(No Model.)

L. L. TOWER.

BINDING STRAP.

No. 446,110. Patented Feb. 10, 1891.

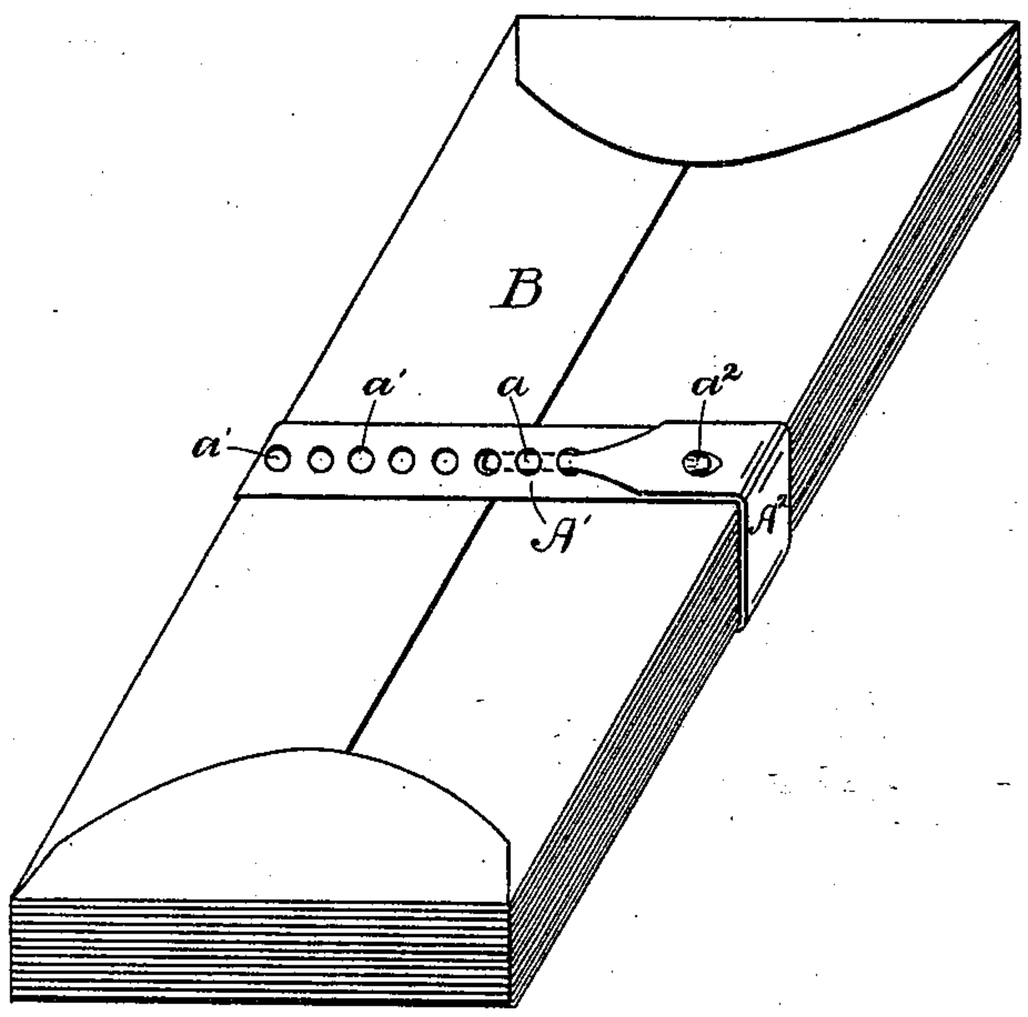

Fig. 1.

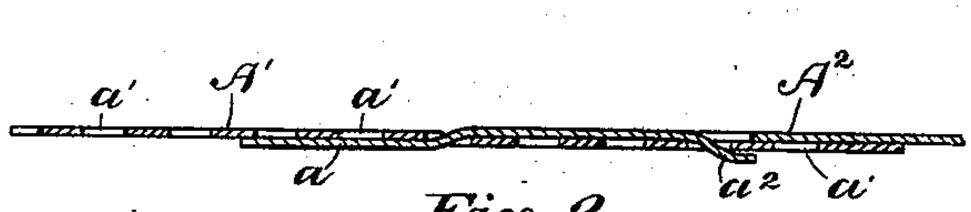

Fig. 2.

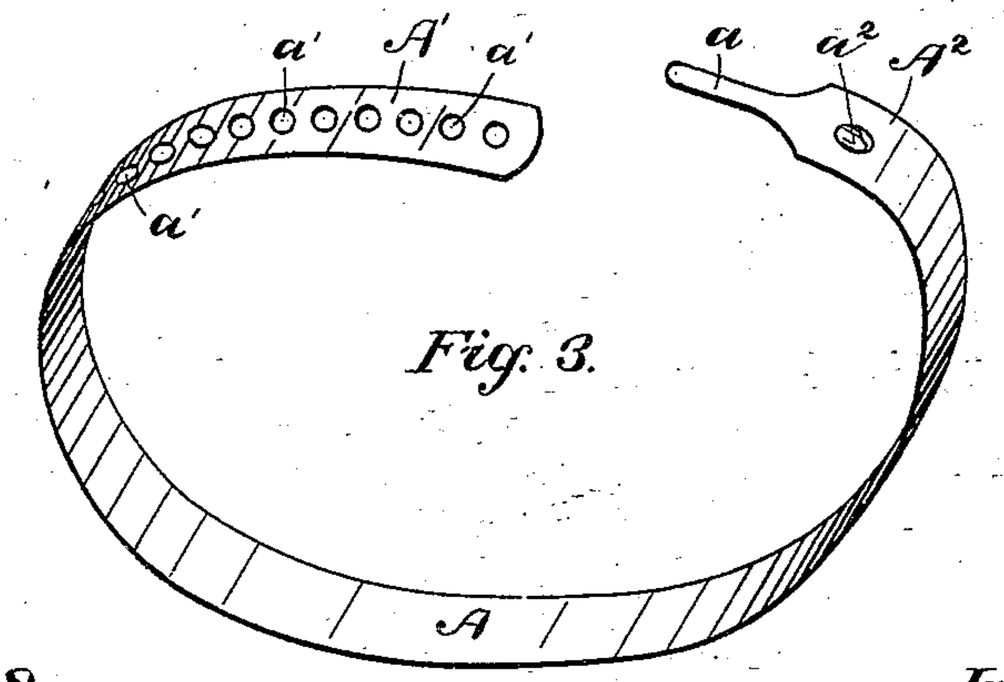

Fig. 3.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI L. TOWER, OF SOMERVILLE, MASSACHUSETTS.

BINDING-STRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 446,110, dated February 10, 1891.

Application filed August 27, 1890. Serial No. 363,198. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEVI L. TOWER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Somerville, in the county of Middlesex and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Binding-Straps, of which the following is a full specification.

My invention consists of an improved adjustable binding-strap especially adapted for holding together bundles of papers, documents, and other articles for which rubber bands are commonly employed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 shows in perspective a package held together by my improved binding-strap. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, on an enlarged scale, showing how the ends of the strap are fastened together. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the strap alone.

A is the strap, made, preferably, of metal, as brass or steel, and sufficiently thin to be flexible in the direction of its length, but quite stiff transversely. One end A′ of the strap is perforated with a series of holes a', extending back into the body thereof, while the other end A^2 terminates in a tongue a, the width of which is slightly less than the diameter of the holes a'. The end A^2 also has the hook a^2 preferably struck down from the material of the strap, as shown, and in such a position thereon that when the tongue a is pushed into one of the holes a' as far as it will go the hook a^2 will just engage with another of said holes a' in such a manner as to lock the strap firmly together. When arranged as in the drawings, the hook a^2 engages with the third hole from the one into which the tongue a is inserted. By having the strap perforated for a considerable distance along the end A^2 it will be seen that a strap of a single size may be used for bundles or packages of various sizes, according to the hole into which the tongue a is inserted. Moreover, the strap may be clasped either tightly or loosely, as desired, thus being perfectly adjustable, it being a very simple operation to change the tongue a and hook a^2 from one to another of the holes a'. The construction is such that the strap is doubly locked, so as to be incapable of being accidentally unclasped. Both the tongue a and the hook a^2 acting together are essential to this end. Were the tongue a omitted, so that the clasping together of the strap depended alone upon the engaging of the hook a^2 with one of the holes, the said strap would continually be liable to accidental unclasping by reason of the fact that a loose projecting end would be left beyond the hook a^2 to be easily caught when the bundles are being moved about, besides being liable to tear papers, &c., in contact therewith. With the tongue a, however, interlaced into the strap previous to hooking there is no loose end to catch and tear papers and absolutely no danger of accidental unclasping.

I claim—

A binding-strap one end of which is provided with a series of holes, while the other is provided with a tongue adapted to enter one of said holes, and a hook back of said tongue adapted to engage at the same time with another of said holes, whereby the strap is doubly clasped, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

LEVI L. TOWER.

Witnesses:

WM. B. H. DOWSE,

ALBERT E. LEACH.