

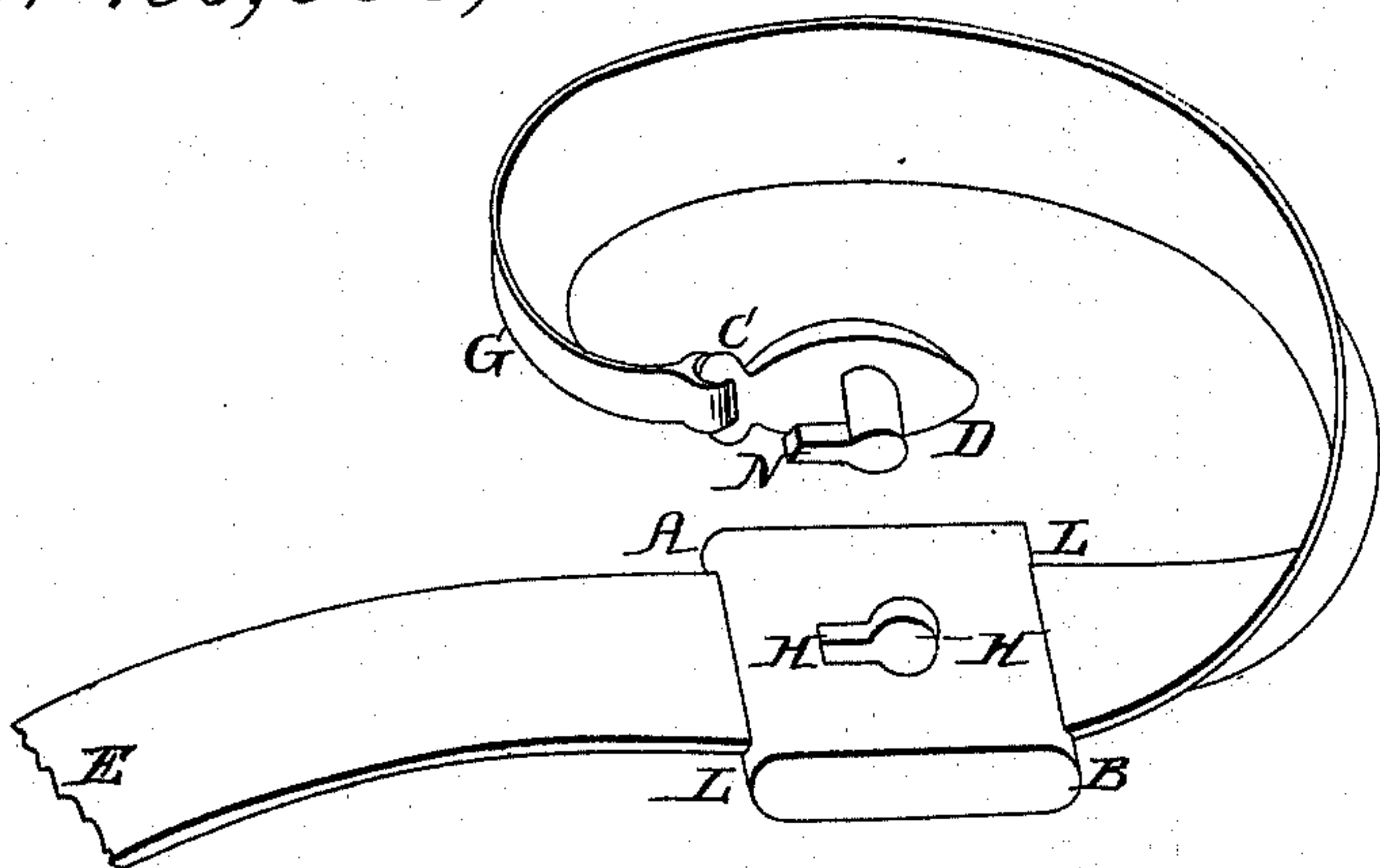
Margerum & Marshall,

Buckle,

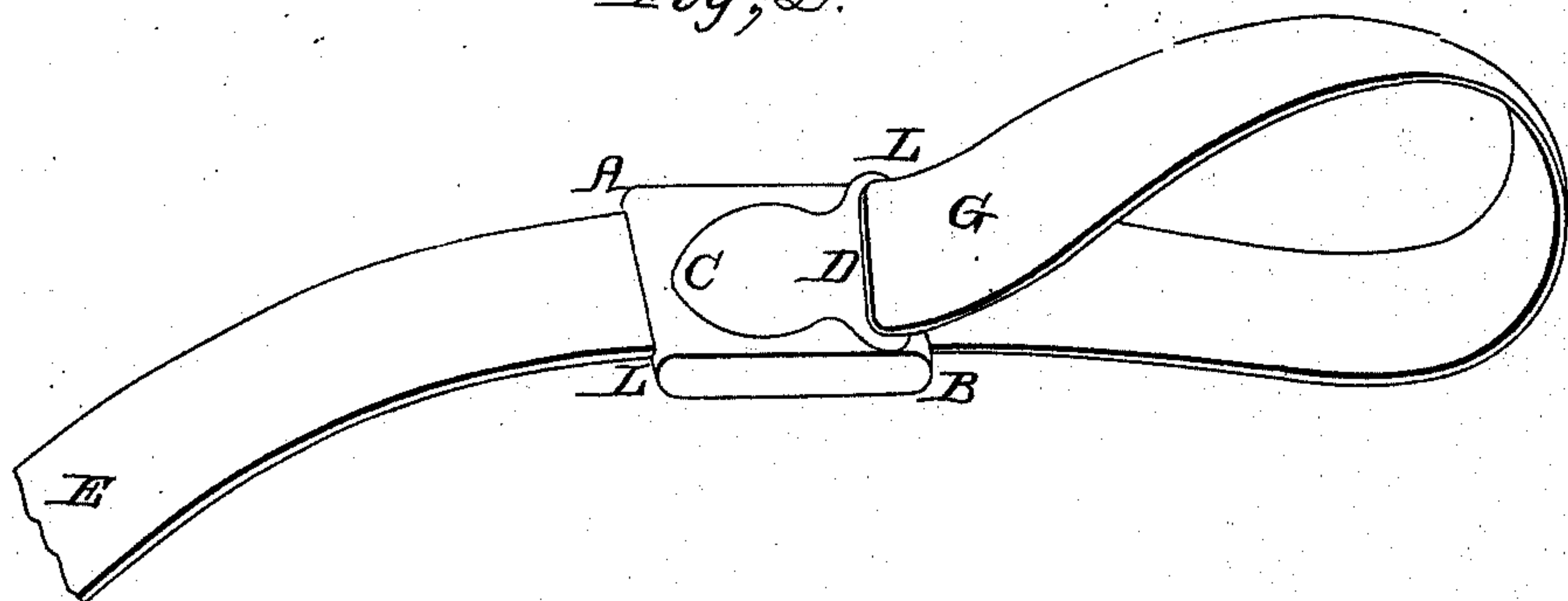
No 26,508,

Fig; 1.

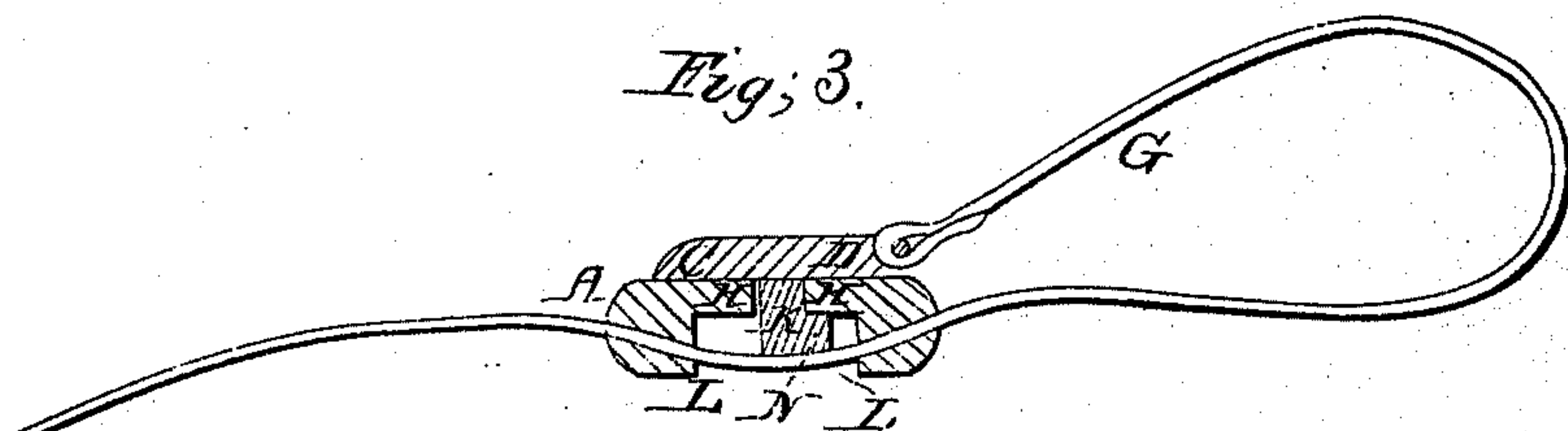
Patented Dec. 20, 1859.



Fig; 2.



Fig; 3.



Witnesses;

A. R. Shoup  
Atty. in Law

Inventors;

Maxwell R. Margerum  
Thomas P. Marshall



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MAHLON R. MARGERUM AND THOMAS P. MARSHALL, OF TRENTON, NEW JERSEY.

## IMPROVED CLASP FOR HITCHING-STRAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 26,508, dated December 20, 1859.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, MAHLON R. MARGERUM and THOMAS P. MARSHALL, both of the city of Trenton, in the county of Mercer and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Buckle or Clasp for Hitching-Straps; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of a portion of a hitching-strap with the two parts of the buckle or clasp attached thereto previous to its being fastened together. Fig. 2 represents the same when the buckle or clasp is fastened together, and Fig. 3 shows a longitudinal vertical section of the clasp.

Similar letters of reference in each of the figures indicate corresponding parts.

This invention consists in arranging one part of the buckle or clasp in such a manner that it slides freely on the strap when required, having a key-hole perforated through the upper side thereof. The other part of the buckle, which is firmly secured to the end of the strap, is provided with a key to fit into the aforesaid hole in the sliding part of the buckle. When this key is inserted into the hole and turned partly around, it unites the two parts of the buckle together, and by its pressure on the strap holds the same firmly in any required position.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use our invention, we will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

A B represent the sliding part of the buckle, which may be made of metal or any other suitable material. In order to permit the strap to slide through it the under portion is removed or hollow, and two slots cut or cast in each end, as shown at A L and B L in Fig. 3. Through these two slots the strap E F G is passed.

H H shows the key-hole formed in the upper side of this sliding piece, directly over the hollow in the under side thereof.

C D represents that part of the clasp or buckle which is to be firmly fastened to the end of the strap.

KN is the key, which is made to pass freely into the hole H H. The shank part K of this key is rounded, so that when the part N is depressed into the hollow of the sliding part the key may be turned and retained therein.

The slots A L and B L, through which the strap is passed in the sliding part of the buckle, may be made inclining toward the hollow thereof, or, if preferred, they may be formed parallel with the upper surface of this portion of the buckle.

The operation is as follows: If the end of the strap, with the key attached thereto, is passed around a post or through a ring and then brought back to the sliding part and the key inserted into the key-hole thereof and turned partly around, it will thus press upon that portion of the strap within the hollow of the sliding part and clamp it between the slot so as to create sufficient friction to fasten the end of the strap and retain the buckle in any required part of the strap most desirable for hitching. In order to loosen the strap from said post or ring it is necessary to turn the key around until it can be withdrawn from the key-hole, when the end of the strap is immediately released.

This buckle or clasp is intended particularly for halters or hitching-straps, whereby horses may be readily secured to a post or tree or the like.

We do not claim separately, or in themselves considered, the several parts or devices, as set forth and described in the accompanying specification and drawings; but

What we do claim as a new article of manufacture, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The arrangement of the hole H and key K, in combination with the sliding part A B, for fastening hitching-straps, substantially as above described, and for the purposes set forth.

MAHLON R. MARGERUM.  
THOMAS P. MARSHALL.

Witnesses:

A. B. THORN,  
WM. WEST.