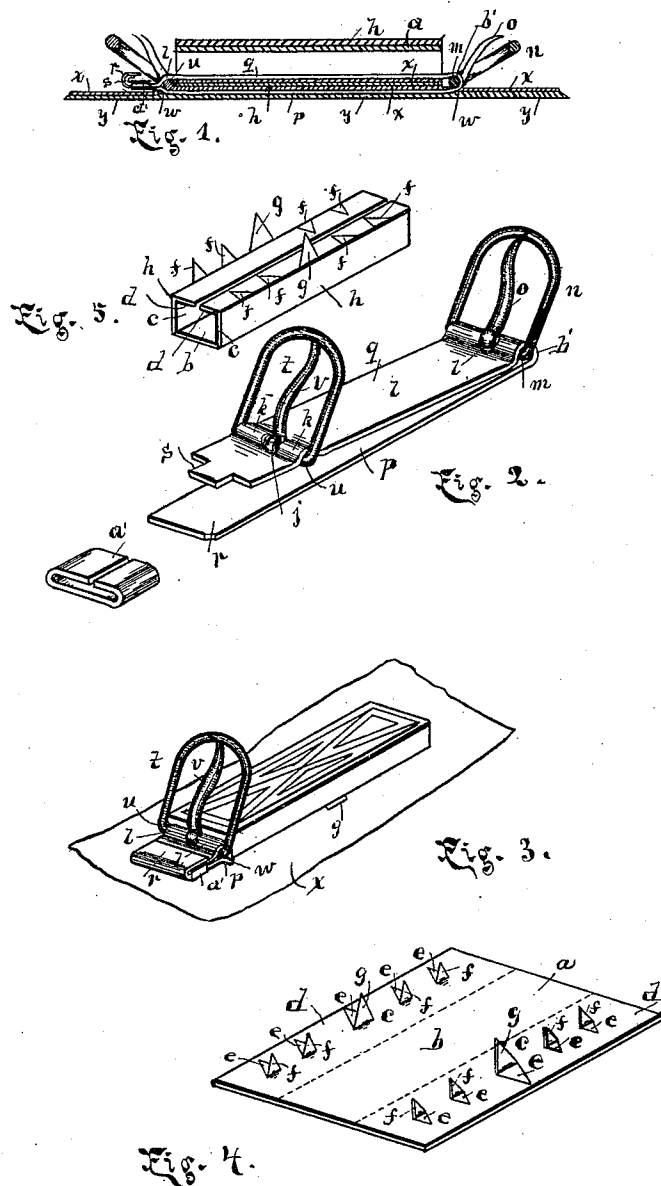


(No Model.)

M. B. ELMER.
BOX LOOP.

No. 460,527.

Patented Sept. 29, 1891.



Attest:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MARTAIN BYRON ELMER, OF SAGINAW, MICHIGAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO J. PHILIP BECK, OF SAME PLACE.

BOX-LOOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 460,527, dated September 29, 1891.

Application filed February 26, 1891. Serial No. 382,968. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARTAIN BYRON ELMER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Saginaw, (East Side,) in the county of Saginaw and State of Michigan, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Box-Loops and Buckle Securing Devices; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as 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 a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in devices for securing buckles and box-loops to carriage-tops and in other places of a like nature; and the invention consists in the combination and arrangement of the several parts which are used in the construction of the device, as I shall presently proceed to explain, and which will be specifically pointed out in the claim of this specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a means for securing buckles and box-loops to carriage-tops which can be easily and quickly applied and secured to the top and which will retain the loop and buckle securely in position and also be easily removed and replaced for repairs without cutting the lining or otherwise mutilating the parts of the top.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which the same letters of reference will be found indicating the same parts throughout the several views.

Figure 1 represents a longitudinal section of my improved devices as attached to a carriage-top. Fig. 2 shows the fastening devices detached. Fig. 3 is a view in perspective of the device as attached to a carriage-top and carrying one buckle only. Fig. 4 is a blank for composing the loop and arranged for receiving a covering of leather. Fig. 5 shows the loop provided with the leather cover and ready to be affixed to the carriage-top.

a represents a metal blank which is designed to form a box-loop having a leather covering, and this blank is arranged with a middle portion *b*, which, when the blank is bent to the desired contour, will form the upper surface of the loop, while the portions *c*

upon the lateral sides of the portion *b* will form the lateral sides of the box-loop, while the outer portions *d* will form the under side of the loop. The portions *d* are provided with a series of triangular openings *e*, and the portions removed from the openings *e* are turned at a right angle with the plate and are arranged with their edges adhering to the lateral edges of the portions *c*, forming spurs *f* and *g*, the spurs *g* being of a greater length than the spurs *f*.

When the plate is arranged with the spurs as described, a piece of leather covering *h* is laid upon the plate and the spurs are pushed through the leather, and the spurs *f* are turned down upon the leather, which secures the leather in place, and the plate is then bent to the form of a box-loop, (shown in Fig. 5,) the spurs *g* remaining extended.

i is a band or strip of metal, which at a short distance from one end is provided with a perforation *j* for the tongue of a buckle, and the portions *k* on the lateral sides of the opening *j* is bent up, while at a proper distance from the opening *j*, corresponding to the length of the box-loop, is arranged a perforation *l* for the tongue of a buckle, and the strip of metal *i* is here turned upwardly and then turned back upon itself, forming a loop *b'*, inclosing the cross-bar *m* of a buckle *n* in the bend, while the buckle-tongue *o* protrudes through the opening *l* and the portion *p* of the strip then reaches beneath the upper portion *q* thereof and is arranged with its end *r* extending beyond the end *s* of the portion *q*, and the end *r* is preferably cut away on its lateral sides, so as to form a centrally-located narrow tongue. The metal strip being thus arranged, the upper portion *q* thereof is passed through the box-loop, with the spurs *g* projecting downwardly on each side of the portion *p*. The buckle *t* is then placed in position with its cross-bar *u* resting in the bend *k* and with the tongue *v* projecting through the perforation *j*. The fastening is now ready to be secured to the carriage-top, and for this purpose slits *w* are made in the leather or outside covering *x* of the top in the desired position and of a distance between equal to the space between the inner side of the bar *m* of the buckle *n* and the outer side of the bar *u* of

the buckle *t*, and the end *r* of the metal strip is then passed through one slit *w* and between the lining *y* and the covering *x* and then through the other slit *x*, leaving the end projecting above the covering. The spurs *g* are then pressed through the covering *x* and bent over beneath the lining. A metal clip *a'* of a suitable dimension is then passed over the ends *r* and *s* and against the raised part *k*, and the ends *r* and *s* are then turned backward and over the clip *a'* and closed firmly thereon, and the buckles and box-loop are then firmly secured in position.

Should it become necessary for any reason to remove the box-loop or a buckle, the ends *r* and *s* are first straightened and the clip removed, and the points *g* can then be raised by a knife or other means, and the part *p* is then withdrawn from the slit, which frees the fastening, so that it may be repaired and replaced or renewed, as desired.

As shown in Fig. 3, the device may be used, if desired, for attaching one buckle only with the box-loop, and in that case the perforation *j* and the bend *k* can be omitted, and the clip would then be pushed to place against the end of the loop and the ends *r* and *s* bent over, as before stated, or the other buckle *n* can be omitted, as desired, the parts operating in the same manner as before stated.

It will be noticed that an exceedingly strong and durable fastening for buckles and box-loops is provided which can be easily removed and renewed without cutting the lining of the carriage-top, (the spurs *g*, being thin, can be easily bent without mutilating the lining,) which advantage is very great, as with the common forms of fastenings for box-loops the lining of expensive tops are often ruined in repairing the buckle-fastenings.

It will be understood, of course, that while I have shown and described the spurs *g* as forming a portion of the fastening the spurs can be omitted, if more convenient, and the fastening will be equally efficient, as these spurs are only designed to retain the loop closely upon the covering to improve the appearance of the work; and I wish it also understood that the metal clip *a'* can be omitted, and the ends *r* and *s* bent over each other form a strong means of securing the parts together. However, I prefer the clip, when convenient, as an additional means of security for the fastening.

Having now fully described the construction and operation of my improvement, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, as follows:

As an improved article of manufacture, a box-loop and buckle securing device consisting of a box-loop, a strip of metal bent in its middle portion upon itself and having its upper portion *g* passed through the box-loop and with its end extending beyond the loop and provided with an opening *j* and with the upward-bent portions *k* on the sides of the opening, and having a buckle with its tongue passed through the opening *j* and with its cross-bar resting in the said portion *k* and having the portion *p* of the strip extending beneath the box-loop and with its end reaching beyond the said buckle, and a clip *a'* for retaining the ends of the strips together, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

M. BYRON ELMER.

Witnesses:

GEO. P. THOMAS,
JAS. E. THOMAS.