

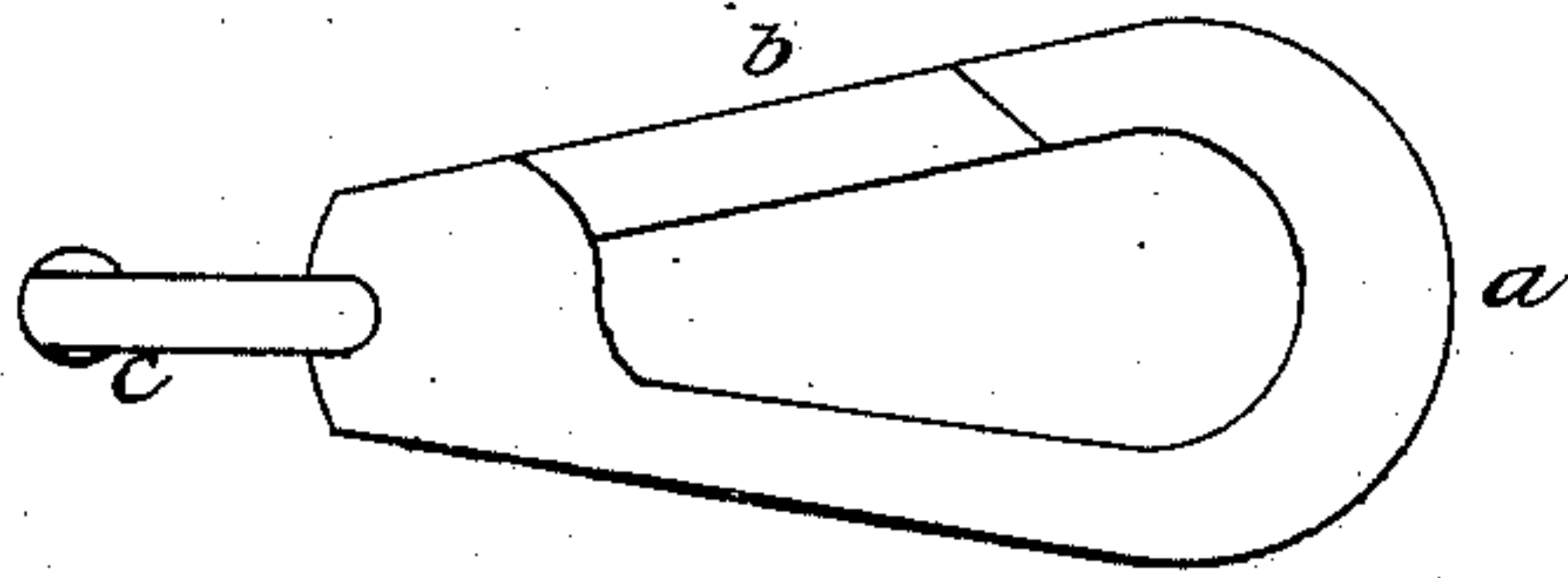
*R. L. Webb,*

*Snap Hook,*

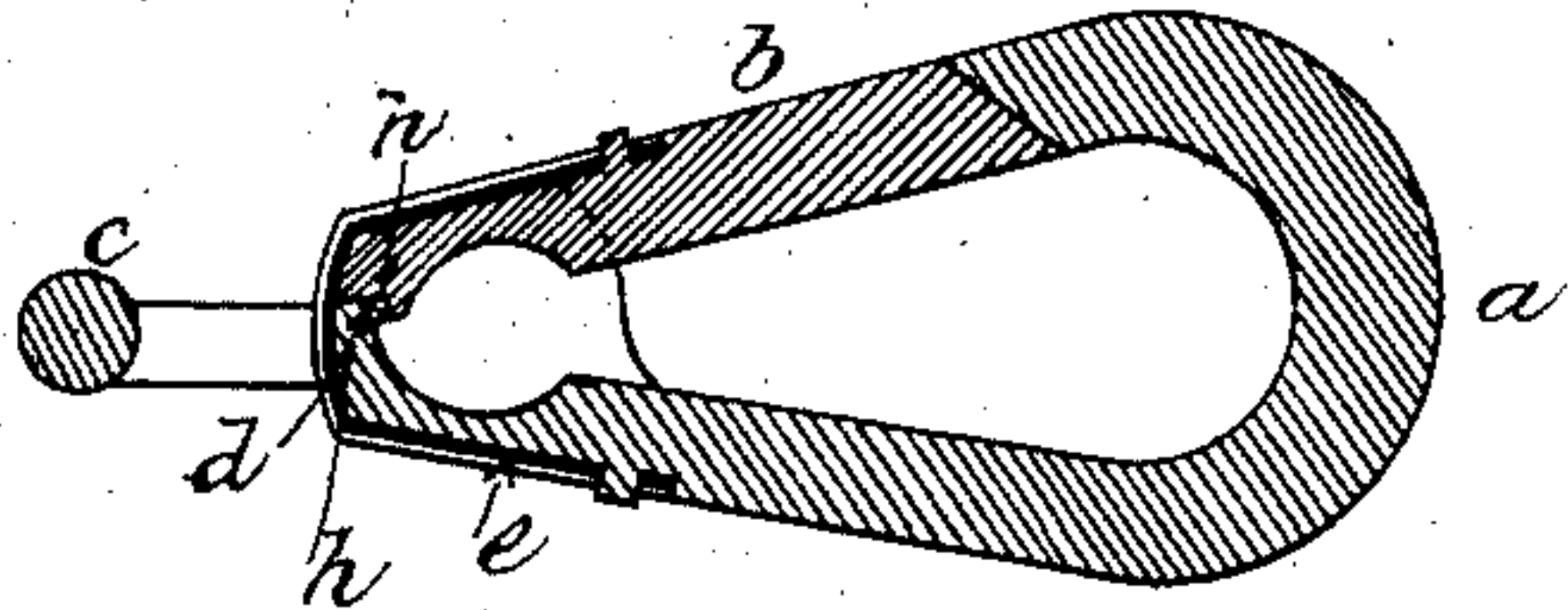
*N<sup>o</sup> 55,563.*

*Patented June 12, 1866.*

*Fig: 1.*



*Fig: 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*J. Brown  
A. Collins*

*Inventor:*

*R. L. Webb*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

R. L. WEBB, OF NEW BRITAIN, CONNECTICUT.

## IMPROVED SNAP-HOOK.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 55,563, dated June 12, 1866.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, R. L. WEBB, of New Britain, county of Hartford, and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Snap-Hooks; and I do hereby declare that the same is described and represented in the following specification and drawings.

To enable others skilled to make and use the same, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation by referring to the drawings, in which the same letters indicate like parts in each of the figures.

The nature of this improvement will be understood from the specification and drawings.

It consists in securing or holding the joint end of the latch by means of a spring which passes through the strap-loop, and having its ends secured on the outer sides of the hook-shank and the latch, the object of which is to hold the latch in place by means of the spring, without the necessity of a hinge or wire joint, and at the same time allow the latch to open and close, and be kept in place as perfectly as with the wired joint.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view. Fig. 2 is a sectional side view.

*a* is the hook. *b* is the latch. *c* is the strap-loop formed at the heel of the hook. *d* is a flat metallic spring which serves to hold the parts together and actuates the latch, placed in a recess, *e*, formed in the heel and outside of the hook-shank and latch.

The latch *b* is provided with a suitable depression, *h*, in the head thereof, which takes bearing against a prominence, *h'*, formed in the joint end, which forms a shoulder or bearing, upon or against which the latch is held by a spring, *d*, in such a manner as to allow it (the latch) to be depressed to admit a ring or other article into the hook in the usual way.

The outer end of this latch and hook is made V shape, for the purpose of bringing the ends of the latch and hook uniformly together.

In this way I produce what I call a "spring-joint snap-hook."

It will readily be seen that if said spring should become detached or broken the latch would fail to be retained in its place. Its general appearance when completed is much like those now in use.

I believe I have thus shown the nature, construction, and operation of this improvement so as to enable others skilled to make the same therefrom.

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

The employment of the spring *d*, passing around the heel or joint formation, when both ends are secured to the outside edge of the hook-shank and the latch without a pivoted joint, substantially in the manner as and for the purpose described.

R. L. WEBB.

Witnesses:

A. P. COLLINS,  
O. B. ERWIN.