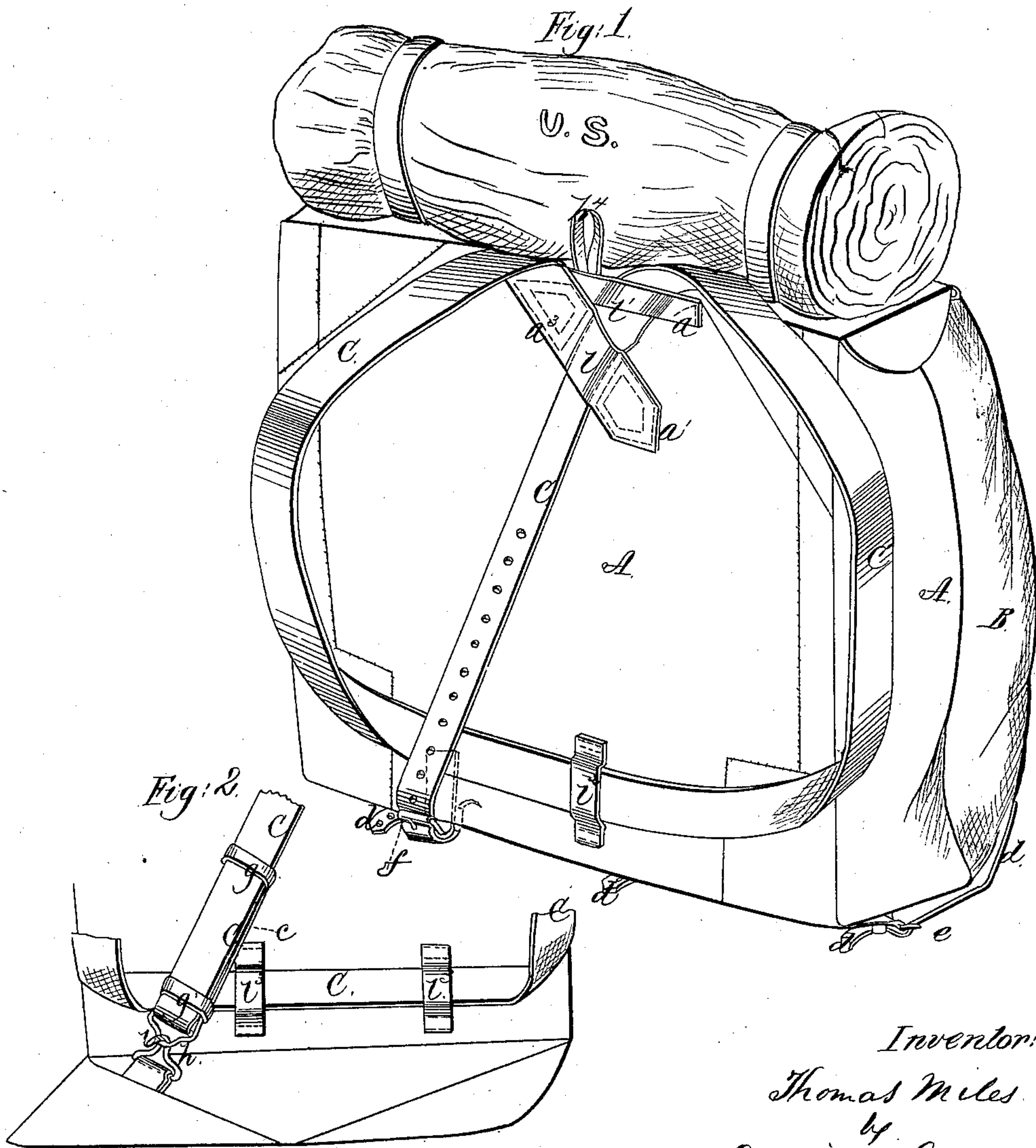


T. Miles,

Accouterments,

N^o 34,260.

Patented Jan. 28, 1862.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS MILES, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN SLINGING KNAPSACKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 34,260, dated January 28, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS MILES, of the city of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and Improved Mode of Slinging Knapsacks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in providing a knapsack with a single shoulder-strap and a single fastening, by means of which it may be properly attached to and sustained upon the back and shoulders of the wearer.

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

In the drawings my mode of slinging a knapsack is shown applied to the ordinary United States army "regulation knapsack;" but it is equally applicable to any of the knapsacks now in use.

Figure 1 is a perspective view thereof, and Fig. 2 a like view of a portion of a knapsack and showing a variation in the mode of fastening the working end of the shoulder-strap.

A indicates the body, and B the flap, of the knapsack, both being represented as filled and ready to be placed in position upon the shoulders of a soldier, the flap being confined to the body A by means of straps *p*, engaging with buckles *e*, attached to the bottom of the knapsack, as shown in Fig. 1.

To the front side of the knapsack I attach by sewing, riveting, or otherwise, the inner end of a shoulder-strap C, as shown in said figure at *a'* and *a*³, leaving a portion of the strap C between the points of its attachment to the knapsack, so as to form a loop *l*, said loop being central of the width of the body A and near its top. The outer end of strap C is then passed down near the bottom of the knapsack and through a loop *l*², which is centrally situated as regards the width of the body A and near its bottom. The strap C is then passed up toward the top of the knapsack and through a loop *l'*, formed by a strip of leather *a* attached to the body A, as shown in Fig. 1. Said strap is thence passed through the loop *l* and downward in a diagonal direction into a buckle *f*, where its outer extrem-

ity is confined in the usual manner, as shown in the figure.

In the manipulation and disposition of the shoulder-strap C, as just described, sufficient length of the strap is provided at the right and left hand of the center of the body A to form bows or large loops, through which the arms of the soldier are thrust in the act of placing the knapsack upon his back, and which bows or loops may be enlarged or diminished to suit the shoulders of the wearer by letting out or tightening the outer end of the strap, and which act also snugly or loosely adjusts the knapsack to the back and shoulders of the wearer, as the case may be.

It will be seen that the top and bottom of the knapsack, by means of attachments *a*, *a'*, *a*³, *l*, and *l'* and the attachment *l*², as shown connected with the shoulder-strap C, will be sustained in proper position upon the shoulders of the wearer, and that the downward draft of the knapsack, falling upon a point central of its width, will constantly tend to draw the bows of the strap toward the neck of the wearer, thus effectually preventing them from slipping off the shoulders.

In Fig. 2 I have shown two loops *l*³ *l*³, attached near the bottom of body A and dividing its width in equal spaces and through which loops the shoulder-strap C passes, the advantage being to prevent a swaying motion of the knapsack while upon the shoulders and when the wearer is in the act of walking. I also show in said figure the outer end of the shoulder-strap imperforated and its extreme end sewed to a loop *g*, which passes around and is capable of sliding upon a portion of said strap. Below loop *g* a loop *g'* passes around a lapped or doubled portion *C'* of the shoulder-strap and is capable of sliding thereon, thus affording, as will be perceived, a ready means of extending or shortening the effective length of the said shoulder-strap, and instead of securing the strap C by a buckle, as in Fig. 1, I provide a metallic eye *h* and hook *i*, as clearly shown in Fig. 2, for the purpose of a fastening.

I have thus shown a knapsack which is completely slung by the use of a single strap C and a single detachable fastening. I thus economize cost and weight, simplify the means

by which a knapsack is sustained upon the shoulders, and dispense with all breast-straps.

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

Sustaining a knapsack upon the back and shoulder of the wearer by means of a single

strap and a single fastening, substantially as described.

THOMAS MILES.

Witnesses:

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