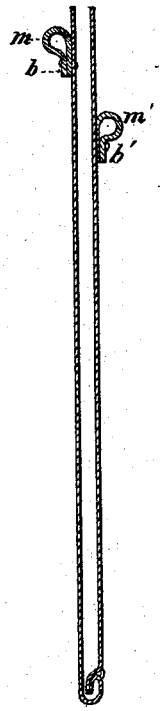
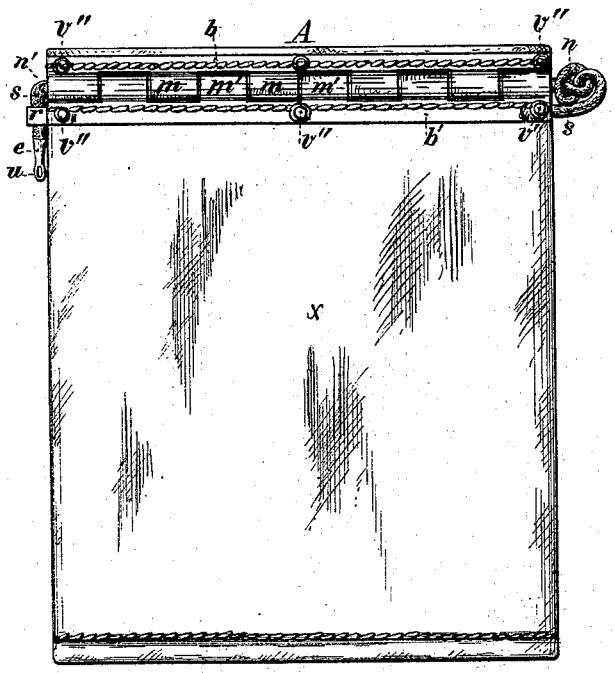
J. H. WILHELM.

Bag-Fasteners.

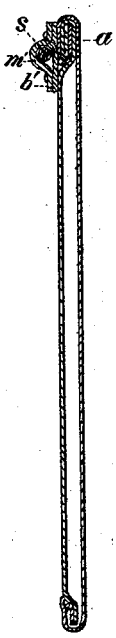
No. 211,123. Patented Jan. 7, 1879.



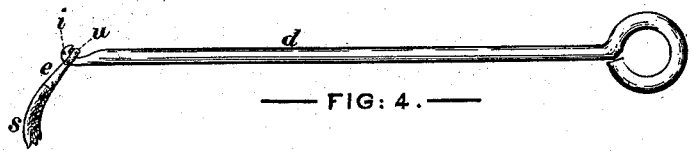
—FIG: 2.—



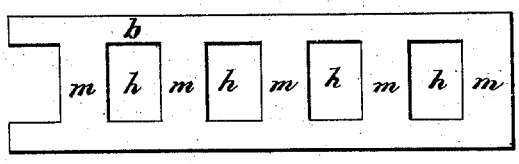
—FIG: 1.—



—FIG: 3.—



—FIG: 4.—



—FIG: 5.—

—WITNESSES:—

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JOHN H. WILHELM, OF DENVER, COLORADO.

IMPROVEMENT IN BAG-FASTENERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **211,123**, dated January 7, 1879; application filed May 14, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. WILHELM, of Denver, in the county of Arapahoe and State of Colorado, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Sack-Fasteners, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of the sack closed and fastened with the fastener. Fig. 2 is a section of the sack open. Fig. 3 is a section of the sack closed. Fig. 4 is a view of the needle used in fastening the sack. Fig. 5 is a view of one of the straps having the loops developed on a flat surface.

The object of my invention is to furnish a simple, cheap, and convenient device by means of which a sack containing ore, grain, or other substance may be readily and effectively fastened and easily unfastened without injury to the sack. The fastener may be used on valises, book-satchels, mail-bags, and for similar purposes.

In the drawing, *x*, Fig. 1, represents a sack, to which the fastener A, consisting of parts hereinafter described, is permanently attached. To each side of the sack *x*, and near the top, the straps *b b'*—the strap *b'* being placed a short distance below *b* on the opposite side of the sack, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, made of leather or any suitable material, and having the loops *m m'*—are securely attached. When the top *a* of the sack *x* is rolled or folded, as shown in Fig. 3, the loops *m m'* assume the position shown in Fig. 1. The cord *s* is permanently attached to the sack, either by stitching, by a rivet, or by both, as shown at *v'*, Fig. 1. A knot, *n*, Fig. 1, is made in the cord *s*, so that it may be more easily drawn out of the loops *m m'* when unfastening the sack. The cord *s*, generally, will not need to be specially fastened after being drawn through the loops *m m'*, as the pressure of the contents of the sack against it will hold it firmly. For greater security, however, a knot similar to the knot *n*, Fig. 1, may be made in the cord *s* at *n'*. A chain may be substituted for the cord *s*. When the sack *x* contains valuable ore or other contents, the cord *s* may be slipped through the loop *r* and sealed, or locked by any suitable means.

The straps *b b'* are firmly fastened to the sides of the sack, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2, by any efficient means. They may be sewed or riveted, or first sewed and the sewing strengthened by a few rivets, *v' v''*, as shown in Fig. 1.

When the loops *m* are made of the same piece of material as the strap *b*, the parts *h*, Fig. 5, are cut away, leaving open spaces, so that when the strap *b* is doubled longitudinally the parts *m*, Fig. 5, form the loops *m*, Fig. 1. Similarly the loops *m'* are formed on the strap *b'*.

When the sack *x* is closed and the top *a* rolled or folded, the loops of one strap may be readily made to fit into the open spaces *h* on the other.

I do not confine myself to making the loops *m m'* of the same piece or of the same material as the straps *b b'*. The loops *m m'* may be made of scraps of suitable flexible material, and each attached separately to the straps; or the loops *m m'* may be made of metal and fastened to the sack *x*, either with or without the leather straps. When the loops *m m'* are made of metal, and leather or canvas straps are used as a more secure means of attaching said loops to the sack, the straps *b b'* may be placed either on the outside of the sack, as shown in Fig. 1, where the loops and straps are made of the same piece of leather or similar material, or they may be relatively placed on the inside of the sack, and the loops, in either case, be securely fastened to the straps and sack by means of rivets.

When the contents of the sack *x* consist of coarse material that does not require the sack to be closed tight by rolling or folding the top, as shown at *a*, Fig. 3, the straps *b b'* and loops *m m'* may be attached quite near the top of the sack, and each at the same distance from the top, as additional capacity will thus be given to the sack *x*.

Having described the method of constructing the fastener A, which consists of the straps *b b'*, having the loops *m m'*, (or of the loops *m m'*, separately attached to the sack *x*, either with or without the straps *b b'*, as hereinbefore fully stated,) the cord *s*, and the loop *r*, I will now more explicity describe the method of using the same. Fill the sack *x*, leaving suf-

ficient empty space for the top of the sack to be easily rolled or folded, as shown at *a*, Fig. 3. After rolling the top of the sack, arrange the loops *m m'* as shown in Fig. 1. Then introduce the point of the needle *d*, containing the hook *i*, into the loop *m*, above the loop *r*, pass it through the loops *m m'*, attach it to the eye *u*, as shown in Fig. 4, and draw the cord *s* through the loops *m m'*. The sack *x* is now securely fastened, so that the finest particles of flour cannot escape out of the mouth to which the fastener A is attached. The end of the cord *s* may safely be allowed to hang without additional fastening, or it may be further secured, as hereinbefore described. To unfasten the sack, simply withdraw the cord *s*, which being securely fastened to the sack is not liable to get lost.

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

1. In a sack-fastener, the combination of the cord *s*, knotted at *n*, and having eye *u*, with the loops *m* and *r*, substantially as specified.

2. The fastening apparatus for sacks or bags herein described, consisting of the straps *b b'*, loops *m*, and knotted cord *s*, constructed and arranged to operate substantially as described.

JOHN H. WILHELM.

Witnesses:

JOHN W. WARD,

DAVID O. WILHELM.