

W. HEATH.
SNAP-HOOK.

No. 178,437.

Patented June 6, 1876.

Fig. 2

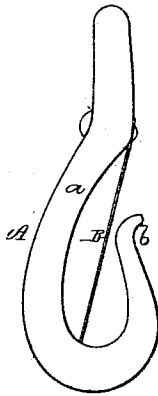
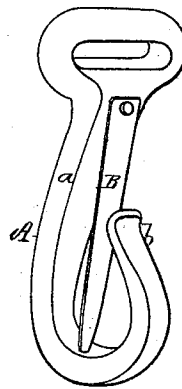


Fig. 1



Witnesses,

R. H. Ledy

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by his attorney

R. H. Ledy

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

WILLIAM HEATH, OF BATH, MAINE.

IMPROVEMENT IN SNAP-HOOKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 178,437, dated June 6, 1876; application filed May 4, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM HEATH, of Bath, of the county of Sagadahoc and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Snap-Hooks; and do hereby declare the same to be fully described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, and Fig. 2 a side view, of a snap-hook of my improved construction.

In my said snap-hook the tongue or spring, at or near its free end, does not bear against the point portion of the hook, as in other snap-hooks, but is extended beyond such down to the bottom of the shank or the bend of the hook, all as shown in the accompanying drawings, in which the hook is represented at A, and the spring or shorter tongue at B, the said spring constituting the chord of the curve of the shank *a*, and being fixed at or near either or both of its ends to the said shank. The point *b* of the hook is very nearly opposite the middle of the spring, and such point is bent around so as to curve in opposite directions relatively to the spring, which is tangential, or about so, to the middle of the curve of the point, all of which facilitates the entrance of the point as well into as out of a ring.

When my improved hook is hitched to a ring or staple, the latter cannot work behind the spring or tongue, so as to get between it and the shank, as it can in common snap-hooks, whose springs, by being short and supported at one end only of each, are very liable

to become broken, and, owing to their arrangement, are inconvenient for unhitching the hook, as in accomplishing such they have to be pressed back by the finger of a person preparatory to disengaging the hook from the ring or staple. My improved hook requires no such use of the finger, and can be unhitched from as readily as it can be hitched, one movement only of the hook, either upward or downward, sufficing for such, and no back movement of the spring by the finger being required.

I do not claim a snap-hook having its point turned or bent inward against the middle of its spring, all as shown in the United States Patents Nos. 40,152 and 46,468, such bend operating to prevent the ready detachment of the hook from a ring; nor do I claim a snap-hook having a "guard" and a "stop," and the spring applied in a reverse direction to its shank, all as shown in said Patent No. 40,152. I have no such arrangement of spring, nor any such guard or stop in my snap-hook.

I therefore claim as my invention—

The improved snap-hook, substantially as described, having its tongue or spring B extended by the point *b* to, or approximately to, the bottom or lower part of the shank *a*, all essentially as specified, and having the point bent outward or curved in two directions relatively to the spring, all as shown and described.

WILLIAM HEATH.

Witnesses:

JAS. P. HITCHCOCK,
THOMAS LEONARD.