

JOHN L. SHEPPARD.
Improvement in Bale Ties.

No. 118,286.

Patented Aug. 22, 1871.

Fig. 1.

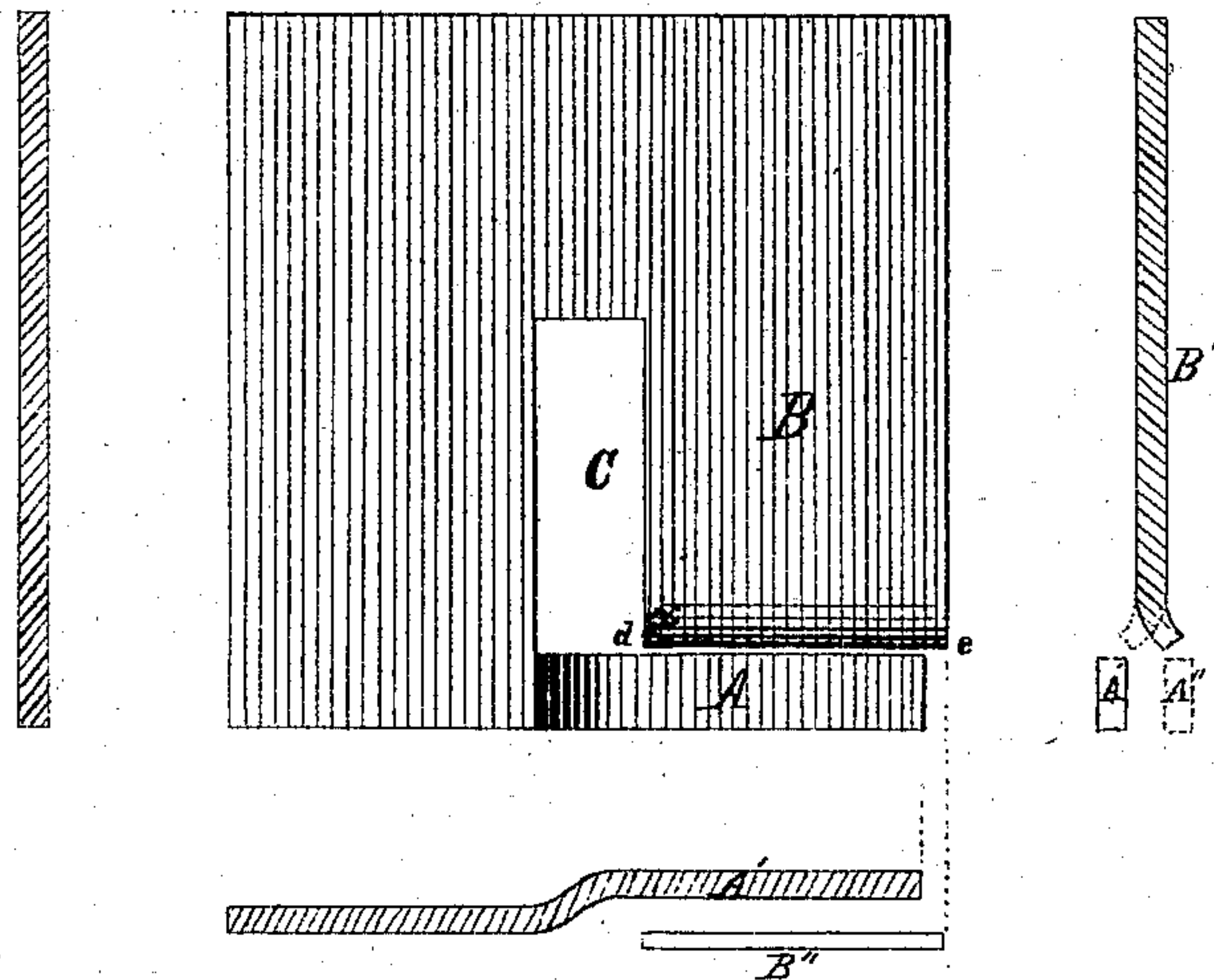


Fig. 2.

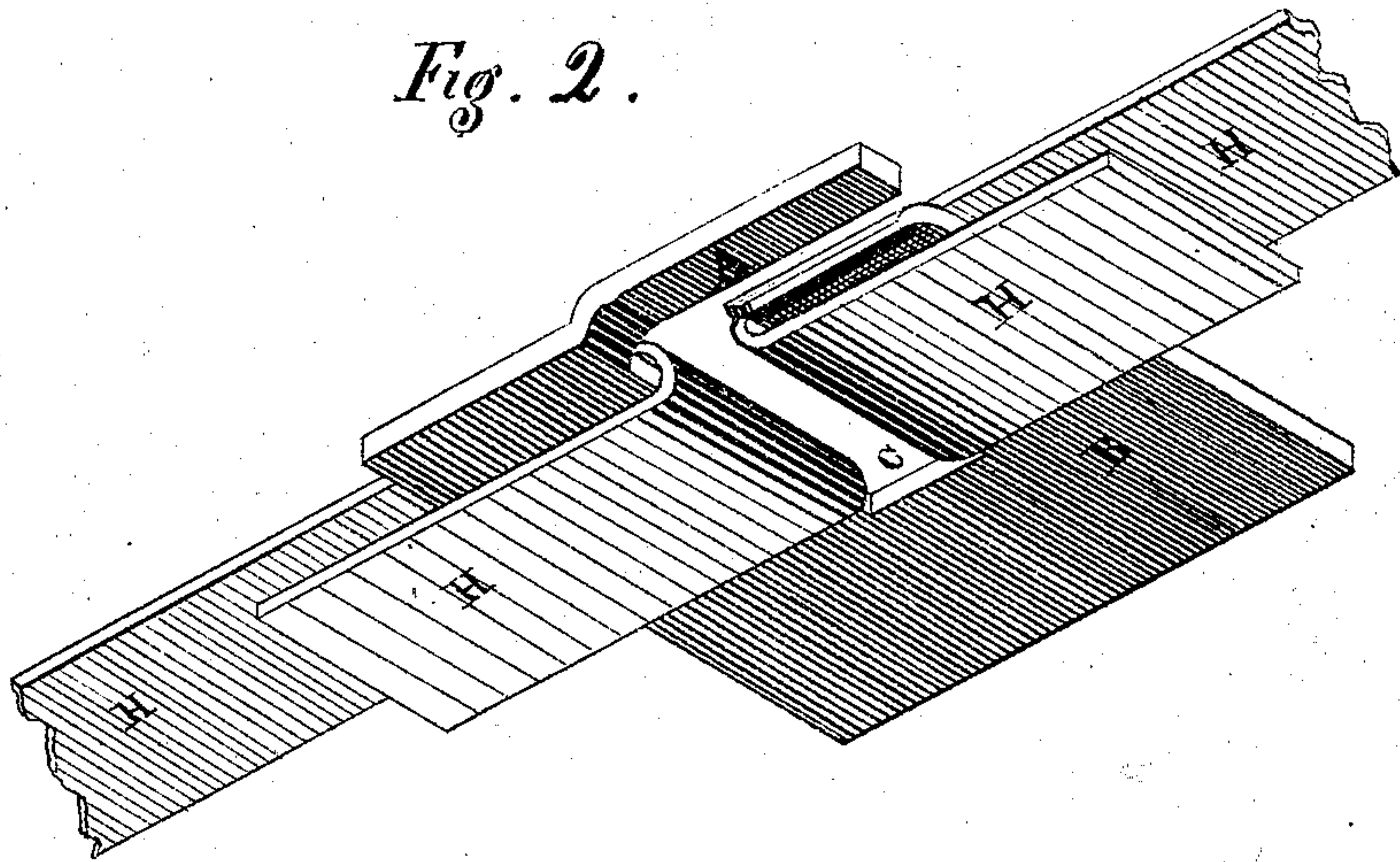
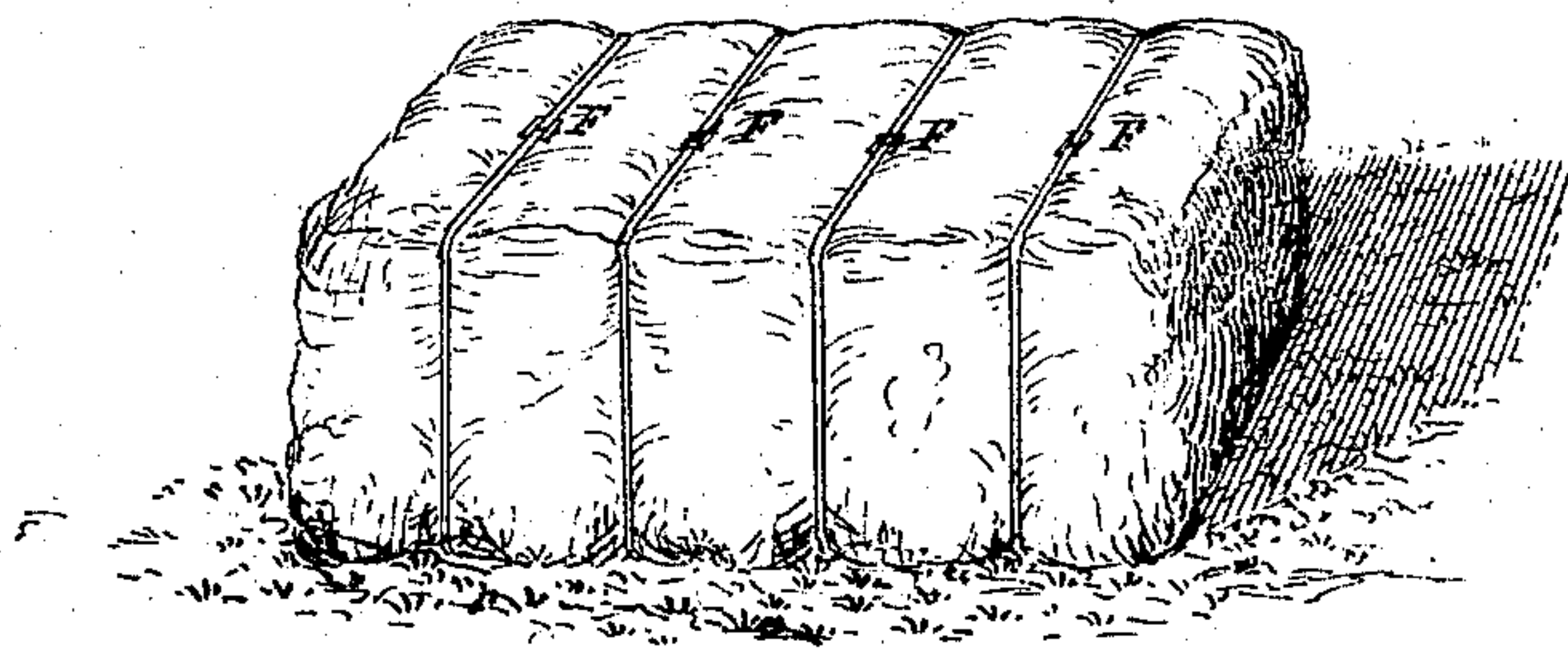


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.

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JOHN L. SHEPPARD, OF CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA.

IMPROVEMENT IN BALE-TIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 118,286, dated August 22, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN L. SHEPPARD, of the city and county of Charleston and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Cotton-Bale Tie; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in the tie used in fastening the ends of the bands together that are employed in baling cotton. The said invention consists in the peculiar construction of the tie, so formed with a lip or tongue of iron covering the place of entrance of the hoop or band that it is impossible for it to become disengaged through any accident arising from sudden relaxation of the bands due to the rough handling to which bales of cotton are always subjected in shipping.

The tie is constructed as follows: Take a piece of flat wrought-iron, of square or nearly square form, and from one-sixth to one-eighth of an inch in thickness, as may be required, of breadth a little more than double that of the band employed. At the distance of about one-fourth of an inch from one of the sides, and at equal distances from the two adjacent sides, a rectangular hole is cut about one-third of an inch on the shorter side and extending back in direction parallel to the adjacent sides to a distance sufficient to admit the band or tie easily. Now, in continuation of that short side of this rectangle which lies parallel to and adjacent to the nearest side of the piece itself, a slit is cut through the iron to one of the sides of the piece itself, leaving a narrow lip on one side of the slit and a broad lip on the other side, the latter of which is intended to receive the strain of the band, and the former or smaller lip acts to prevent the tie from disengaging, the loop on the end of the hoop striking square against it. To facilitate inserting the second loop after the tie

has been hooked into the first loop, the opening along this slit is enlarged by beveling off the opposite edges of the two lips so as to admit of sliding the band in by turning the tie slightly or twisting the band a little to effect the same purpose; or the opening may be enlarged by bending the smaller lip either up or down, or by bending the larger lip at the end either up or down, or by bending both a little in opposite directions.

Figure 1 in the drawing represents a plan with elevations along three of the sides, A representing the smaller lip; B, the larger lip; C, the rectangular opening; *de*, the slit or opening through which the second loop is slipped. X is the corner of the larger lip, which, when the large lip is bent down or up at the end, is rounded off so as to avoid receiving the strain of the band, as it would otherwise do, and throwing this strain back upon the shank of the large lip, where it should be.

Fig. 2 is an isometrical projection of the tie in use, H representing the bands, the ends of which are fastened together by this tie.

Fig. 3 represents a cotton-bale, showing these ties at F.

We specify as advantages possessed by this tie over all others: First, simplicity. Second, reliability. Third, great strength. Fourth, ease of appliance.

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

The bale-tie herein described, having the curved lips A and B, rectangular slot C, and transverse slit *de*, constructed and arranged substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 17th day of July, 1871.

J. L. SHEPPARD.

Witnesses:

J. W. MOORE,
M. M. MOXWELL.