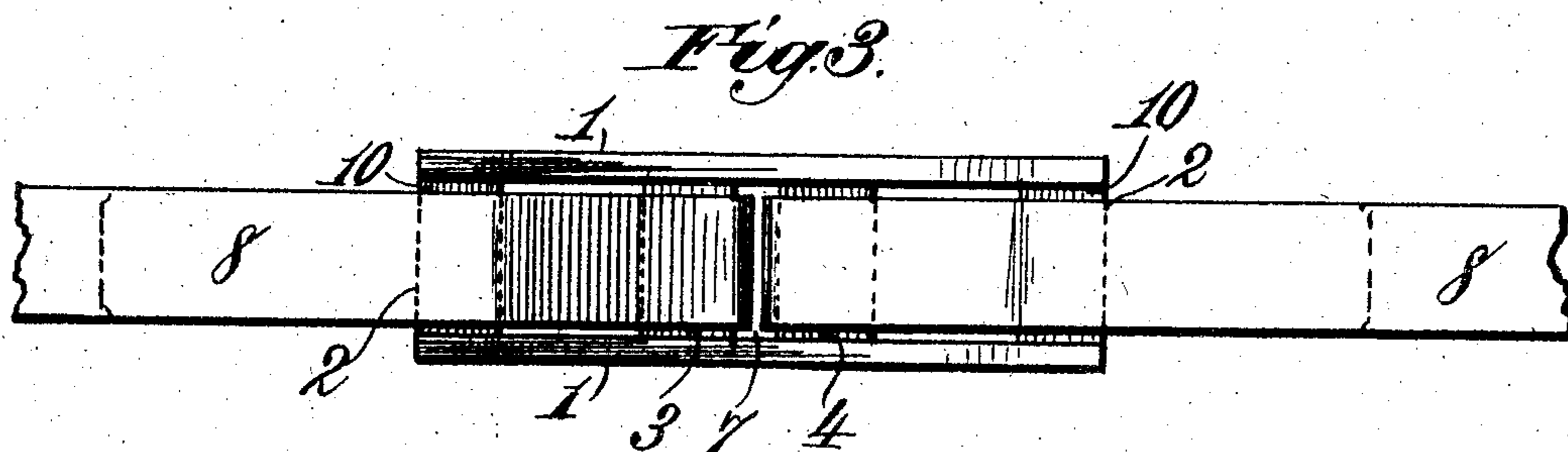
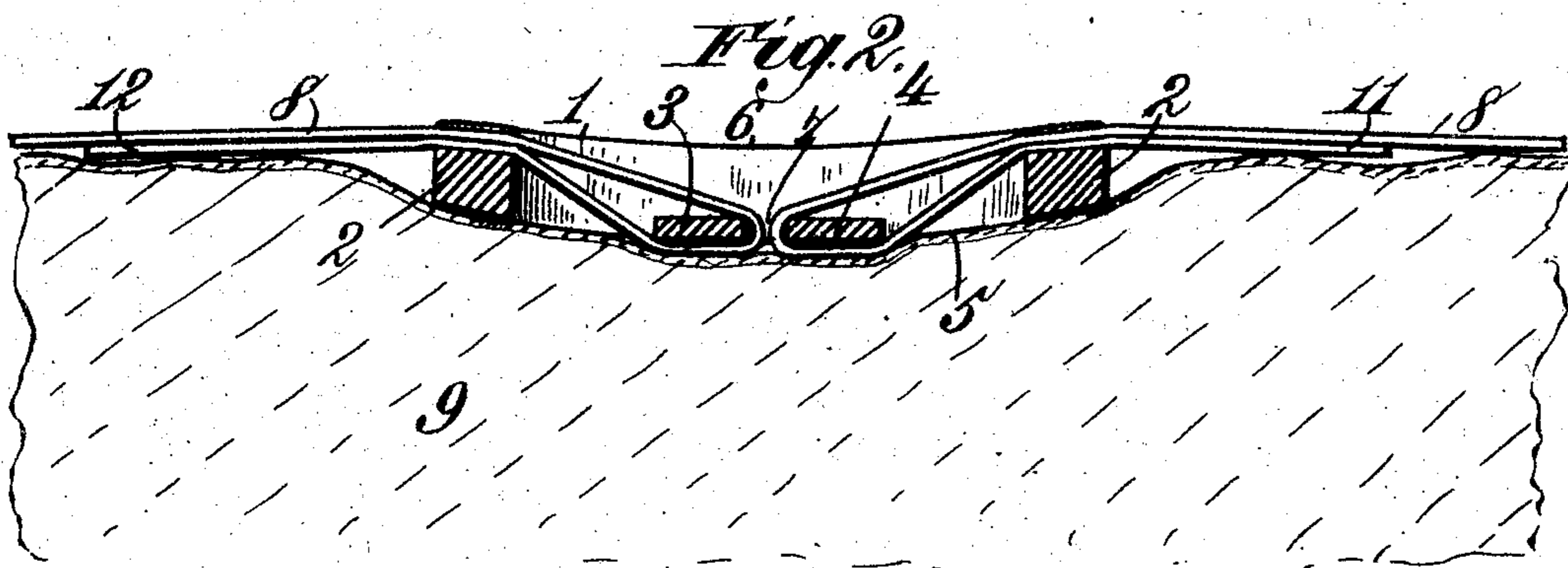
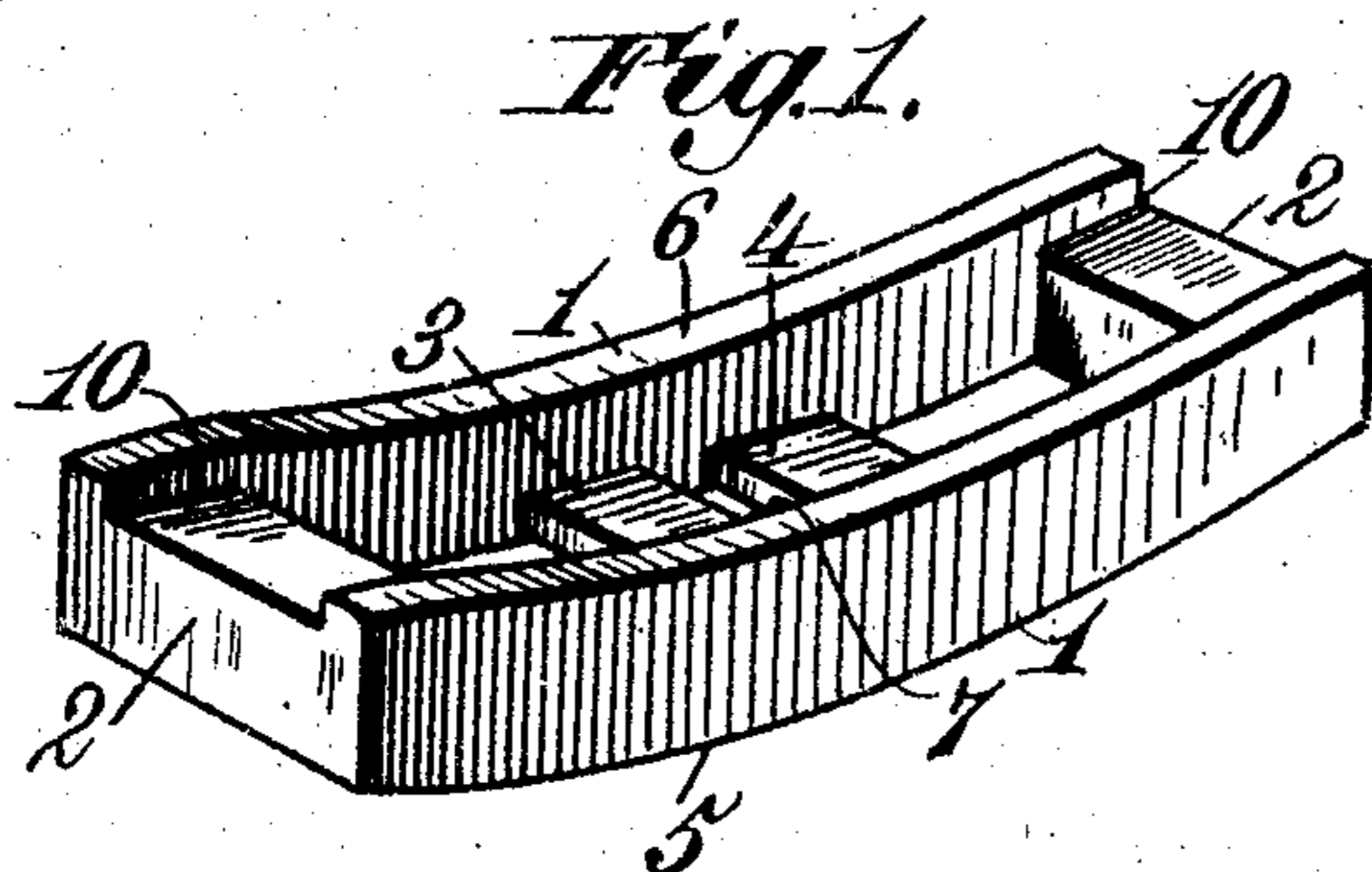


No. 786,744.

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J. B. FLEENOR.  
BUCKLE FOR COTTON BALE TIES.  
APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 1, 1904.



Witnesses,  
Robert Elliott,  
Mary S. Wood

Inventor,  
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Atty.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH B. FLEENOR, OF HOUSTON, MISSOURI.

## BUCKLE FOR COTTON-BALE TIES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 786,744, dated April 4, 1905.

Application filed September 1, 1904. Serial No. 223,012.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOSEPH B. FLEENOR, a citizen of the United States, residing at Houston, in the county of Texas and State of Missouri, have invented new and useful Improvements in Buckles for Cotton-Bale Ties, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in cotton-bale ties or, more particularly, to that portion of a tie which may be termed a "buckle," which is used for retaining the ends of the bands which are passed around the bale.

It is the object of my invention to provide a device of the character indicated which shall be simple in construction, strong and durable in use, which may have the bands readily applied thereto, and which will operate to hold the bands firmly without liability of the same working loose.

I have shown a practical embodiment of the invention in the accompanying drawings; but I may here state that the invention is not to be confined to the particular shape shown or to the exact organization or arrangement of parts except as such configuration or such arrangement and organization of parts may be defined in the claims following the specification.

In order that the invention may be clearly understood to those skilled in the art to which it relates, I have illustrated the same in the accompanying sheet of drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a cotton-bale tie constructed according to my invention. Fig. 2 is a transverse sectional view of the same, illustrating the application of the device to a bale of cotton and showing the manner of securing the ends of the band in the buckle; and Fig. 3 is a plan view of the device with the band applied thereto.

Referring now to the drawings, Fig. 1 shows the device as cast from metal in an integral structure and consisting of side bars 1, end bars 2, and cross-bars 3 4. The side bars 1 are shown to be curved to provide a convex surface 5, and the inner edge of said side bars is shown to be concaved, as indicated at 6, although this latter feature is not essential. The cross-bars 3 4 are located substantially flush with the curved edges 5 of the side bars

and are separated from each other to provide a space 7, through which the ends of the retaining-band may be passed. The numeral 8 indicates the retaining-band, and 9 a bale of cotton about which it is passed. The cross-bars 2 are shown to be cut away on their outer sides to provide a recess or groove 10 between the side bars at each end of the buckle, said recesses serving to receive the bands and prevent them from slipping laterally off of the buckle.

In applying the device the curved edges 5 of the buckle are placed adjacent to the sides of the bale 9, and the band 8 is caused to encircle the said bale while the latter is in the compress in the ordinary manner. The end of the band 8 is then passed over the end bar 2, inserted through the space 7 between the cross-bars, and passed under and around one of said cross-bars—say 4—and is then passed over the end bar 2 beneath the body of the band. The other end of the band 8 is similarly passed around the cross-bar 3 and over the other end bar 2. I have indicated the end portions of the band by the numerals 11 and 12, respectively. It will be seen that as soon as pressure is removed from the bale and the same expands the body portion of the band 8 will bear down upon and grip the ends 11 12 of said band on the end bars 2, and thus prevent the said end portions from being drawn out. This result is further assured by the location of the cross-bars 3 4, which being to one side of the end bars 2 cause the said bands to practically encircle said cross-bars, thereby affording great frictional resistance to the movement of the band and also to impart a bend to the band about the upper side of the end bars 2. It will be readily understood that the greater the pressure exerted upon the bands the firmer will be the engagement of the body portion of the band with the end portions. Furthermore, by locating the cross-bars flush with the convex edges of the side bars of the buckle it will be seen from Fig. 2 that the portions of the band passed around said cross-bars will be pressed against the bale, which further increases the resistance to the slipping of the band; also, said cross-bars being rectangular in shape the band will be

bent angularly over three edges of the same, and thus further add to the holding quality of the buckle. A firm and unyielding retention of the band is thereby assured.

5 Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A buckle for cotton-bale ties, comprising curved side bars connected by end bars, and  
10 separated cross-bars extending between and formed integral with said side bars and located substantially flush with the convex edges of said side bars.

2. A buckle for cotton-bale ties, comprising  
15 side bars curved on one side in the direction of their length, end bars uniting said side bars, and separated cross-bars extending between and formed integral with said side bars intermediate their ends and located substantially  
20 flush with the curved side of said side bars.

3. A buckle for cotton-bale ties, comprising side bars curved on one side in the direction

of their length, end bars uniting said side bars, and separated cross-bars extending between and formed integral with said side bars centrally thereof and located substantially flush  
25 with the curved sides of said side bars and in a plane parallel to the plane of said end bars.

4. A buckle for cotton-bale ties, comprising side bars, end bars uniting said side bars and  
30 having their upper surfaces located in a plane below the edges of the end portions of said side bars at each end of the buckle, and separated cross-bars extending between and formed integral with said side bars intermediate the ends thereof, and located in a plane  
35 parallel to the plane of said end bars.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOSEPH B. FLEENOR.

Witnesses:

W. J. MCGEE,  
ROLET LAMAR.