

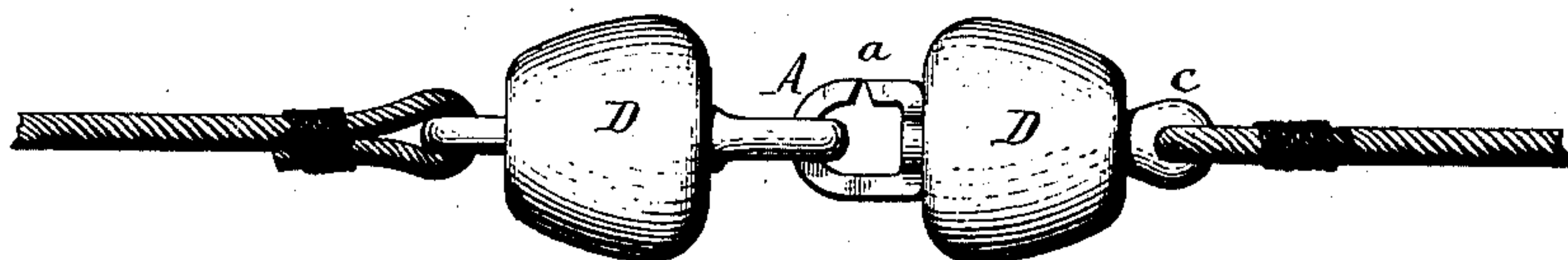
(No Model.)

G. W. WOOD.  
BELL CORD COUPLING.

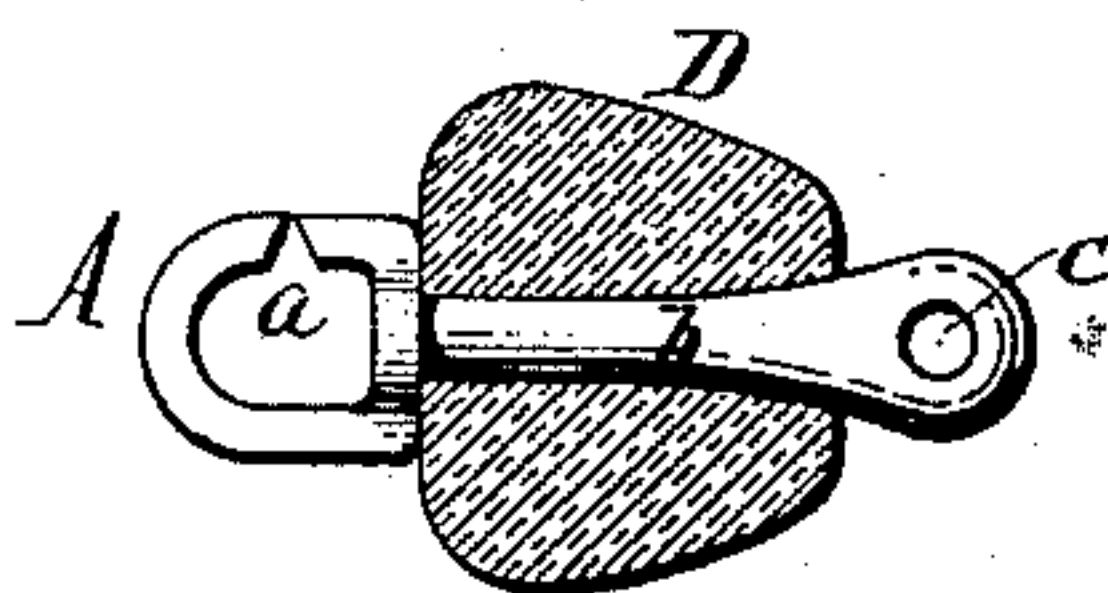
No. 341,301.

Patented May 4, 1886.

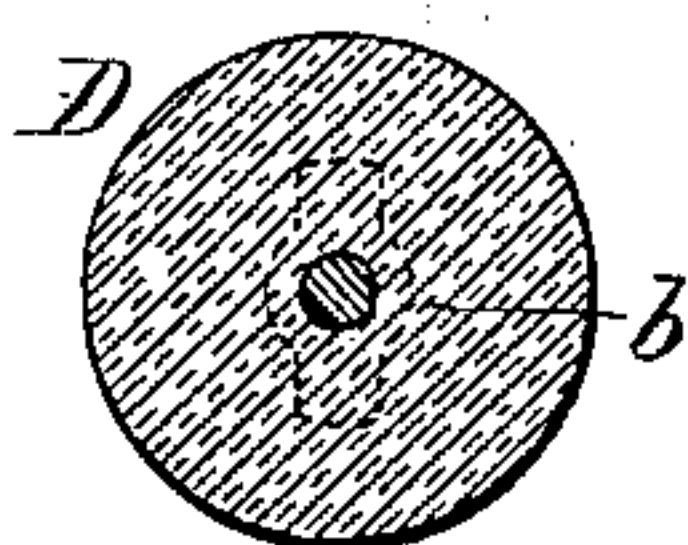
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Witnesses:  
Theodore L. Popp  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. WOOD, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

## BELL-CORD COUPLING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 341,301, dated May 4, 1886.

Application filed March 6, 1886. Serial No. 194,310. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. WOOD, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and  
5 useful Improvement in Bell-Cord Couplings, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in the bell-cord couplings which are used on rail-  
10 way-cars for connecting the ends of the different sections or lengths of the bell-cord, which extends from the locomotive-cab to the rear end of the train. The couplings now employed for this purpose consist of two interlocking  
15 metallic hooks having eyes or sockets in which the ends of the cord are fastened. These couplings are objectionable, for the reason that it frequently happens during the making up of a train or when pulling quickly on a slack cord that the coupling will strike against the inside  
20 of the cars and mar, indent, or disfigure the polished panels of the cars or break the glass of mirrors, doors, &c. The couplings are also liable to strike persons and cause serious injury.

25 The object of my invention is to construct a coupling which will overcome these difficulties; and it consists in providing the coupling with a cushion of rubber or other soft or elastic material, as will be hereinafter fully  
30 set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a side elevation of my improved coupling connecting the ends of two bell cords. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section, and Fig. 3 a  
35 cross-section, through one of my improved couplings.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

40 A represents the coupling-hooks, which are of the usual form, and each provided with a slot or opening, *a*, whereby it is coupled with the adjoining hook.

*b* represents a shank formed on one end of each hook A, and provided with an eye or  
45 loop, *c*, through which the end of the bell-cord is passed, and whereby the cord is fastened to the coupling; or, if preferred, the shank *b* may be provided with a socket, in which the end of the cord is secured.

D represents a projecting cushion or collar, 50 of rubber or other soft elastic material, arranged upon the shank *b* between the hook A and the loop *c*. The cushion D is provided with a central opening, through which the shank *b* passes. The outer end of the shank 55 *b*, which projects beyond the end of the cushion D, is enlarged or flattened to form the loop *c*. The opening or hole in the cushion D, which receives the shank *b*, is made smaller in diameter than the shank, so that the cushion will 60 hold itself tightly on the shank. The elasticity of the cushion permits the shank to be driven into the opening of the cushion. The latter is much larger in diameter than the hook A and loop *c*, so that the cushion projects 65 on all sides beyond the metallic parts of the coupling, and prevents such parts from striking against objects or persons, thereby forming an efficient guard for the purpose.

The guards or collars D are preferably made 70 tapering from the hooks toward the eyes *c*, as shown, so that the guards will readily pass through the openings which are provided in the cars for the passage of the bell-rope.

My improvement is very efficient, simple in 75 construction, and easily applied at small cost.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, with a metallic coupling for ropes or cords, of a projecting guard, D, of soft material, substantially as set forth. 80

2. The combination, with a metallic coupling-hook, A, provided with a shank, *b*, of a projecting guard, D, of yielding material, applied to said shank, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with a metallic coupling-hook, A, provided with a shank, *b*, having an end enlargement, *c*, of a perforated collar, D, of soft elastic material, substantially as set forth. 85

Witness my hand this 3d day of March, 90 1886.

GEO. W. WOOD.

Witnesses:

JNO. J. BONNER,  
OSCAR SCHAUB.