

(No Model.)

DeW. C. BASSETT.  
Buckles.

No. 234,453.

Patented Nov. 16, 1880.

Fig. 1.

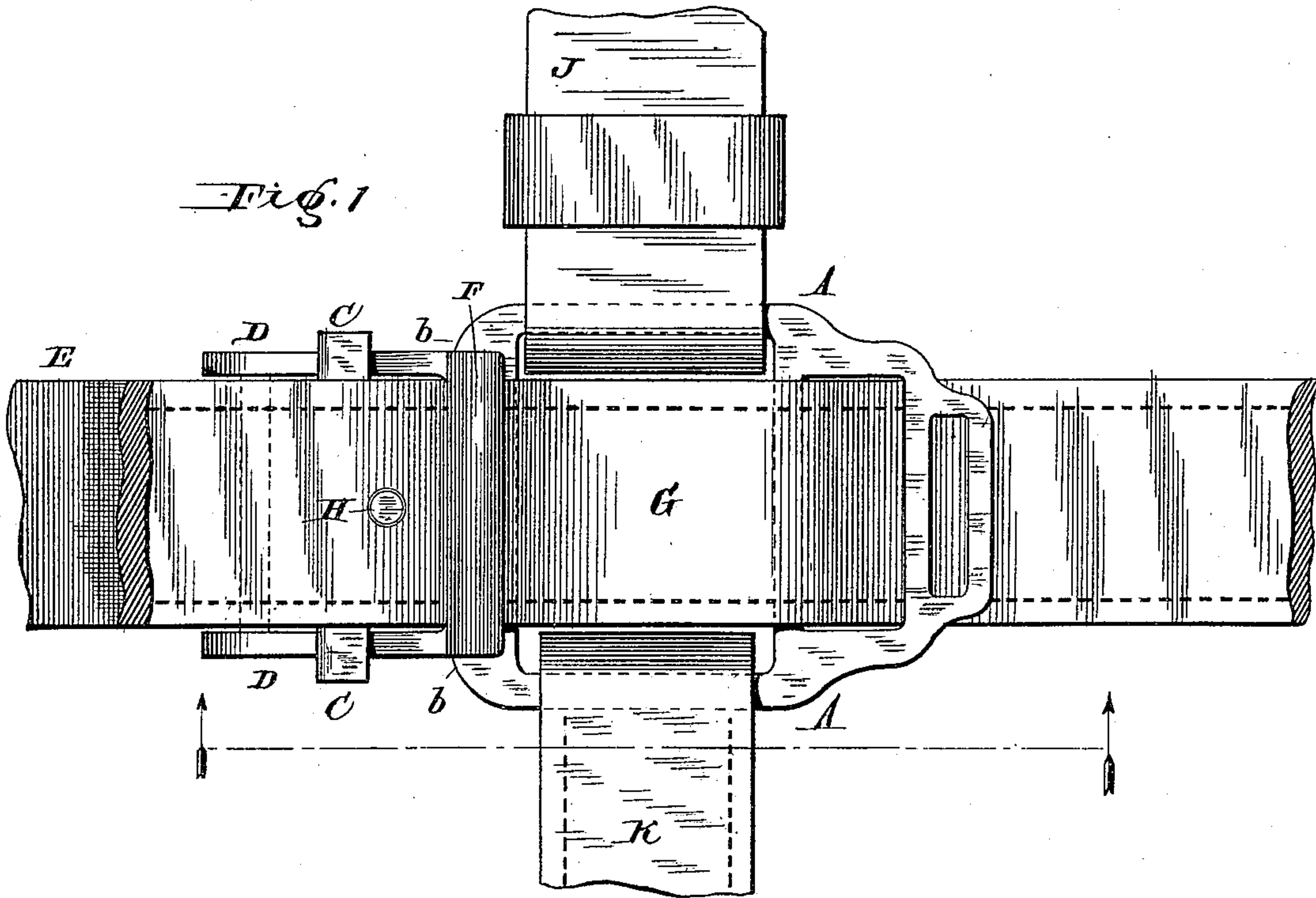


Fig. 2.

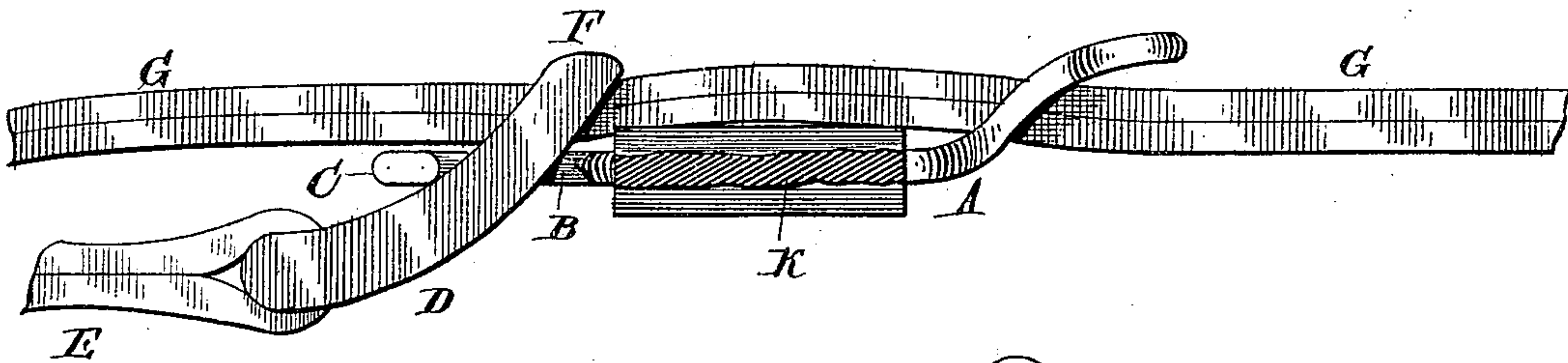
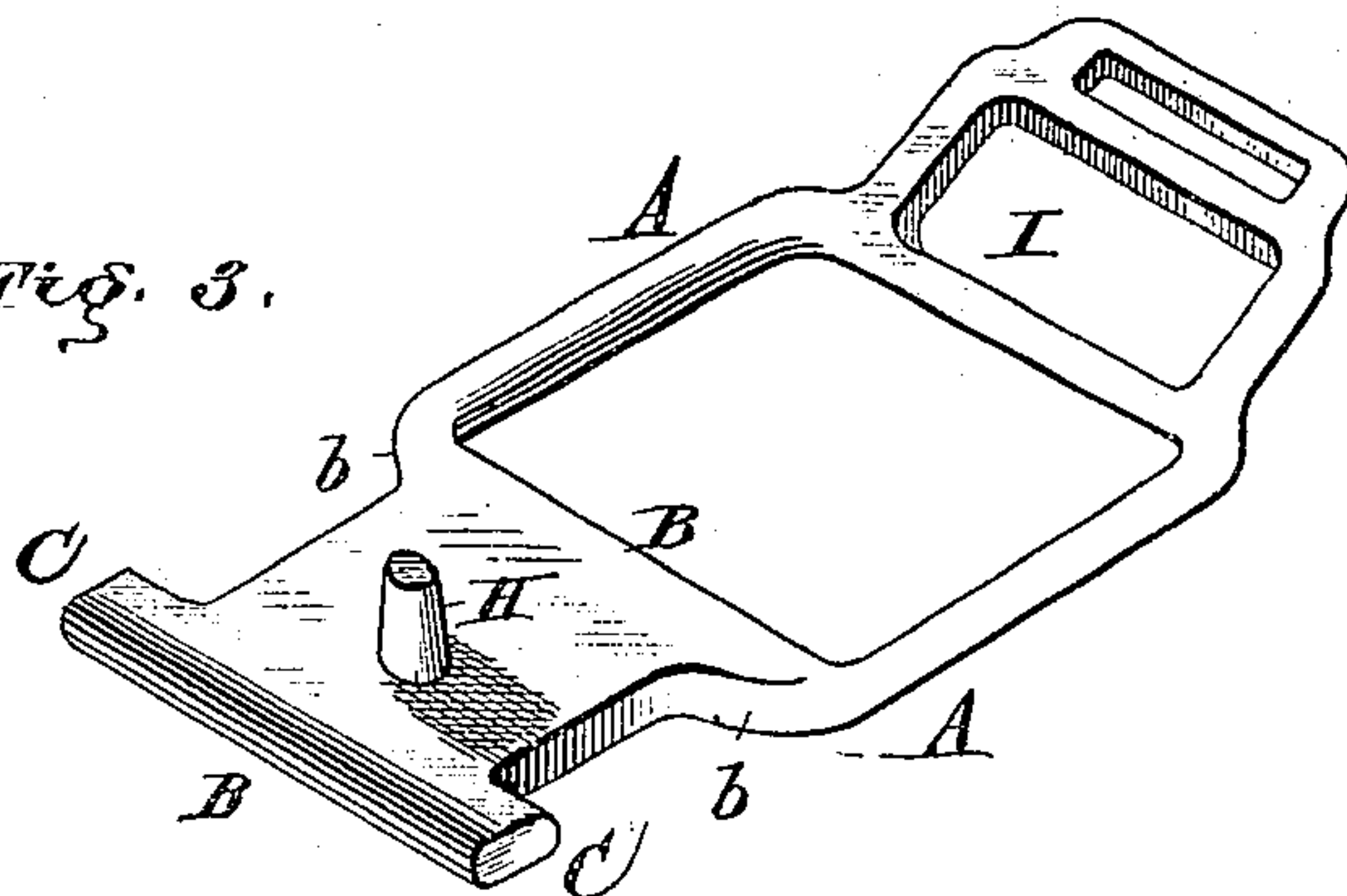


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:  
A. W. Grafton,  
H. B. Grafton

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DEWITT C. BASSETT, OF CAMBRIA MILLS, MICHIGAN.

## BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 234,453, dated November 16, 1880.

Application filed October 13, 1880. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DEWITT C. BASSETT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cambria Mills, in the county of Hillsdale and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The present invention relates to that class of trace harness-buckles which are provided with a loose draft-loop or bail sliding in the main frame and having the hame-tug attached thereto.

In all buckles of the above description the draft-loop has been fitted inside the main frame, and is prevented from slipping out of the same either by means of lateral extensions of said draft-loop or by grooves made in the inside faces of extensions of the side bars of the frame, between which the said loop is placed.

The present invention consists in constructing a buckle-frame with outwardly-turned projections or lugs, which, in connection with offsets located in the rear of said lugs, form notches for the reception and guidance of the loose draft-loop. The location of the draft-loop on the outside of the buckle-frame enables the latter to be made much narrower and lighter than those heretofore employed for traces of the same width.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top view of a buckle having the trace and various straps connected therewith. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same, and Fig. 3 is a view of the buckle-frame with the bail and straps detached.

The buckle-frame A is, at its front end, provided with a solid flat plate, B, having laterally outwardly turned lugs or extensions, C, formed thereon. The rear portion of the plate B, which corresponds to the cross-bar of the common form of buckle-frame, is extended beyond the plate B, so as to form offsets or shoulders b, which, in connection with the lugs C, form notches or spaces for the reception of the

side arms of the curved bail or loose draft-loop D. This bail or draft-loop has the hame-tug E permanently connected therewith, and its rear cross-bar, F, is made flat on its under side, for the purpose of firmly pressing the trace G against the flat plate B. This plate is, at its front end, provided with a rigid tongue, H, which enters a hole in the trace, in the customary manner; or the said tongue may be attached to the under side of the cross-bar of the bail D, in which case the plate B should be provided with a hole or slot to receive the end of the tongue.

The trace passes from between the draft-loop and plate B through an end loop, I, which is of a less width than the main portion of the frame. The main portion of the frame is made without the side loops generally provided for the reception of the back and belly bands. These two straps—viz., the pad-strap J and the belly-band billet K—are secured to the side bars of the buckle-frame, the extension of the latter beyond the trace permitting this to be done.

The object of dispensing with the customary side loops is to enable the buckle to be used in connection with long and short hame-tugs, which is not possible with other buckles, because when a buckle-frame is constructed with side loops and provided with a loop moving inside said frame it is adapted for use only with long hame-tugs. In the present instance, the loose loop or bail, being arranged on the outside of the frame, in the manner shown, will be pulled down on the trace in front of the point where the side loops are generally located, thus providing more space or room for changing or adjusting the trace, and consequently enabling this latter operation to be effected with greater ease and dispatch than heretofore. It is a common defect with buckles having an interior draft-loop or bail that the pull or pressure of the bail will cause the trace to kink or bend, and the location of the bail also prevents the easy changing or adjustment of the trace.

It will readily be perceived that the construction of the buckle-frame with a flat bearing-plate for the trace will enable the latter to be more firmly clamped by the draft loop or bail.

The outside notches formed by the lugs and offsets of the buckle-frame permit the free and easy operation of the draft loop or bail and prevent the latter from becoming detached  
5 from the frame in changing the trace.

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

1. A buckle-frame constructed with a solid  
10 flat end plate, B, having lateral extensions or lugs C, and the main portion of the frame A wider than the body of said plate, and forming shoulders or offsets b, in combination with the loose draft-loop or bail D, adapted to fit  
15 between said lugs and offsets, and the rigid

tongue H, all constructed and relatively arranged as herein set forth, and for the purpose specified.

2. A buckle-frame constructed with a flat front plate, B, provided with notches in its  
20 outer sides, in combination with the sliding draft-loop or bail fitted and guided in the notches of said plate, as and for the purpose specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature  
25 in presence of two witnesses.

DEWITT C. BASSETT.

Witnesses:

H. B. GRAFTON,

A. M. LONG.