

J. H. Elward,

Clothes-Line Fastener.

N^o 66,575.

Patented July 9, 1867.

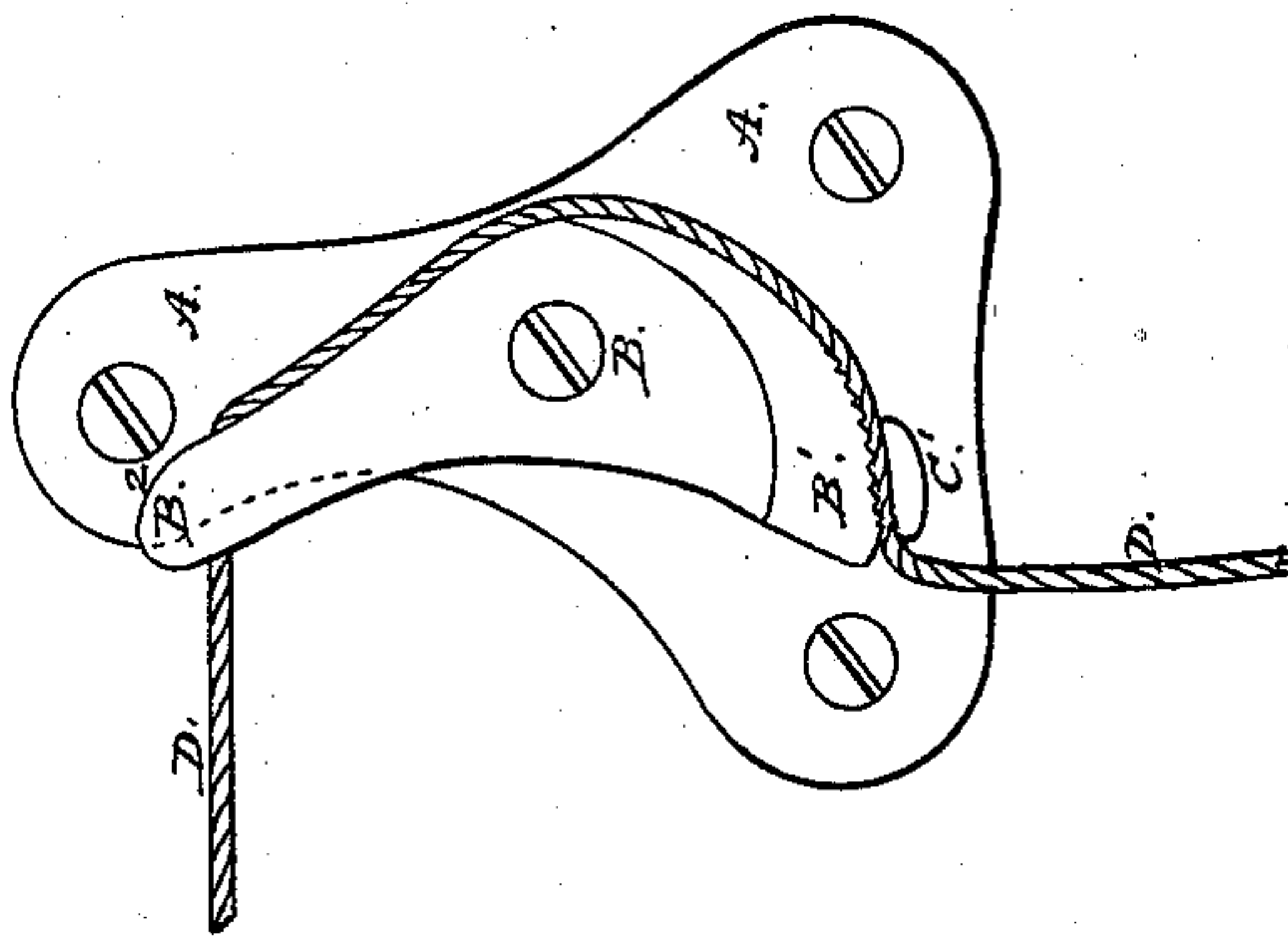
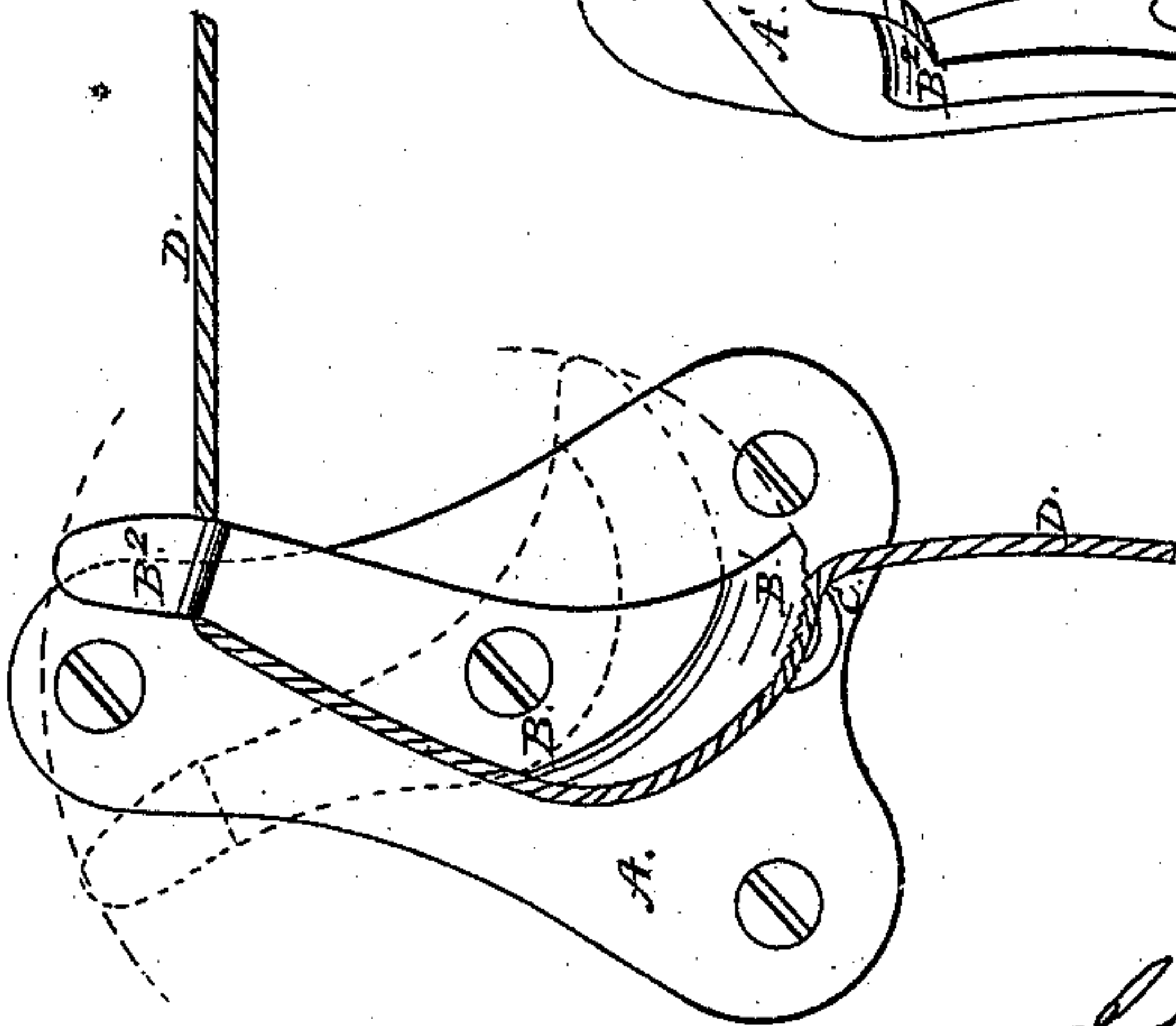
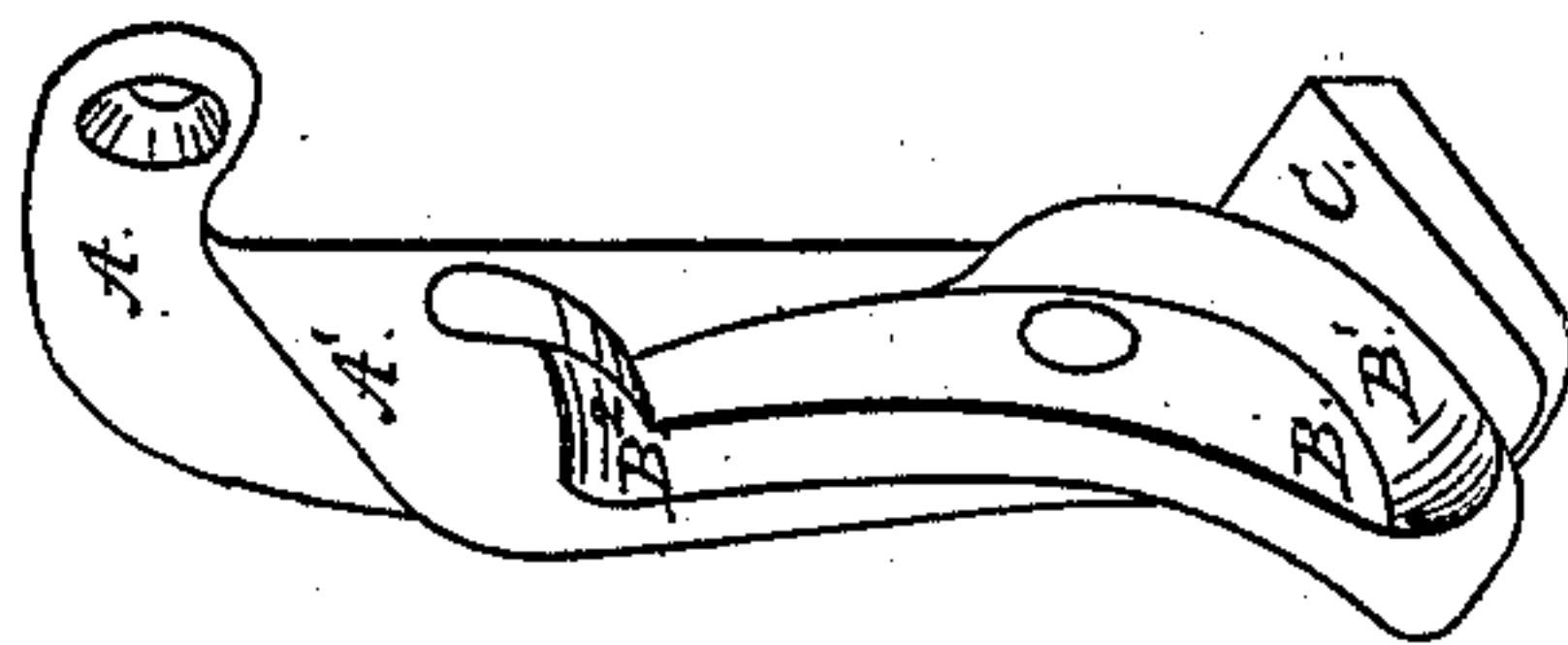


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.



Witnesses;
L. Murphy

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by
D. S. Hedley
his Atty.

United States Patent Office.

JOHN H. ELWARD, OF MENDOTA, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 66,575, dated July 9, 1867.

IMPROVED CLAMP FOR ROPES OR WIRES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, JOHN H. ELWARD, of Mendota, in the county of La Salle, and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Rope and Wire-Fastener; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation showing the cam-lever attached to the face of the plate, and

Figure 2 is a perspective view, showing the lever attached to a rib projecting from the face of the plate.

The same letters are employed in both figures in the indication of similar parts.

My invention consists in a cam-lever turning upon a pivot, over the top of which the rope is carried, passing down and under the lower end of the lever, where it is compressed between the end of the lever and a projection placed below it, and in such relation to one another that the rope shall be, by its own weight acting upon the upper and long arm of the lever, compressed between the lever and the projection. This compression will increase with the weight of or strain upon the rope, so that its escape will be prevented.

This rope-fastener is intended to secure the ends of ropes not otherwise supported, and is not intended to be applied to ropes which are perfectly taut, except in cases where they are not intended to be detached. Nor is it intended to be applied to ropes that are to be agitated, the device being merely intended to suspend ropes, such as clothes-lines, and those used for analogous purposes. It is also applicable to the suspension of telegraph wires.

A is a metallic plate, to be secured to the face of a post. It is a flat plate where the line is to be drawn parallel to the surface to which it is to be attached. Where the line is to be suspended perpendicularly to this surface the plate should be formed with a rib, A', (fig. 2,) the face of which is perpendicular to the base of the plate. The cam-lever B is pivoted to this plate so as to turn freely upon the pivot. The plate is not indispensable, for the cam may be attached directly to the post by a screw, or in other manner. This cam-lever B is rounded upon the lower end, and the face should be roughened so as to catch the rope more firmly. The best form is that of an eccentric, though this is not indispensable. The upper end of the cam-lever has a projecting ear on the outside, forming a notch, between it and the plate or other surface to which it is attached, to receive the rope. A projection, C, is placed, attachable to the plate A, or other surface, immediately underneath the lower end of the lever, at such distance that the rope or wire intended to be used may be firmly grasped between it and the cam at B¹. It should also be roughened. The rope or wire is now carried over the end B² of the lever and under the cam B¹, and between it and the projection C. The other end of the rope being fastened, the weight of the rope will draw forward the long end of the lever B² and press the lower end B¹ against the rope, between it and the projection C, by a force increasing with the weight of the rope or objects suspended upon it. The clamps may be either right or left as shown in fig. 1. The rope may be detached by relieving the end B² from the pressure of the rope and opening the jaws. Where the rope is to be perfectly taut it could not be released; and if it is to be agitated this clamp will not answer, for it would shake loose. Its use is therefore intended to be confined to the cases such as have been stated.

I am aware that eccentrics have been employed for securing the ends of ropes and analogous purposes, which hold by a grasp increasing with the strain upon the rope, and I do not claim the mode merely of compressing the rope between the projection C and the eccentric B¹, but what I do claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A device for suspending a rope or wire, in which its own strain is made to act upon the long arm B² of the cam-lever B, thereby compressing the rope or wire between the short arm B¹ and a projection, C, substantially as set forth.

a testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

J. H. ELWARD.

Witnesses:

R. MASON,

JOHN S. HOLLINGSHEAD.