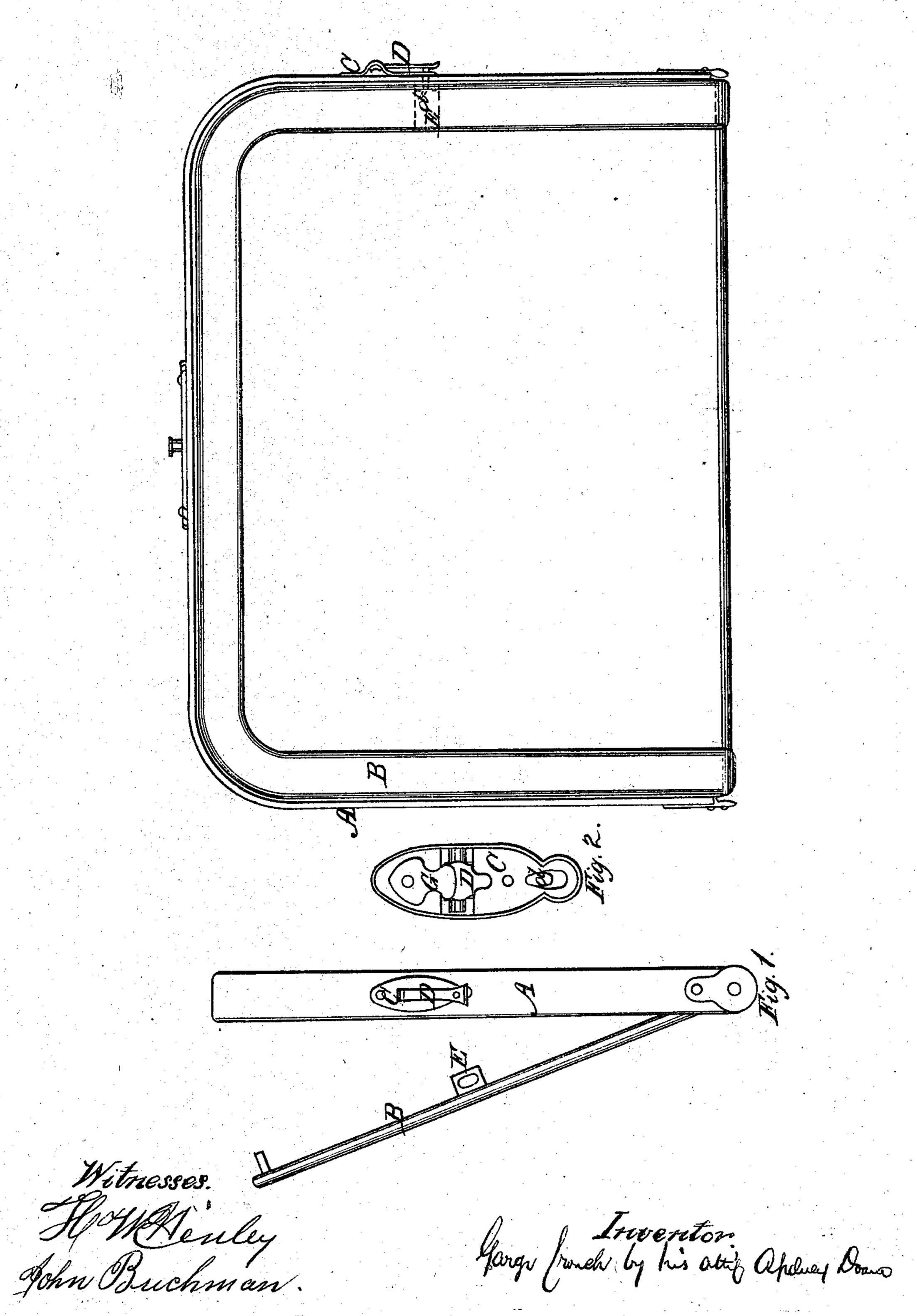
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Patented Mar. 9, 1869.



N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.



## GEORGE CROUCH, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 87,549, dated March 9, 1869.

## IMPROVED CATCH FOR CARPET-BAGS.

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, GEORGE CROUCH, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented, made, and applied to use, a new and useful Catch for the Frames of Carpet-Bags and Valises; and I do declare that the following is a full, clear, and correct description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a view of a carpet-bag frame partially

open, showing my catch applied thereto.

Figure 2 is a view of the catch detached from the frame.

Figure 3 is a view of a carpet-bag frame closed, showing my catch applied thereto.

In the drawings, like parts of the invention are des-

ignated by the same letters of reference.

The nature of my invention consists in certain improvements in the construction of catches for the frames of carpet-bags and valises, as more fully hereinafter set forth.

The object of the invention is to afford a ready and efficient means of holding the sections of a bag-frame in place, the one within the other, particularly at the sides of the same.

To enable those skilled in the arts to make and use my invention, I will describe the construction and operation of the same.

A shows the outer or upper section of a bag-frame, and B is the lower or inner section of the same, closing, as clearly shown in fig. 3, within the outer or upper section of the same.

My improved catch (see fig. 2 of the drawings) consists of a plate of metal, C, provided with a perforated offset at or about its centre, within which perforated offset is inserted and retained in position the tongue D, provided, at its forward end, with the hook d, passing through a perforation or opening in the lower end of the plate C.

The back end of the tongue D, which is inserted in the perforated offset of the plate C, is provided with lugs upon its sides, and when placed in position, these lugs, and the offset of the plate C, form, as it were, a hinge, upon which the tongue D moves freely to and fro.

Directly upon the rear end of this tongue D, a projection rises, upon which bears one end of a flat spring, G, the opposite end of which is secured in the plate C.

E shows an eye secured upon the lower or inner section, B, of the frame, so that when closed within the outer section, A, this eye E shall be brought directly opposite an opening in the side of the outer section of the frame A.

Such being the construction, the operation may be thus described:

The catch is attached outside the upper section, A, of the bag-frame, so that the hook d shall be brought directly opposite to or above the opening in the same, which opening is, as already stated, directly over or above the eye E when the inner section, B, is closed within the outer section, A.

The inner section, B, being closed within the outer section, A, as shown in fig. 3 of the drawings, the tongue D may be depressed, forcing the hook d through the opening in the outer section and the eye E, thus holding the lower or inner section securely within the outer section, at a point where the lock would not hold the same together, namely, upon the sides.

The spring employed has a tendency to keep the hook d in position when closed, and at the same time expedites the closing of the same.

My catch can be produced at an exceedingly low cost, and will be found simple and efficient.

Having thus described my invention,

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

The perforated plate of metal C, in combination with the tongue D, with its hook d, spring G, and eye E, when the same shall be constructed and operate substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

GEORGE CROUCH.

Witnesses:

A. SIDNEY DOANE, M. W. HENLEY.