E. E. Stone,

Snap Hook,

No. 49,316, Patented Aug. 8, 1865.

Fig. 1

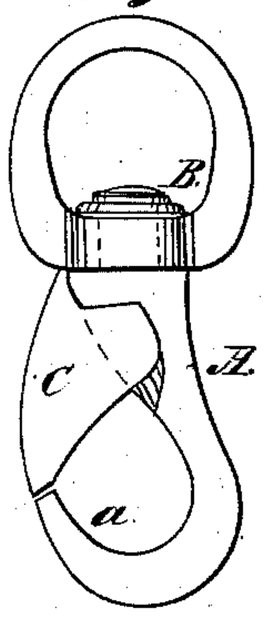


Fig. 2.

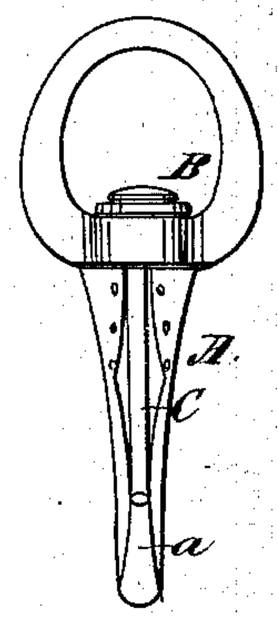


Fig. 3.

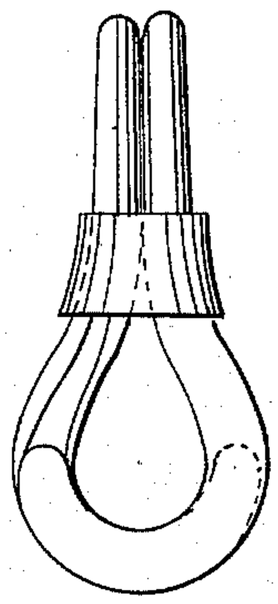
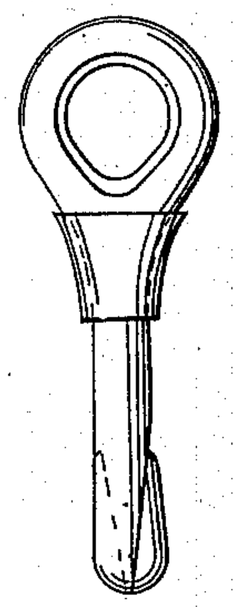


Fig 4



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWD. E. STONE, OF UNITED STATES NAVY.

IMPROVED ELASTIC MOUSING FOR HOOKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **49,316**, dated August 8, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD E. STONE, lieutenant commanding United States steamer Cimarron, have invented a new and Improved Elastic Mousing for Hooks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a snap-hook illustrating my invention; Fig. 2, an edge or front view of the same. Fig. 3 is a side view of a pair of sister hooks illustrating my invention. Fig. 4 is an edge view thereof.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

The subject of this invention is a mousing of elastic and non-corrosive material applied to a hook of any suitable form to close it or retain any object within it.

I will first describe the invention as applied to the construction of snap-hooks. These hooks are extremely convenient, when attached to halyards, for making signals, hoisting colors, &c.; and in order to obtain a durable hook of the kind I dispense with a metal spring entirely and also with the pivoted lip or snap, and employ a mousing of india-rubber or gutta-percha, attached or applied to the hook in such a manner as to answer the purpose of both a snap and spring, as hereinafter set forth.

A represents the body or main portion of the hook, constructed in the usual way, of wrought or cast metal, and provided at the end opposite to where the hook *a* is formed with a swivel-eye, B. The hook *a* may be nearly of semi-circular form, and to the body A there is permanently attached, by rivets or otherwise, a piece of india-rubber or gutta-percha, C, which I term a "mousing." This mousing extends from the body A to nearly the end of the hook *a*, a very narrow space only being allowed between them, and it is of slightly-curved form, gradually tapering from its junction with A to its outer end, as shown clearly in Fig. 1. This mousing will yield or give sufficiently to admit of a ring or eye being fitted on the hook *a*, and it is sufficiently rigid to retain the ring or eye on the hook.

Thus by this simple means I obtain a snap-hook without a spring and also without a pivoted snap, parts which are very liable to become deranged by use, especially the spring, when subjected to moist air from salt water, or occasionally wetted in the latter, as would be the case when used for marine purposes or on shipboard. For sister hooks the mousing C′ is applied in the form of a band of rubber or analogous material encircling the necks of the hooks A, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, in place of the usual mousing.

My invention is not confined to hooks of any particular form, but may be used in any in which a mousing is required.

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

A mousing of india-rubber or analogous non-corrosive material to be applied to hooks, substantially as described.

EDWD. E. STONE.

Witnesses:

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