

(No Model.)

F. MELKA.
HARNESS SNAP HOOK.

No. 550,189.

Patented Nov. 19, 1895.

Fig 1.

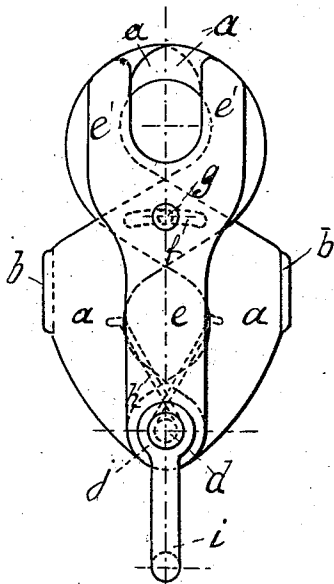


Fig 2.

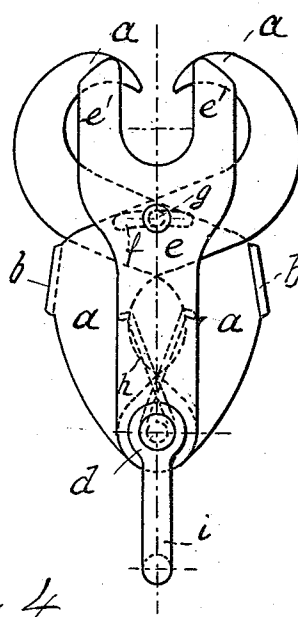


Fig 3.

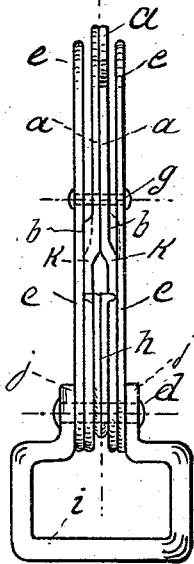
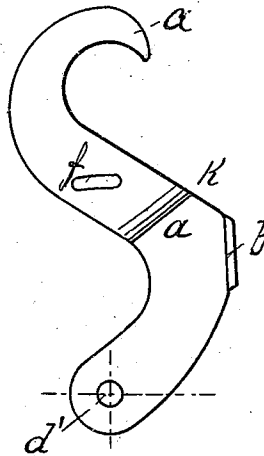


Fig 4.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRANK MELKA, OF FAIRCHILD, WISCONSIN.

HARNESS SNAP-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 550,189, dated November 19, 1895.

Application filed June 12, 1895. Serial No. 552,552. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRANK MELKA, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fairchild, in the county of Eau Claire, State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Harness Snap-Hooks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is related to a class of improvements in harness-fittings in which snap-hooks are used to connect the different parts of the harness; and the objects of my improvement are to provide a lighter and more ornamental hook than those now in use, and as an article of merchandise to enable them to be manufactured from sheet-steel cheaper than the old methods. I attain these objects by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical side view showing the snap-hook closed and showing all parts. Fig. 2 is a vertical side view showing the hook in an open state. Fig. 3 is a vertical edge view showing the relative positions of all parts of the hook. Fig. 4 is a side view of one of the hooks, and they are both similar but used in a reversed position.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

Two fork-shaped pieces of metal *ee* are provided with round holes, (shown at *g* and *d*, Fig. 1,) and they constitute the frame. Two S-shaped hooks *aa'*, exactly alike, are provided with an oblong aperture *f* in the center of their faces. The aperture is slightly curved to conform to the circle made by a radial line from the center at the round hole at *d* in the lower end of the hook. A lug is turned up at a right angle to the plane of the hook shown at *bb*, forming a flat surface for the thumb and fin-

ger to rest upon. The hooks are slightly bent a little below the slot shown at *kk*, Fig. 3, making an offset for the spring *h*. The hooks are placed against each other in reverse positions with one piece of the frame under and the other on top. Then a rivet is put through all four pieces (shown at *g*, Fig. 3) and made secure by heading the rivet down on the frame-pieces. A square loop *i*, provided with eyes *jj*, is placed astride of the four parts at the lower end of the frame. Then a coil-spring *h* with arms extending up into the curves in the hooks with its extreme ends resting against the edge of the hooks shown at *cc*, Fig. 3, is placed between them in the space provided for it. Then a rivet *d* is put through all parts and headed down, securing all together loosely, the rivet forming the pivot on which the hooks and spring swing. The spring *h* is intended to hold the upper ends of the hooks in a closed position constantly.

To operate this snap-hook, a strap may be buckled into the loop and thumb and finger placed on the lugs *bb* and pressed together and the hooks will open, as shown at *a'a'*, Fig. 2. When the pressure is removed, the spring will close around the ring or what it may be used on.

What I claim as my invention, and wish to secure by Letters Patent, is—

In a snap hook the combination of the forked shaped frame pieces with the loop and spring in connection with the S hooks and rivet *g*, substantially as described.

FRANK MELKA.

Witnesses:

WILJELM GAU,
WM. F. HDOD.