

(No Model.)

S. S. STAHL.

SNAP HOOK.

No. 345,086.

Patented July 6, 1886.

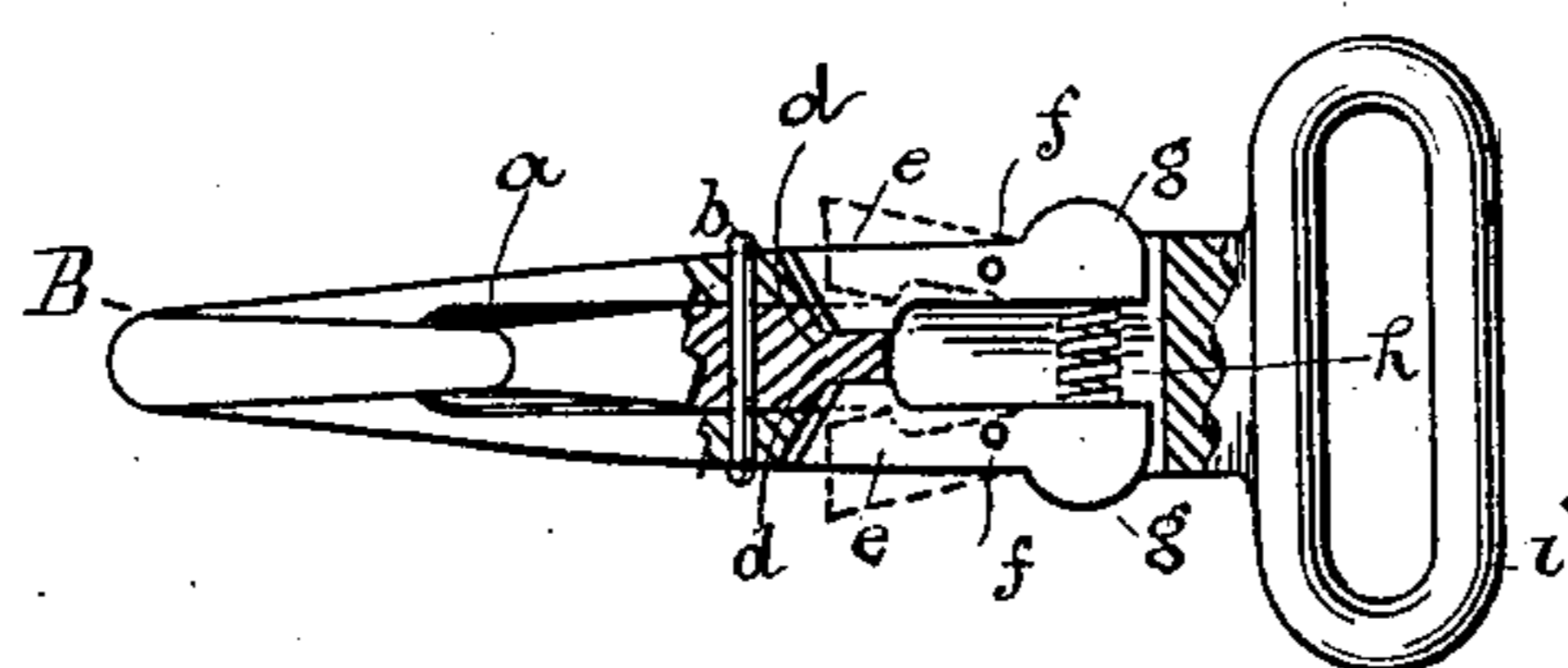


Fig. 1.

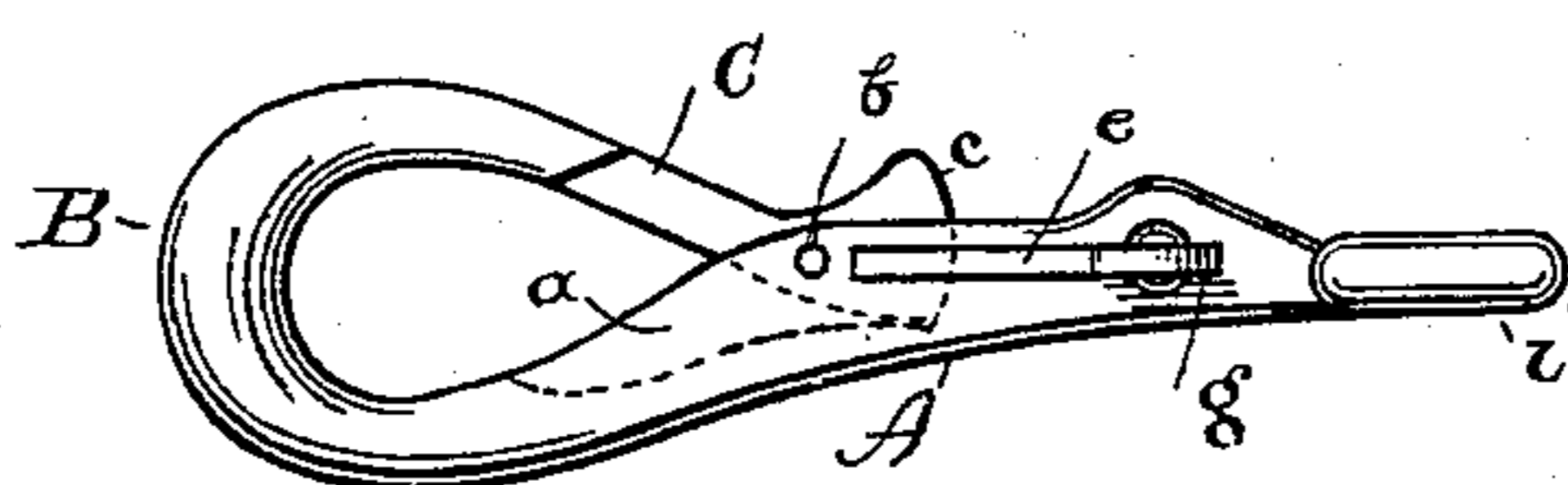


Fig. 2

Fig. 3.

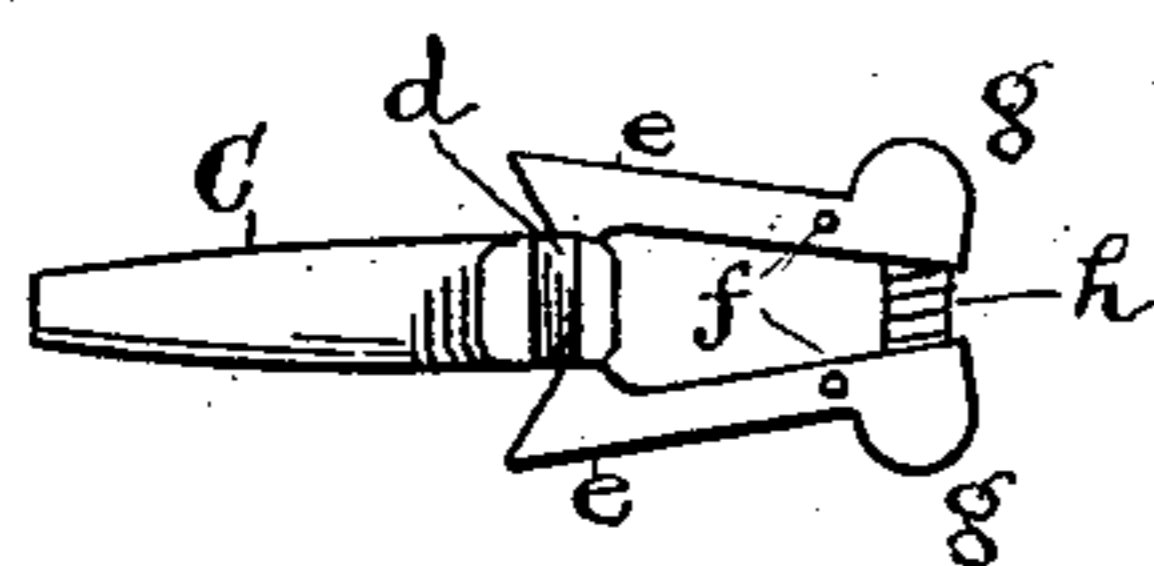
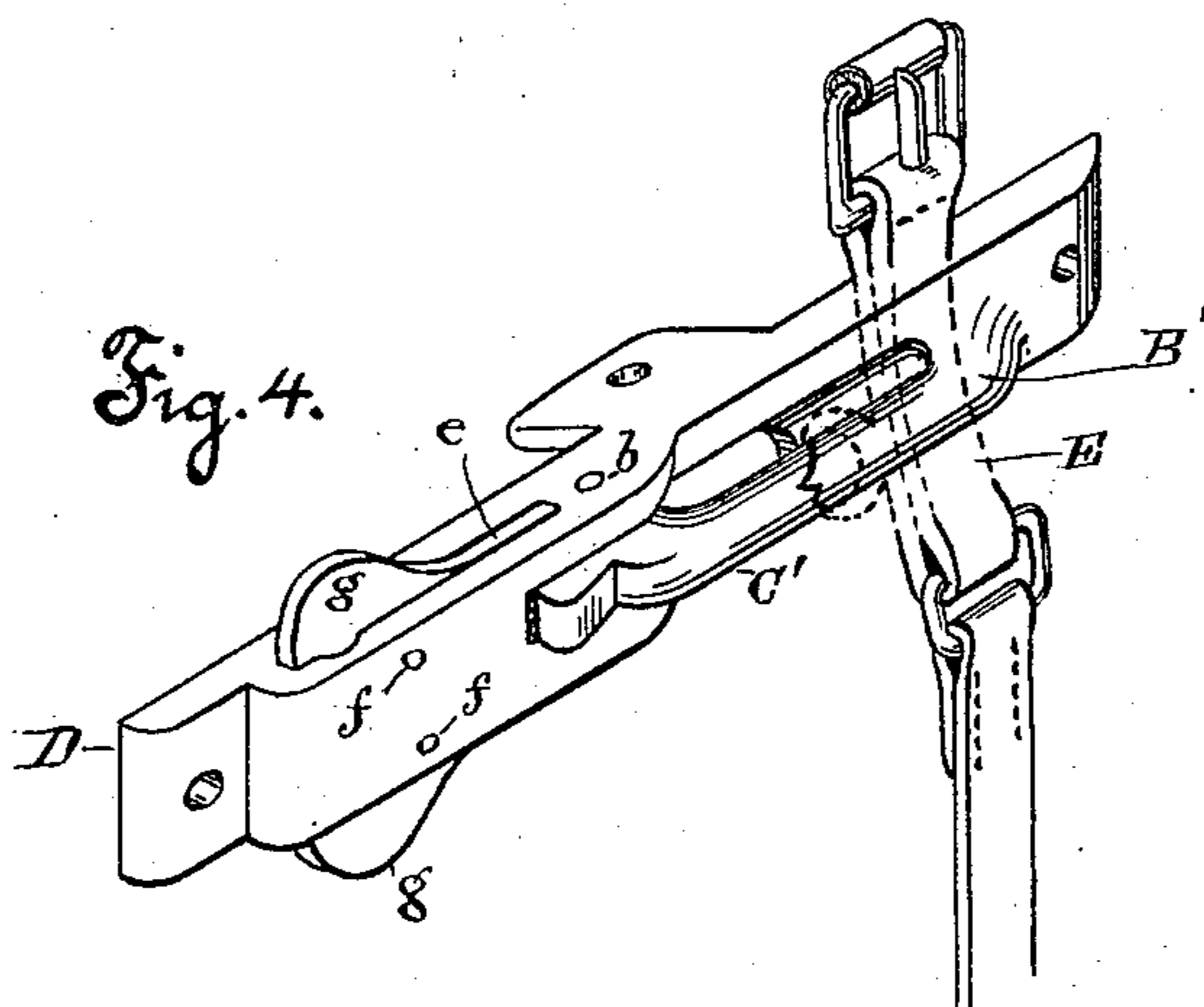


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

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SNAP-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 345,086, dated July 6, 1886.

Application filed April 30, 1886. Serial No. 200,663. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIDNEY SILAS STAHL, of Connellsville, in the county of Fayette and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Snap-Hooks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the annexed drawings, forming a part thereof, in which—

Figure 1 is a front elevation, partly in section, of my improved snap-hook. Fig. 2 is a side elevation. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of the tongue and retaining-wedges. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified form of the snap-hook adapted to the shafts of vehicles.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the different figures of the drawings.

The object of my invention is to provide a secure snap-hook having a rigid tongue, which is held in place by spring-acted latches, and does not depend directly upon the spring to retain it in a closed position.

My invention consists in a snap-hook having a chambered shank in which is pivoted a tongue adapted to close against the point of the hook, and in spring-acted latches arranged to engage slots in the tongue and hold the hook closed. The shank A of the hook B is provided with a chamber, *a*, in which is pivoted the tongue C on the pin *b*, passing transversely through the shank and through the tongue. The tongue C is beveled at its free end, to adapt it to the beveled end of the hook B, and the end *c* of the tongue C beyond the pin *b* is prolonged and widened, and provided with transverse slots *d*, for receiving the ends of the latches *e*, placed in slots in the shanks and pivoted on pins *f*, extending transversely through the shank A at right angles to the direction of the pin *b*. The latches *e* are oppositely arranged with respect to each other, and are prolonged beyond their pivots, and provided with convex ends *g*, which project beyond the sides of the shank A when the latches are closed in the slots *d* of the tongue C. A spiral spring, *h*, is placed between the convex ends of the latches *e*, and tends to press them apart, thus bringing their opposite ends into engagement with the tongue. The recess *a* extends be-

yond the shank A into the curved part of the hook, for receiving the tongue C when the snap-hook is open.

The modified form of snap-hook shown in Fig. 4 is carried by an angled plate, D, which fits over the thill, either upon the outside or the inside thereof, for receiving the trace-loop E. In this case the body or shank of the hook is the plate D, and the hook B' and tongue C', when closed, are axially in line with each other, forming a straight bar, upon which the trace-loop E is carried. The plate D will be modified in form to adapt it to thills of different sizes and shapes. In other respects the snap-hook is like that shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

By pressing upon the convex ends of the latches *e* in opposition to the pressure of the spring *h* the latches will be withdrawn from the slots *d* in the tongue C, so that the tongue may be depressed, allowing the ring or strap to be received on the hook B, when pressure on the slotted end of the tongue will carry the beveled end of the tongue outward into contact with the beveled end of the hook B, when the latches *e* will be forced by the spring *h* into the slots *d* of the tongue C. The latches *e* being rigidly supported by the shank A, will hold the tongue C in a closed position. When the tongue C is open, the ends of the latches rest upon the sides of the tongue, with the spring *h* under compression, so that the latches are in condition to drop into the slots *d* immediately as the tongue C is moved into a closed position.

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

1. The combination, with the hook B, provided with the chambered shank A, of the tongue C, pivoted in the chamber of the shank, prolonged beyond its pivot and slotted, and spring-acted latches *e*, pivoted in slots in the shank and adapted to be received in the slots of the tongue C, substantially as herein shown and described.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a snap-hook formed of the hook B, provided with the shank A, having formed therein the chamber *a*, the tongue C, pivoted in the cham-

ber *a* on the pin *b*, and provided with the enlarged and slotted end beyond the pivot, the latches *e*, pivoted in side slots of the shank *A* on pins *f*, and provided with the convex ends *g*, the spring *h*, placed in the chamber of the shank between the rounded ends of the latches *e*, and the loop *i*, formed on the end of the

shank for receiving a strap, substantially as herein shown and described.

SIDNEY S. STAHL.

Witnesses:

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