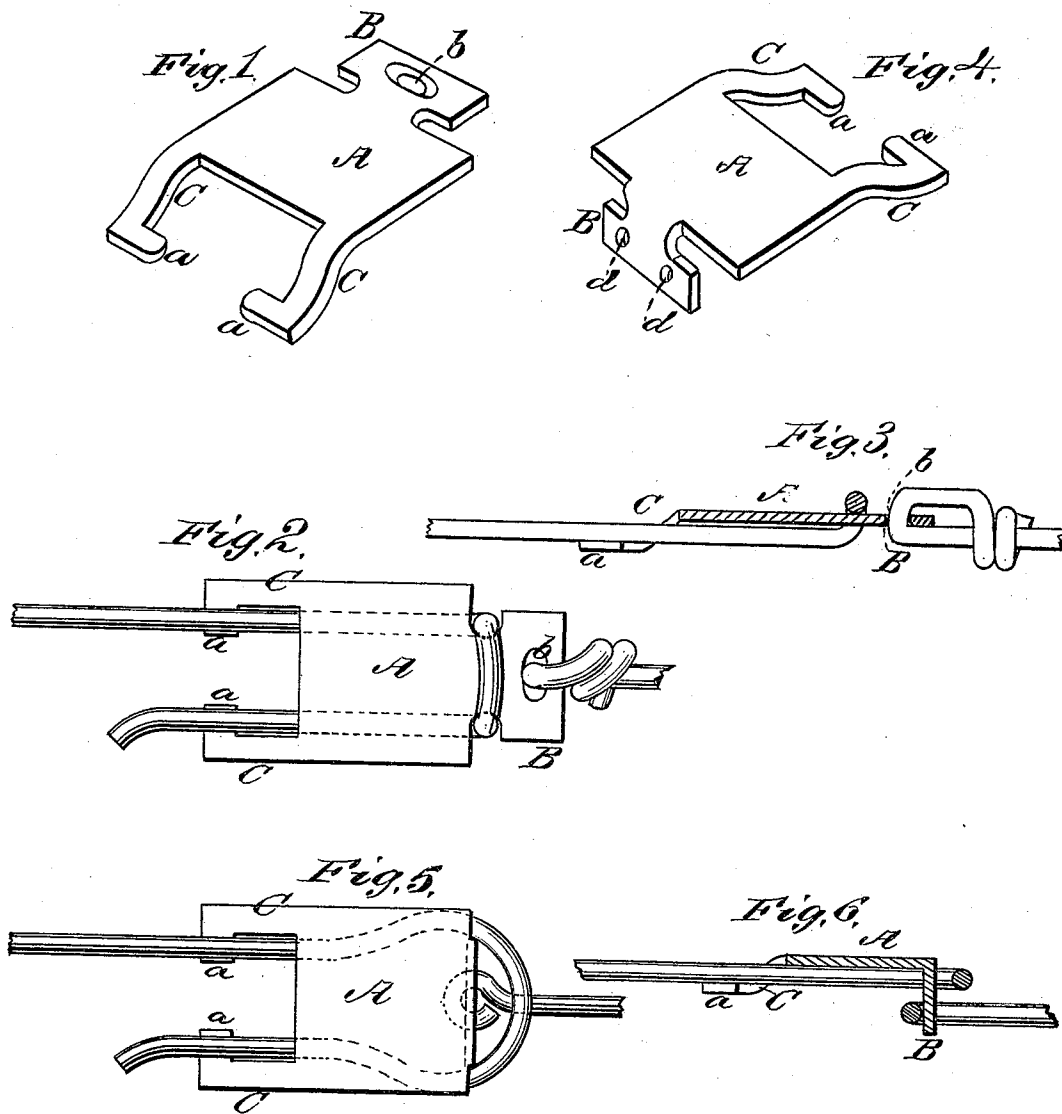


R. C. LUDLOW.

BALE-TIE.

No. 175,720.

Patented April 4, 1876.



WITNESSES

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RICHARD C. LUDLOW, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN BALE-TIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **175,720**, dated April 4, 1876; application filed March 4, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD C. LUDLOW, of St. Louis, in the county of St. Louis and State of Missouri, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Bale-Ties; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a perspective view of my bale-tie, and Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the same, and Figs. 4, 5, and 6 are views of modifications thereof.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of a bale-tie to be used with wire ties, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawings, A represents the body of the tie, made of a flat piece of metal, formed at one end with a T-shaped head, B, and at the other end with two parallel prongs, C C, having inward-projecting points *a a* at its extreme ends. These prongs and points correspond exactly in size and shape with the metal removed at the opposite end to form the head B. Hence the ties or buckles may be punched from a metal bar of proper width without any loss of metal, as the metal removed at one end forms the opposite end of the adjoining buckle.

When very small wire is to be used for the band, the buckles may be used in this flat condition. When heavier wire is to be used, the prongs C C may be bent as shown in Fig. 1, while the head B is left flat or in the same plane as the body of the tie.

For very heavy bands, such as are required for cotton-bales, the head B is bent back at right angles with the body A, whereby all short bends in the wire are avoided, which it would be difficult to make with thick wire.

For attaching the buckle to the wire, two modes are used, intended to facilitate the adjustment of the buckle to the proper position relatively to the bale. The device shown in Fig. 1 is a slightly-elliptic hole, *b*, having the metal chamfered at both ends of the hole and on both sides of the buckle. That shown in Fig. 4 has two holes, *d d*, and besides the facility it affords for adjusting the buckle by means of the leverage gained, which enables the operator to twist the wire about its own axes, it has the additional advantages of facility in attaching the buckle to the wire, and of bringing the strain on the two ends of the wire encircling the bale in very nearly a straight line.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The bale-tie herein described, consisting of the flat body A, provided at one end with prongs C C, having inwardly-projecting points *a a*, and the T-shaped head B, provided with holes at the other end at right angles or parallel with the body A, substantially as described, and for the purpose set forth.

2. A bale-tie having prongs terminated by inwardly-projecting points at one end of its body, and a T-shaped head, B, at its opposite end, the opening between the prongs corresponding exactly in size and shape with the head, whereby the tie may be punched from a bar without any loss of metal, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

RICHARD C. LUDLOW.

Witnesses:

B. F. SAYLOR,
ALFRED CLIFFORD.