereto for closing the opening in the link, the peculiarities of which will be hereinafter described.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

In the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, Figure 1 is a section, and Fig. 2 an edge view, showing the spring.

In the figures, A represents the link of a chain, which has an opening cut in one side sufficient to receive another link, or the article to which it is to be connected. This opening is covered by a spring, B. One end of the spring is let just its depth into one end of the link, and is there securely riveted. The other end of the spring lies under the other end of the link, the link being slightly notched,

and the spring being sufficiently tapered, so that when it presses against the link it will be flush, and a smooth surface will be formed on the inside of the link, and this at both ends of the spring.

The end of the link projecting over the loose end of the link is so beveled from the end of the spring, as seen at *x*, outwardly and upwardly, that a space is left between them for the purpose of more readily entering the ring to which it is to be connected. This link may be used for the purpose of connecting broken chains, or for a snap-hook or other similar purposes.

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

The open link A, having its end beveled at *x*, in combination with a spring, *a*, one end of which is riveted in a recess in the inner side of the ring, and both ends of which are flush with the inner surface of the link, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 11th day of April, 1878.

MATTHEW HOWARD.

Witnesses:

W. J. DAVIES,
Y. W. MORAN.