

(No Model.)

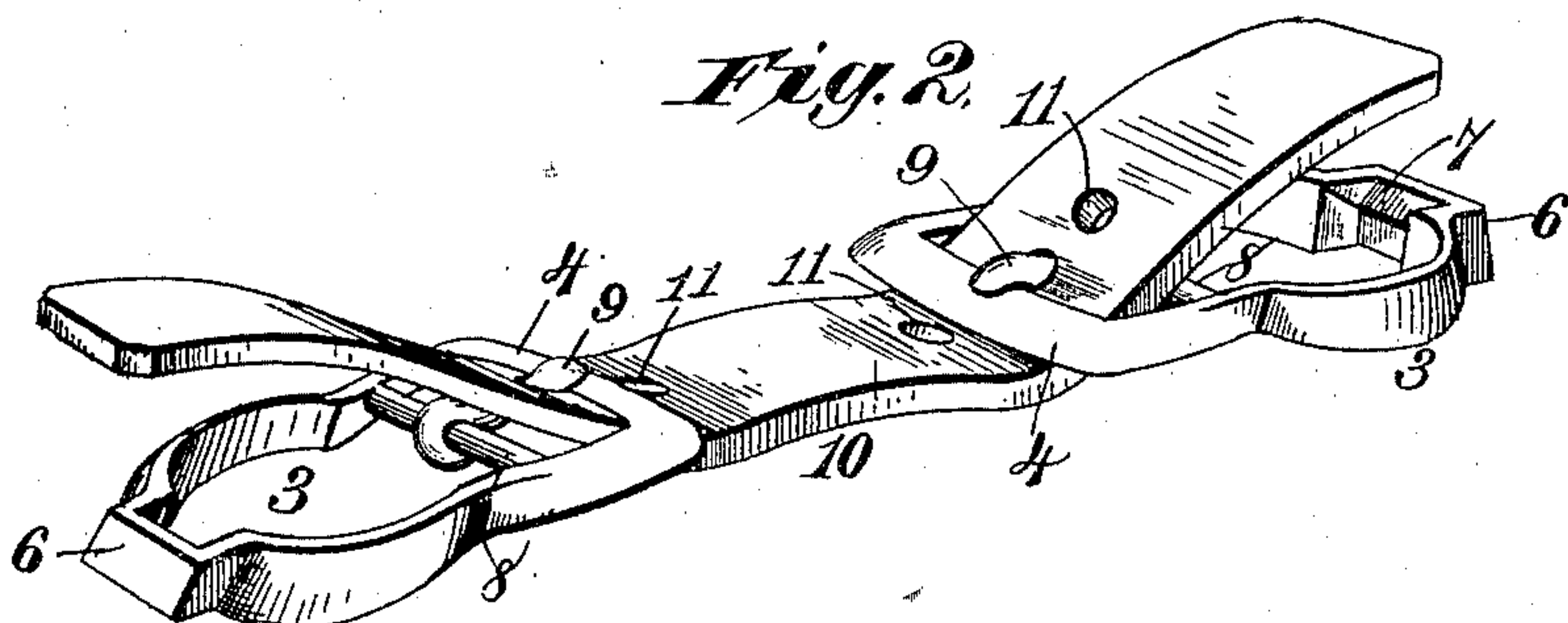
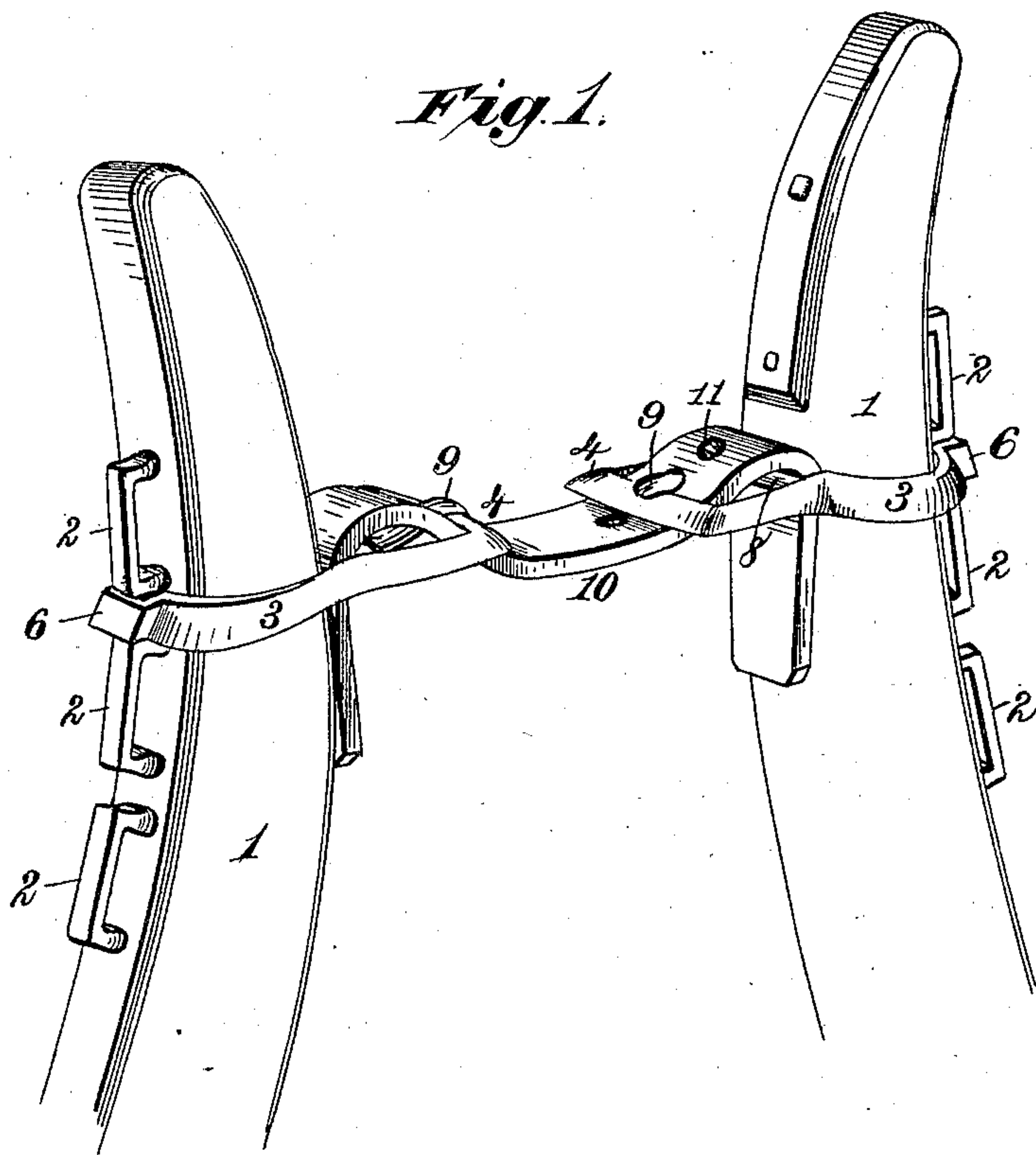
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

H. A. FONTEINE & T. A. KOSTERS.

STRAP LOOP CONNECTION FOR HAMES.

No. 313,582.

Patented Mar. 10, 1885.



Witnesses.
Robert Emmett.
Jo L. Coombs

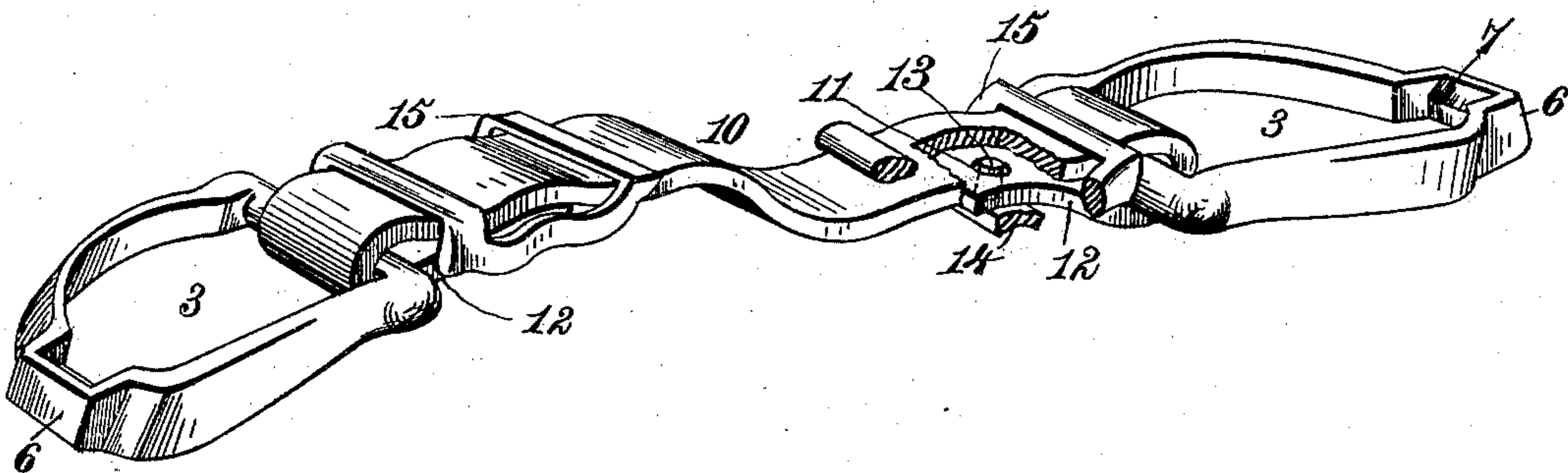
Inventors.
Herman A. Fontaine.
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By *James L. Norris.*
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.

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Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HERMAN A. FONTEINE AND THEODORE A. KOSTERS, OF AUBURN, NEW YORK, ASSIGNORS TO HAYDEN & BOYD, OF SAME PLACE.

STRAP-LOOP CONNECTION FOR HAMES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 313,582, dated March 10, 1885.

Application filed July 23, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HERMAN A. FONTEINE and THEODORE A. KOSTERS, citizens of the United States, residing at Auburn, New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Strap-Loop Connections for Hames, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in fastenings for hames, and has for its objects to provide a combined adjustable top loop and buckle for engaging the hame end and adjustably connecting with one end of a strap; to provide such a connection for the hame as will avoid stitching or riveting in connecting the strap with the buckle and the loop, and to provide means whereby a single strap-layer may be used to connect the hame ends, in contradistinction to a strap passing through loops and joined at its ends by an ordinary buckle secured to one end of the strap by stitching or riveting, and having a tongue to engage a line of perforations in the other end of the strap.

To these ends the invention consists, first, in an adjustable top loop combined with a buckle for connecting the loop with one end of the hame-strap; second, in an adjustable top loop combined with an attached buckle; third, in a hame-fastening composed of adjustable top loops for engaging the hame ends having attached buckles, and a single strap-layer having its ends connecting with the buckles.

The invention is illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 is a perspective view of the combined adjustable top loop and buckles applied to the hame ends; Fig. 2, a detached perspective view of the combined adjustable top loops and buckles and connecting strap-layer, and Fig. 3 a similar view of a modification.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to make and use the invention, we will now describe the same in detail, reference being had to the drawings, in which the numbers 11 indicate the two sections comprising the hame, each having at the upper end portions a line of attached projections or studs, 2, for receiving between them the ends of the adjustable top loops, 3. These loops are composed of side bars, a cross-bar, 4, at one end, and at the other end constructed with a contracted neck, 6, hav-

ing an inner lug, 7, to fit between any two of the projections or studs 2, and the side bars are connected intermediate of the ends by a transverse bar, 8, loosely carrying a buckle-tongue, 9, which rests at its free end on the inner cross-bar, 4. The single strap-layer 10, of leather, is provided with a line of perforations, 11, at each end portion, any one of which can be engaged with the buckle-tongue for adjusting the position of the loops in relation to the length of the strap, whereby the loops can be made nearer to or farther from each other along the length of the strap, and held in the position to which they may be adjusted, while the loops can be adjusted vertically on the hames by engaging them between any two adjacent studs, 2, as will be obvious. This enables the top loops to be conveniently adjusted to the position required to connect the hames when the hame-sections are adjusted to horse-collars of varying width transversely. Any ordinary piece or strip of leather can be used as the loop-connecting strap, and all stitching or riveting is avoided to connect it with an adjusting-buckle, while the ends do not require to be bent around for securing it to the loops. By the means described a single strap-layer is used, which is advantageous in many respects over a strap passed through the loops and its ends brought together and secured by a buckle.

In Fig. 3 the ends of the single strap-layer are bent around the inner cross-bars of the top loops and the extremity 12 of the bent portion engaged with a tongue, 13, on the central cross-bar, 14, of a sliding buckle, 15, whereby the loops can be adjusted along the length of the strap into the proper position relatively to each other, and yet the body of the connection will be a single strap-layer.

We have shown the invention employed at the upper ends of the hame-sections; but it may also be used at the lower ends thereof.

The invention provides a combined adjustable top loop and buckle for connecting the hames, and such comprises an important feature.

The construction shown in Figs. 1 and 2 provides the buckle and adjustable loop in one piece or structure, and is a very simple, useful, and desirable device for connecting hames through the medium of a single strap-layer

without bending or stitching or riveting the strap.

We are aware that a top loop for hames is not broadly new; but we are not aware that a
5 combined adjustable top loop and buckle for a hame-connection has ever before been constructed as in our invention.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim is—

10 1. A hame-fastener composed of the adjustable top loop and buckle, substantially as described, adjustably and detachably connected with a strap, and adapted to slip over and move vertically on the hame end, said loop
15 provided with an inwardly-projecting lug for engaging between two of the studs on the hame end, as set forth.

2. A hame-fastener composed of an adjustable top loop and buckle, substantially as described, in one structure, as set forth. 20

3. A hame-fastening combining in its construction a single strap-layer and two adjustable top loops, each having an attached buckle, substantially as described, for adjustably connecting the loops with the opposite
25 ends of the strap-layer, as set forth.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

HERMAN A. FONTEINE.
THEO. A. KOSTERS.

Witnesses:

L. R. ESMAY,
J. SEYMOUR SMITH.