

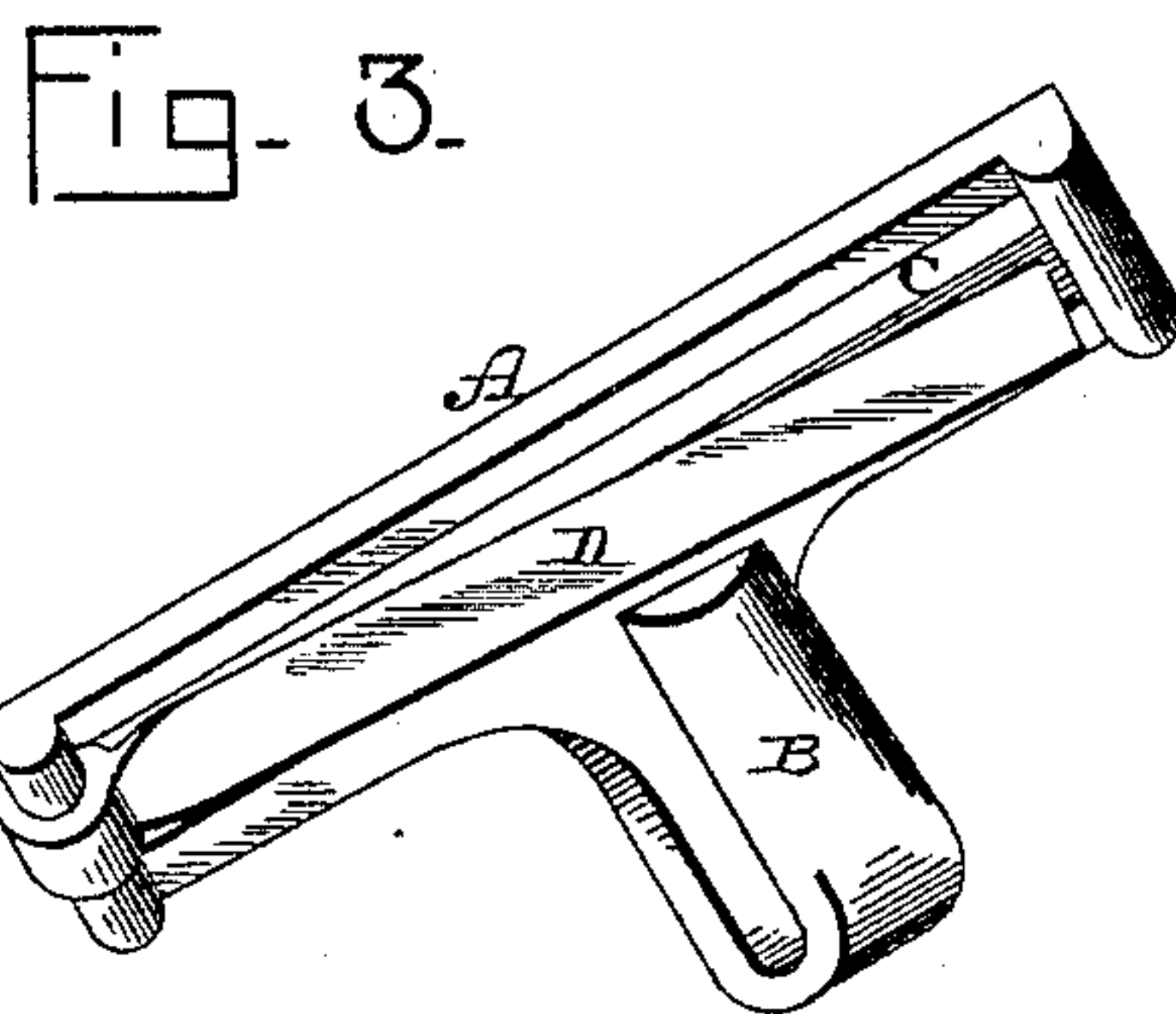
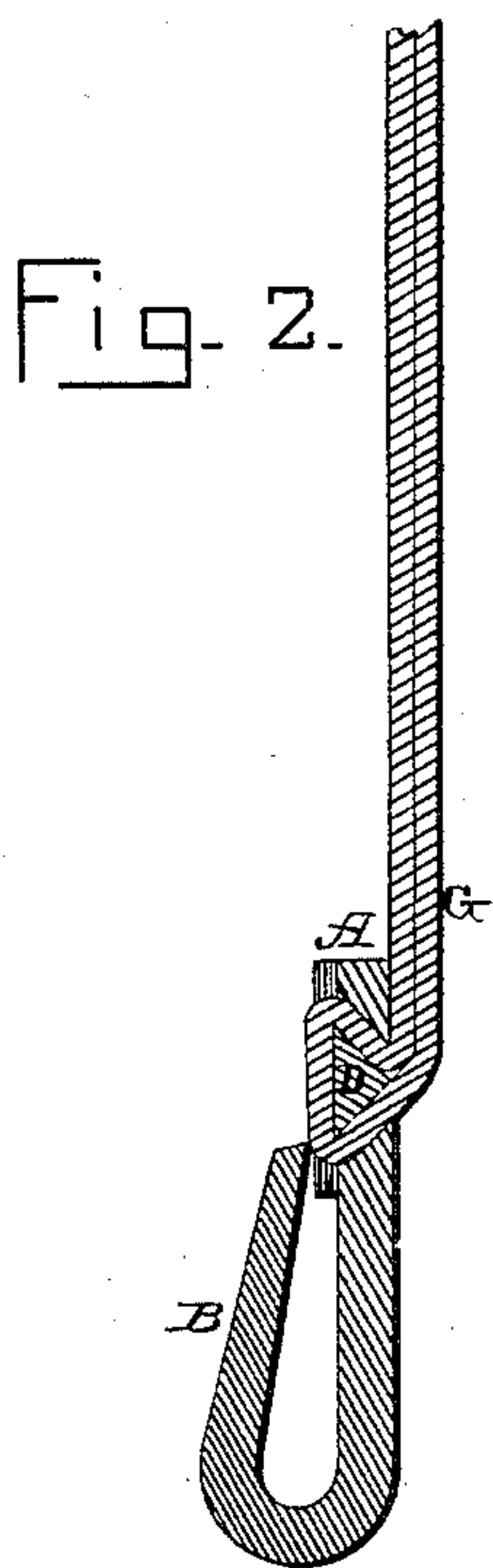
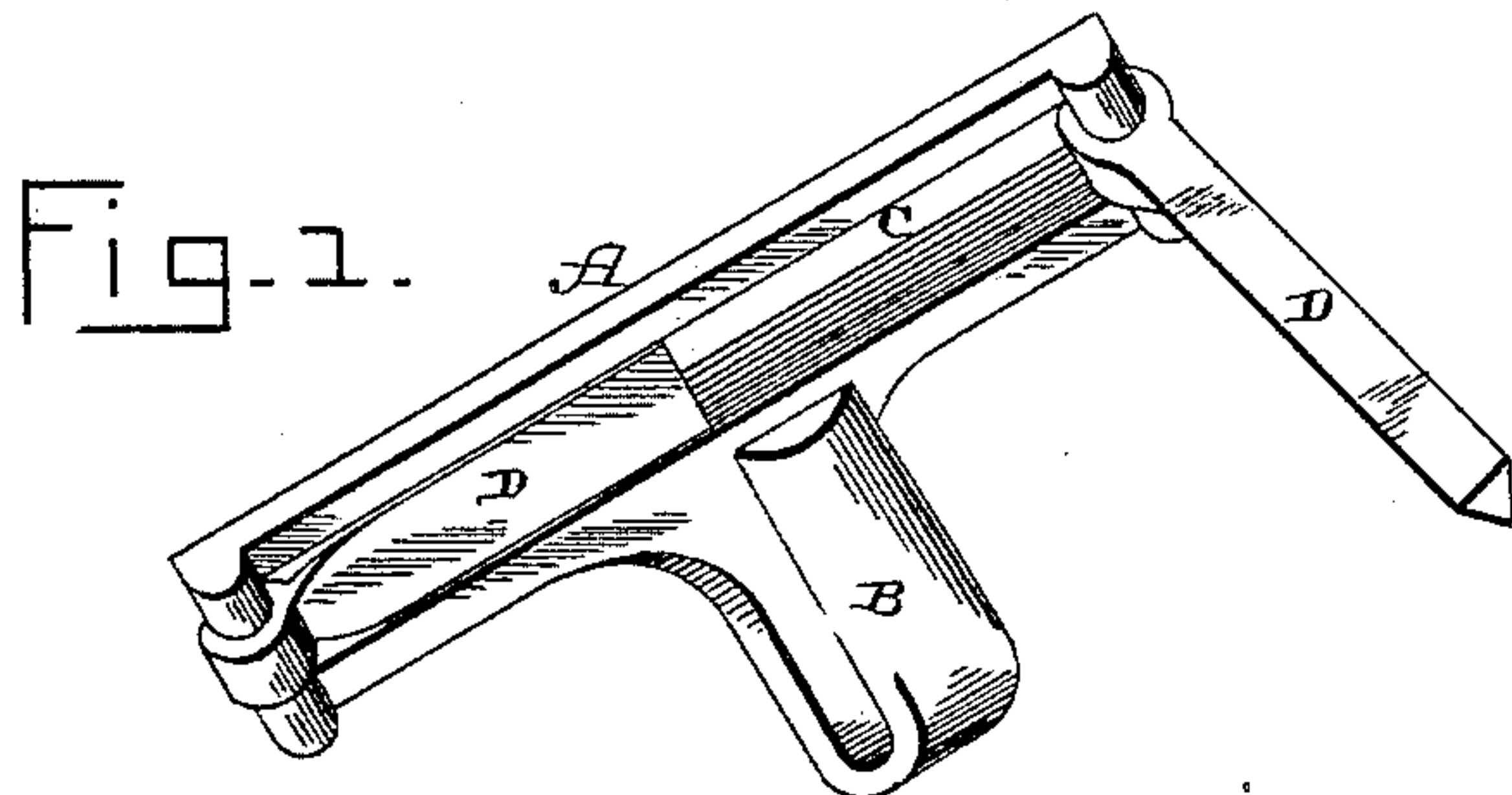
(No Model.)

A. E. CLARK.

TRACE CARRIER.

No. 399,498.

Patented Mar. 12, 1889.



Witnesses:

E. P. Ellis,
L. L. Burkett.

Inventor:

Alex. E. Clark,
per J. A. Lehmann,
att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER E. CLARK, OF BUCKHOLTS, TEXAS.

TRACE-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 399,498, dated March 12, 1889.

Application filed November 22, 1888. Serial No. 291,541. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER E. CLARK, of Buckholts, in the county of Milam and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles and Back-Band Hooks; 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 pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in buckles and back-band hooks; and it consists in a frame having an oblong slot or opening through it for the passage of the back-band, and which has the trace-hook formed as a portion of it, in combination with a pivoted triangular-shaped bar or bars, which are loosely connected to the frame, and which close in the oblong opening or slot, so as to clamp or hold the back-band, as will be more fully described hereinafter.

The object of my invention is to provide a buckle and back-band hook which can be attached to either a cloth or leather back-band by frictional contact alone, and thus prevent the necessity of forming hooks or openings through the back-band and forming tongues upon the buckles, so as to hold the back-band in any desired position.

Figure 1 represents a perspective of a device which embodies my invention, two bars being shown. Fig. 2 is a section of the same, showing the device in use. Fig. 3 is a perspective of a buckle having but a single bar.

A represents a frame of suitable length and shape, and which has the hook B for supporting the trace or chain formed as an integral part thereof. The sides of the opening C made through the frame are slanted inward toward each other at their inner edges, and the ends of the frame are rounded, so as to form pivots or bearings, upon which the triangular-shaped clamping-bars D are placed. These bars are made triangular in cross-section, so as to correspond to the inclined edges of the opening or slot C, and thus clamp, when closed, tightly against the back-band G, which is passed through the opening, and hold the buckle and hook in any position in which it may be placed. There may be either two short bars, which have their free ends to meet at the center of

the frame A, or a single long bar, as may be preferred, the long bar being made to extend from one end of the slot to the other.

Owing to the shape of the sides of the slot or opening through the frame A, and to the triangular shape of the bars, the back-band is secured to the buckle by frictional contact alone, and hence it is only necessary to open the bar when the buckle and hook can be adjusted into any position. The buckle and hook being held by frictional contact alone equally well upon cloth or leather, there is no necessity of forming a tongue upon the buckle or holes through the back-band in order to support the hook and buckle in position and thus weaken the back-band. The point or upper end of the hook being just above the bars when they are closed upon the back-band, the top of the hook is closed in such a manner that the chain or trace cannot be readily disengaged, prevents the hook from catching in other chains when brought in connection with them, and holds the points of the angle-bars in their proper place. As will be seen in Fig. 2, there is no bar of iron between the back-band and the horse to chafe the horse, as in the ordinary form of buckle.

Heretofore endwise-moving bars have been used in connection with back-band buckles and hooks; but these are more costly to manufacture, more troublesome to operate, and do not hold the back-band as tightly by frictional contact as is done in the construction here shown and described.

Having thus described my invention, I claim—

The combination of the frame A, having the hook B formed upon its lower edge and provided with a slot or opening, C, the sides of which are inclined toward each other, with the triangular-shaped rod or rods which are pivoted upon the frame and around which the band is passed, and which, when closed, clamp the back-band against the inclined sides of the slot or opening, and at the same time close the upper end of the hook, substantially as shown and described.

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

ALEXANDER E. CLARK.

Witnesses:

J. N. FRENCH,
W. C. BAIRD.