(No Model.)

H. S. RICHARDSON.

FASTENER.

No. 598,959. Patented Feb. 15, 1898.

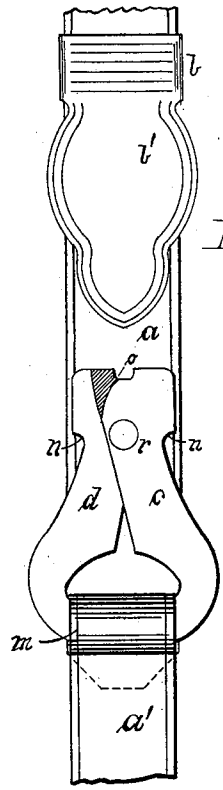


Fig. 1.

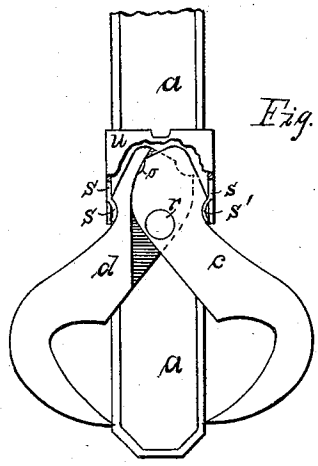


Fig. 3.

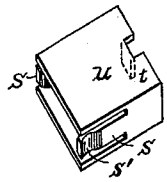


Fig. 2.

Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY S. RICHARDSON, OF TERRE HAUTE, INDIANA.

FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 598,959, dated February 15, 1898.

Application filed September 8, 1896. Serial No. 605,211. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY S. RICHARDSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Terre Haute, in the county of Vigo and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harness-Fastenings; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of harness-fastenings which are used for fastening the crupper, belly-bands, and other like parts of harness which must be frequently fastened and unfastened; and the objects of the invention are, first, to provide a simple, convenient, and effective device for fastening and unfastening the parts of harness; second, to provide a device which will not stick or catch and hence render its operation difficult, and, third, to provide a device upon which a horse's tail or other object will not catch. I attain these objects by means of the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents the fastening when adjusted to hold a strap, but with the collar or slide pushed up upon the strap to which it is attached in order that the jaws may be seen. Fig. 2 represents the metal collar or slide. Fig. 3 represents the two jaws attached to the end of a strap and held partially open by a section of the collar or slide.

Similar letters of reference refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

In the drawings the letters *c* and *d* indicate a pair of hook-like jaws which are fastened together by means of a pivot *r*. The upper portions or bodies of these jaws are recessed or halved in order that they may be fitted together in a manner similar to that of scissors, and thus when fastened together they only present a thickness equal to that of either jaw. The lower or curved portions of the jaws are beveled in such manner that they will lap one upon the other and still retain a uniform thickness with the whole of the united jaws. The upper portion of the jaw *c* is rounded out to form a cam-like projection upon its inner side. This cam fits into a rounded recess which is cut into the face of the jaw *d* for that purpose, as shown in Figs. 1 and 3. A notch *n* is cut into the outer edge of each of the jaws, and a recess or notch *o* is cut into the upper edge of both jaws for the purpose hereinafter set forth.

The letter *u* in Fig. 2 indicates a collar or slide which is made of brass, steel, or other suitable spring metal and consists of a hollow rectangular body, from the two sides of which are cut or stamped a spring *s*, said springs *s* being curved inward at a point *s'* near the outer ends thereof, and a tongue or catch *t* is struck down from the upper side of the body, as shown in Fig. 2.

The letter *b* indicates a leather loop or slide, which consists of the loop proper and a pendant-strap *b'*. The collar or slide *u* fits into and acts as a form for the loop *b* and is firmly fastened therein in any substantial manner.

The letter *a'* indicates a strap upon the end of which is formed a loop *m* in any convenient manner.

To attach my invention to any part of a harness, I pass the stationary strap *a* through the collar or slide *u*, which is fastened within the loop *b*, then attach the jaws *c* and *d* to the strap *a* by means of the pivot *r*, leaving just enough of the end of the strap for the same to extend down and cover the back of the jaws and clamp the hooked portion of the two jaws together within the loop *m*, formed at the end of the detached strap *a'*. By means of the pendant *b'* I then pull the collar or slide *u* down upon the upper portion of the jaws until the bent portion *s'* of the springs *s* catch into the notches *n* of the jaws, and at the same time the tongue or catch *t* catches in the notches *o* in the upper edges of the jaws, and thereby clamp the collar or slide *u* upon the upper portion of the jaws and at the same time clamp the lower hooked portion of the jaws within the loop *m* of the strap *a'*, thus firmly fastening the two straps together. To release the jaws, and consequently the strap *a'*, it is only necessary to push the collar or slide upward upon the strap *a*. The springs *s*, binding in the notches *n*, will force the two jaws to open upon the cam formed at their intersection until the springs *s*, and conse-

quently the collar or slide, are free from the jaws. By opening the jaws in this manner the strap a' will be released.

The advantages that I claim for my invention over the common form of buckles and other like forms of harness-fastenings are the increased ease with which it can be manipulated and its safety from becoming detached or unfastened accidentally.

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

1. In a harness-fastening, the combination of two hook-like jaws c and d, pivoted together by means of a pivot r, said jaws having curved or cam edges at their intersection, the notches n upon their outer edges and a notch o in their upper edge, with a metallic collar or slide u, said collar or slide being provided with the springs s adapted to catch into the notches n of the jaws and the tongue or catch t adapted to catch into the notches o of the jaws within a leather loop b, substantially as described and set forth.

2. The combination, with the two straps a and a', said strap a' having a loop m secured thereto, of the fastening consisting of the pivoted jaws c and d, the loop b, pendant b' and the metallic collar or slide u, said collar or slide being provided with the springs s, adapted to catch into the notches n of the jaws and the tongue or catch t struck down from the upper side thereof, all substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a harness-fastening, the combination of the fastening having the pivoted and recessed jaws c and d and the collar or slide u, adapted to operate said jaws, and the loop b, with the strap a, connected with the jaws and a strap a' furnished with a loop m adapted to be connected with the hook-like ends of the jaws, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY S. RICHARDSON.

Witnesses:

SYDNEY B. DAVIS,

FRED W. BEAL.