I. C. PLANT.

METALLIC BAND OR TIE FOR BALES.

No. 21,272. Patented Aug. 24, 1858.

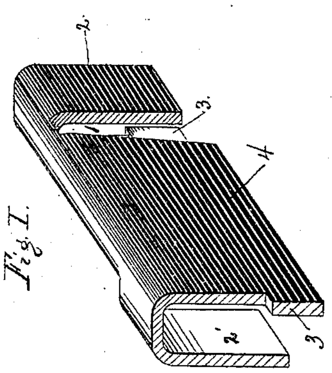

Fig. 1.

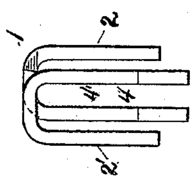

Fig. 4.

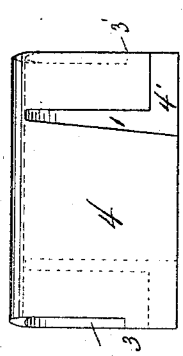

Fig. 2.

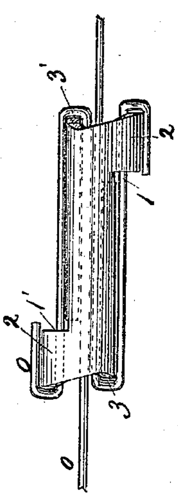

Fig. 3.

Witnesses.

[illegible]

[illegible]

Inventor.

Increase C. Plant

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

INCREASE C. PLANT, OF MACON, GEORGIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN METALLIC BANDS OR TIES FOR BALES, &c.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **21,272**, dated August 24, 1858.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, INCREASE C. PLANT, of Macon, in the county of Bibb and State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Metallic Bale Ties or Locks for Banding Cotton or other Bales with Metal Bands; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, through letters of reference marked thereon, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my bale tie or lock. Fig. 2 is a side view, Fig. 3 a top or edge view, and Fig. 4 an end view, of the same.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a bale tie or lock of cast or wrought iron, copper, or other metal, to be used in connection with iron or other metallic bands for baling cotton or other articles in such manner that the two ends of the band may be easily connected, and as easily loosed and shortened, in repressing the bale, without injuring the fastening.

To enable others to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

It may best be described as a sheet of stiff metal of nearly a square form, with a sawcast, 1 1′, cut into it from each end to nearly the center line across the plate, the one being at about one-fourth of the width of the plate (more or less) from one side, the other being about the same distance from the other side, and about parallel therewith and with each other. The plate is then bent at its center line from side to side until the two halves come parallel with each other, the flanges 4 4′ being just near enough together to admit two thicknesses of the band metal loosely between them, while the lips 2 2′, although parallel with the flanges, are only bent down to such an extent as will allow the end of the band metal used for baling to pass over outside of the flanges 4 4′ and under or inside of the lips 2 2′ in a straight line. The ends of the flanges 4 4′ are cut away, so as to leave projections 3 3′ at their outer corners to prevent the band from slipping or being knocked out at the open side of the tie or lock.

In banding a bale, one end of the band is passed edgewise into the fastening and bent into the position represented by the red lines *a*. The other end, being passed around the bale, is slipped into the fastening in the same manner, drawn tight, and its end bent up over the flange 4 and under the lip 2, which secures it, and when the bale is put under pressure to be repressed, the end of the band may be slipped out at the open side of the bale-tie, the slack taken up, and again secured by bending it into the same position as before. The ends of the flanges 4 4′ are beveled under at the edge where the band is turned over it, so as to cause it to take a flat bearing on it instead of drawing on the sharp inner edge, as would be the case if left square on the end.

It will be obvious that a fastening of this form can be made of any malleable sheet metal, or may be cast in the form described.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The bale tie or lock made open at one edge and both ends, so that the band may be inserted in it edgewise, in the manner substantially as above described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto subscribe my name before two subscribing witnesses this 29th day of July, 1858.

INCREASE C. PLANT.

Witnesses:

R. W. CUBBEDGE,

FREDERIC BATES.