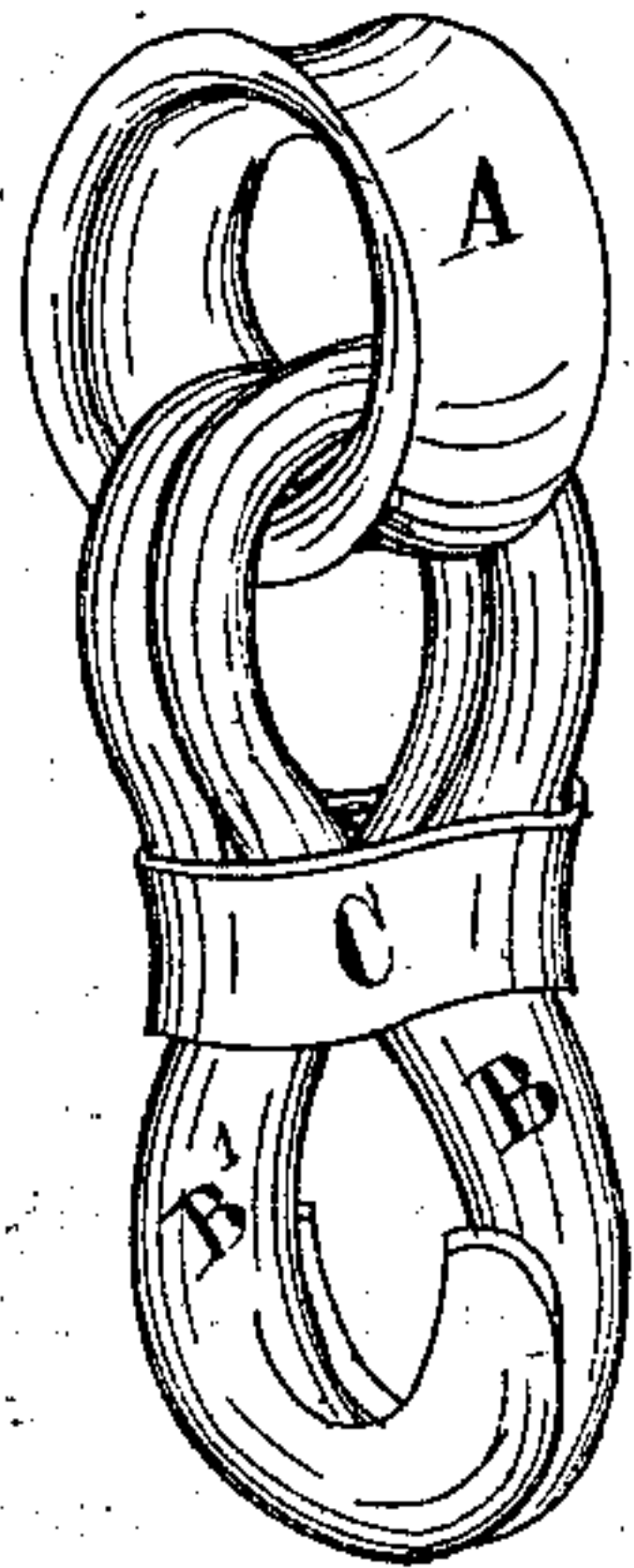


T. WITMER.
Sister Hooks.

No. 154,360.

Patented Aug. 25, 1874.



WITNESSES

C. W. Hamlin
C. N. Woodward

INVENTOR

Thomas Witmer

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

TOBIAS WITMER, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
HIS RIGHT TO DAVID RANSOM, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SISTER-HOOKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **154,360**, dated August 25, 1874; application filed
Ju'y 6, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, TOBIAS WITMER, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Sister-Hooks, of which the following is a specification:

My invention consists in constructing and providing sister-hooks, used on my fire-escapes and trucks and ladders, and in the rigging of vessels, and for other purposes, with elastic bands, or rings, or ties, passing around the shanks of the hooks, so as to keep the two parts of the hooks together, to prevent them from unclasping when the rope or chain is slacked up, but, by the elasticity of the band or ring, allow it to be unhooked without removing the tie or band.

A is the thimble, to which the rope is attached, and protects the rope from chafing in the ordinary way, and is not claimed as new. B B' are the two parts of the hook, clasping inversely together, forming a strong and substantial hook, commonly called a "sister-hook," the form of which is not claimed as new. C is an elastic band, which, by its elasticity, will admit the hooks to be separated in hooking on the object to be fastened to, but which will keep them pressed together, and prevent unhooking when the rope or chain gets slack.

It will readily be seen that by my improved elastic tie or band C, as described, the value of the apparatus is very much enhanced, rendering its use much more convenient and safe than in the ordinary way.

When the ordinary tie or mousing is used much inconvenience is experienced in tying and untying, and without a tie or band the hooks are unsafe, being liable to be unhooked.

I do not claim the hooks formed thus, nor the tie or mousing, when made of inelastic substance, nor the elastic band or tie when used without the hooks, these being old; and do not confine myself to the particular material of which the band is formed, nor the particular shape, as it may be formed of india-rubber, which I prefer, or of elastic wire, or any other suitable material, and may be made flat, or in the form of a ring, if preferred; but

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

The elastic band C, in combination with the hooks B B', for the purposes set forth.

TOBIAS WITMER.

Witnesses:

HENRY KOONS,
ROBERT DICK.