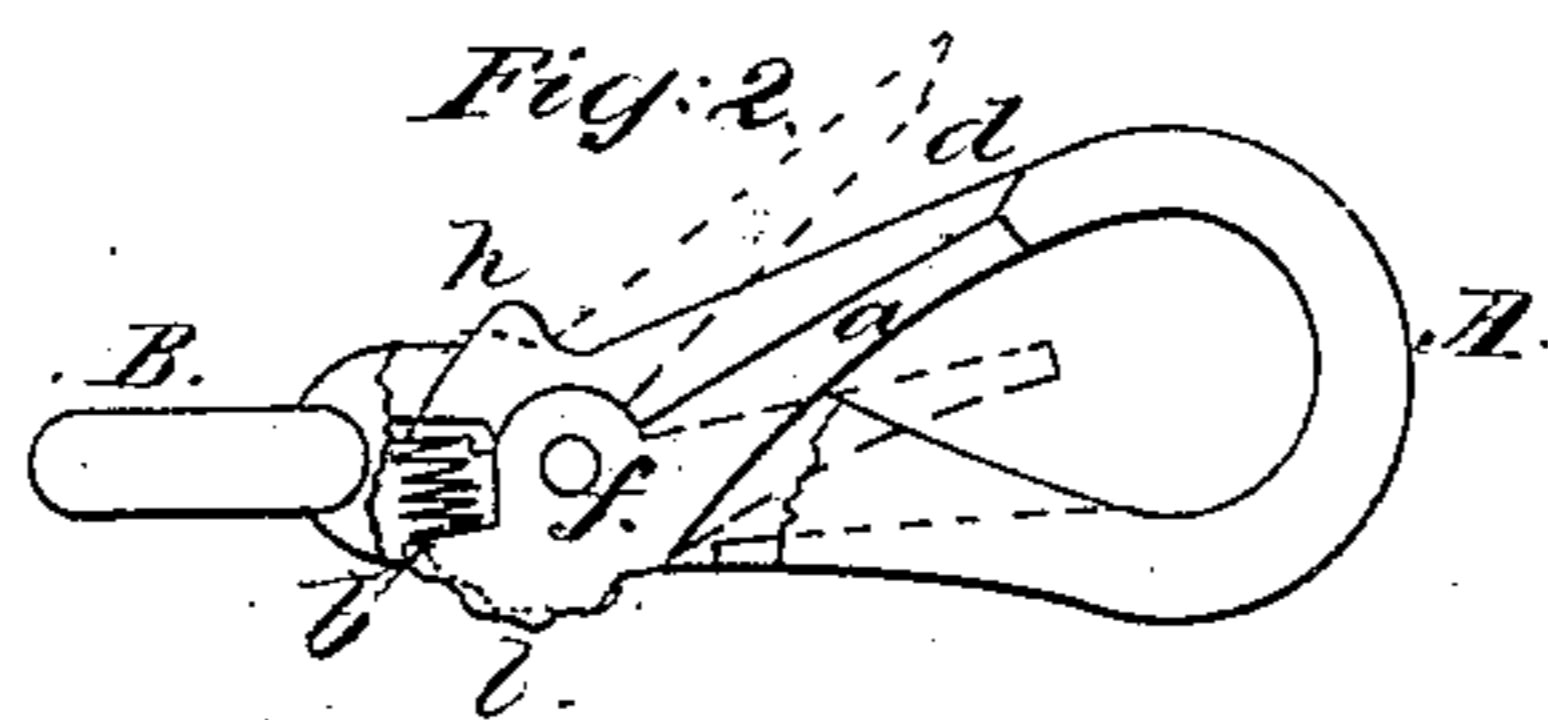
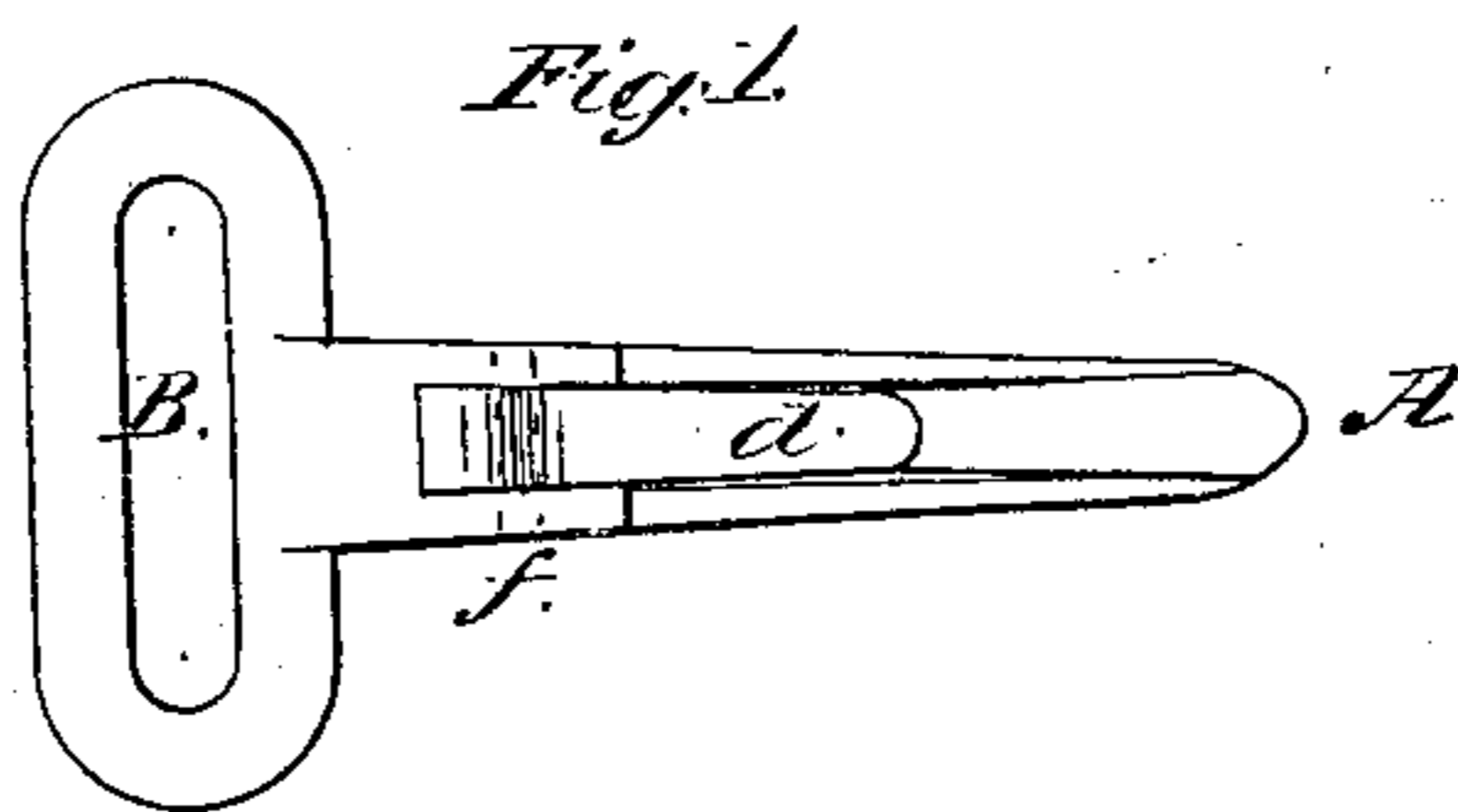


W.E. Sparks,
Snap Hook,
No 81,026, Patented Aug. 11, 1868



Witnesses:

J. A. Thumway
A. J. Libbitt

Inventor:
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By his Attorney

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United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM E. SPARKS, OF NEW HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

Letters Patent No. 81,026, dated August 11, 1868.

IMPROVED SNAP-HOOK.

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, WILLIAM E. SPARKS, of New Haven, in the county of New Haven, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Snap-Hooks; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a top view, and in

Figure 2 a side view, a portion being broken away to more clearly illustrate the construction.

This invention relates to an improvement in the article of manufacture commonly known as "snap-hooks," the object being to construct a hook which cannot, by any possibility, be accidentally unsnapped, and consists in the arrangement of a divided tongue, one part of the tongue opening downward into the hook, the other part outward from the hook, so that, by opening the outer part, the hook may be readily clasped upon the thing to which it is desired to attach it, the under part yielding for the purpose, and when so attached, the said under part springs back against the hook, so that it cannot be detached by any pressure outward, and the outer part, released, falls upon the outer end of the hook, and the under part of the tongue, so that no pressure from the outside upon the tongue can effect its release, the two parts of the tongue acting in conjunction, to prevent the unsnapping of the hook.

In order to the clear understanding of my invention, I will fully describe the same as illustrated in the accompanying drawings.

A is the hook, provided, in the usual manner, with an eye, B, or other means of attachment.

a is the lower part, and *d* the upper of the snap, pivoted upon a common centre at *f*, on the body of the hook, as seen in fig. 2. The two parts of the tongue extend back of the pivot, and between the two ends so extended back, a spring, *b*, of any convenient construction, is placed, the tendency of which is to force the two parts of the tongue together, as denoted in fig. 2, the upper side of the end of the hook forming a bearing for the upper part *d* of the tongue, and the under side of the end of the hook, in similar manner, forms a bearing for the under part of the tongue.

To attach the hook, raise the part *d* by means of a projection, *h*, or other device, to the position denoted in blue, fig. 2, then the part *a* is in the position of the tongue of an ordinary snap-hook, and may be attached in like manner, passing the hook on to the thing to which it is to be attached, so that the said thing will pass under the upper part *d* of the tongue; then it will naturally depress the under part *a*, and enter the hook, in like manner as in common snap-hooks; the upper part then released, prevents any outward pressure being brought to bear upon the under part, however the hook may be twisted from the thing to which it is attached, and therefore cannot, by any possibility, be accidentally detached.

To release the hook, depress the lower part of the tongue by means of the projection *l* thereon, (as seen in red, fig. 2,) extending through the under side of the hook, or by other means, so that the thing to which the hook is attached may pass between the upper and lower part, then the hook may be easily drawn from the said thing, the upper part yielding for the purpose.

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

The arrangement of a divided tongue in two parts, *a* and *d*, pivoted so that each may turn independent of the other, and so that one opens outward, and the other inward, each bearing upon the end of the hook A, and provided, respectively, with projections *h* and *l*, or other equivalent means, for operating substantially in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

WILLIAM E. SPARKS.

Witnesses:

J. H. SHUMWAY,

A. J. TIBBITS.