(No Model.)

C. T. CHRISTMAS.

Bale Band Tightener.

No. 231,273. **Patented Aug. 17, 1880.**

Fig. 1

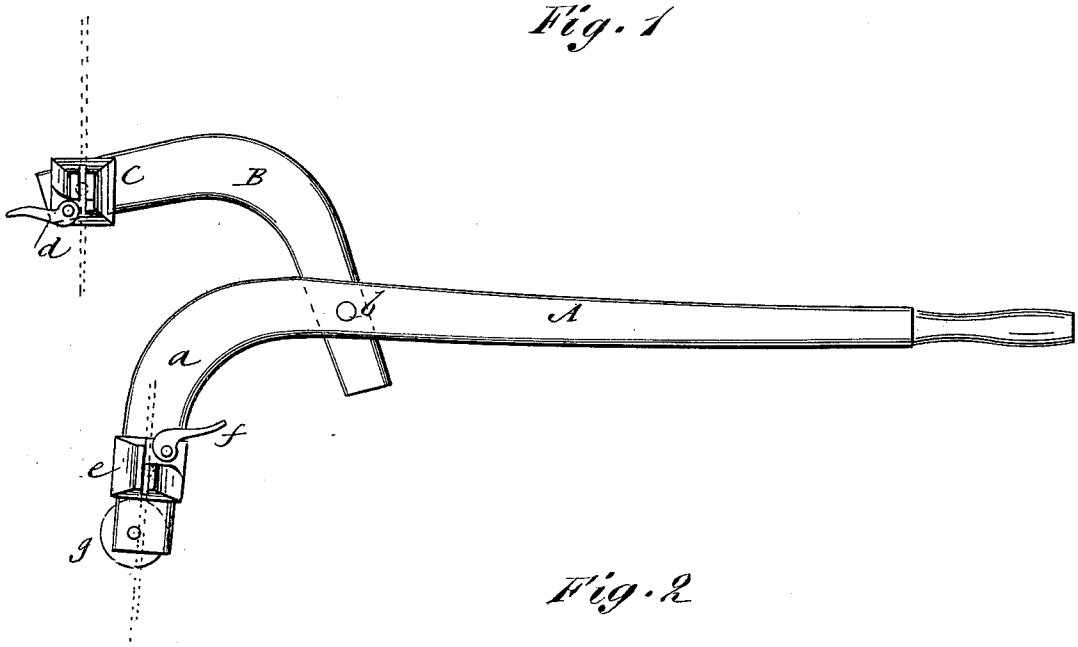
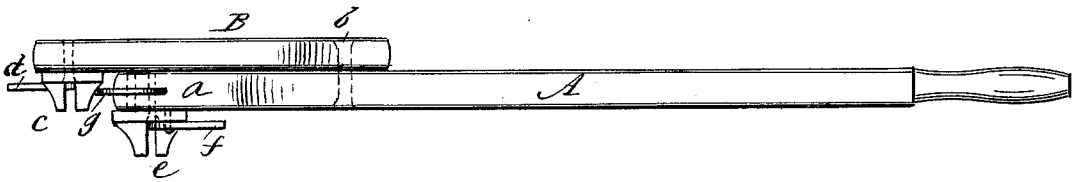


Fig. 2



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES T. CHRISTMAS, OF RIVERTON, MISSISSIPPI.

BALE-BAND TIGHTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 231,273, dated August 17, 1880.

Application filed May 22, 1880. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES T. CHRISTMAS, of Riverton, in the county of Bolivar and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bale-Band Tighteners, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to that class of devices known to the public as "bale-band tighteners."

The construction and operation will be more particularly explained hereinafter, with reference to the accompanying drawings, wherein—

Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 an edge view, of my improved band-tightener.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A is a lever of suitable length, and formed with the end *a* bent in curved form. B is a curved arm, hung on lever A, near the bent end thereof, by a pin, *b*, which permits the arm to swing freely. Upon the outer end of arm B, at one side, is fitted a slotted block, *c*, which is attached by a screw-pin or rivet, so that the block may turn on the arm. In a recess of the block *c* is hung a cam-lever, *d*, in a position for being turned to bear upon a band that may be placed in the slot of block *c*. Upon the side of lever A, near the end, is attached a similar block, *e*, also slotted and fitted with a cam-lever, *f*. At the extreme end of lever A is fitted a friction-roller, *g*.

In using the tightener the band is placed around the compressed bale, and one end (the button end when the ordinary button-band is used) is placed in the slot of block *c* on arm B and clamped by lever *d*. The other end of the band is secured in the block *e* of lever A; then by pressing down the outer end of lever A the two ends will be brought together and held by one hand of the operator on the lever while the ends of the tie aré being secured with the other hand. The tightener may be then removed.

The roller *g* permits the end of the lever to slide over the bale readily without catching.

By this tightener each band may be drawn tightly to the compressed bale and all the bands drawn to an equal tension, so that there will be but slight expansion of the bale when removed from the press, and the pressure on the bands will be equally distributed.

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

A bale-band tightener consisting of two end-curved and cross-pivoted bars, A B, having on corresponding sides of the ends a swiveled slotted block and cam-lever, as shown and described.

CHAS. T. CHRISTMAS.

Witnesses:

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