Mitnesses: Towertor:

N.PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

## United States Patent Office.

JAMES AIKEN, OF NATCHEZ, MISSISSIPPI.

## IMPROVEMENT IN METAL TIES FOR COTTON-BALES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 28,044, dated May 1, 1860.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, James Aiken, of the city of Natchez, county of Adams, and State of Mississippi, have invented a new metal tie for securing pressed cotton or any other material that is compressed in bales or bundles and requiring a tie, so as to prevent the same from coming asunder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description of same.

The nature of my invention consists of a metal plate about five times longer and one-half inch wider than the width of the metal hoop to be used. This plate is pierced with two quadrilateral holes about a half-inch from each end, and of size sufficient to admit the hoop. Its two ends are bent down at the insides of the holes at obtuse angles, and then flattened down at the outsides of the holes in order to assist the passage of the hoop to be tied without bending it. The plate is pierced with one or more holes to receive one or more

rivets, which rivets are also catches. These rivet-catches are formed with two shoulders or projections—one below, to preserve the riveted hoop in its place, and the other on top, to fasten the other end of the hoop through oval holes at its end. As rivets, they fasten one end of the hoop and the plate. As catches, they assist to preserve the riveted end of the hoop in its place, and to fasten the other end of the hoop making the tie. The plate rests upon the bale, with the rivet-catches below, next the bale.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The formation of the bent plate with the holes to receive the hoop, and also the form of the rivet-catches, as aforesaid, with the mode of fastening the hoop to the plate.

JAS. AIKEN.

Witnesses:

J. S. B. THACHER, M. L. WADE.