G. DRYDEN.
Piston-Packing.

No. 207,595. Patented Sept. 3, 1878

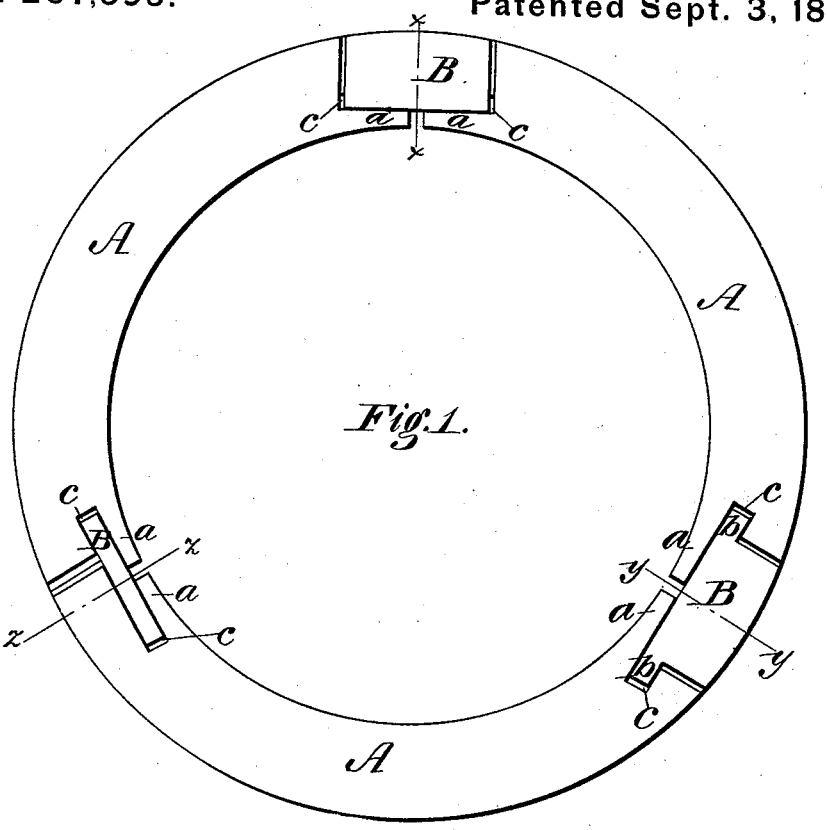


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

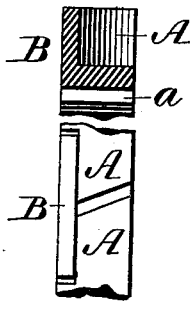


Fig. 3.

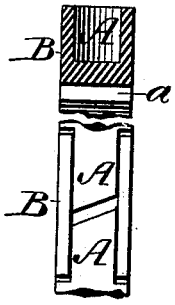
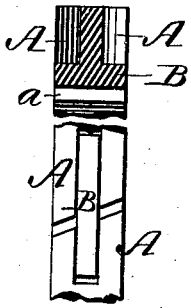


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE DRYDEN, OF WORCESTER, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO EDMUND CONVERSE, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN PISTON-PACKING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,595**, dated September 3, 1878; application filed February 25, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE DRYDEN, of Worcester, in the county of Worcester and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain Improvements in Piston-Packing, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to an expansible sectional packing-ring for steam-pistons, &c.; and the improvements consist in constructing the sections of said rings with supporting lips or shoulders, to retain the coupling-pieces in position and prevent their falling out when the ring is removed from the piston, whereby the ring is rendered capable of being carried without falling apart, and the coupling-pieces are held in place without the aid of the piston or other special devices.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a face view of my improved device; and Figs. 2, 3, and 4, cross-sections taken, respectively, on the lines *x x*, *y y*, and *z z* of Fig. 1, a plan view of the joint being shown in connection with each.

In constructing my improved ring any well-known form of coupling-piece may be employed, the invention relating merely to the manner of sustaining the same.

In the drawing, A represents the ring, in this case consisting of three sections; and B, the coupling or connecting pieces, of which three forms are shown, respectively of L shape, U shape, and inverted-T shape in cross-section, as indicated in Figs. 2, 3, and 4. The ends of each of the sections of the ring A are formed with a transverse slot, *c*, and a lip or shoulder, *a*, extending outward under the coupling-pieces B, and meeting at their ends when the ring is contracted or closed midway of the length of each of the coupling-pieces.

In practice, I prefer to extend the lower side or face of the coupling-pieces outward at the ends beyond the body of the same, as shown at *b*, Fig. 1, thereby giving a firm support to the couplings when the ring is expanded.

It will be observed that when thus constructed the ring may be carried about readily and conveniently without danger of falling apart; that the ends of the sections and the coupling-pieces are caused to remain in proper position in relation to each other, and prevented from rising or falling out of line; and that no special devices are necessary to hold the coupling-pieces up to their place when the ring is applied to the piston.

I am aware that sectional packing-rings connected by coupling-pieces have been hitherto made in various forms, and hence I claim only my improved construction of the parts, as hereinbefore specified.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a piston-packing, the combination of the abutting sections A, having transverse slots *c* in their ends, and the coupling-blocks B, arranged to cover the joints between the sections and seated in the slots *c*, as shown and described.

2. The coupling-blocks provided with the extended ends or lips *b b*, in combination with the packing-sections A, provided with the inside lip, *a*, and slots *c*, as shown.

GEORGE DRYDEN.

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