

D. T. LEWIS.

BALE-TIE.

No. 183,948.

Patented Oct. 31, 1876.

Fig. 1.

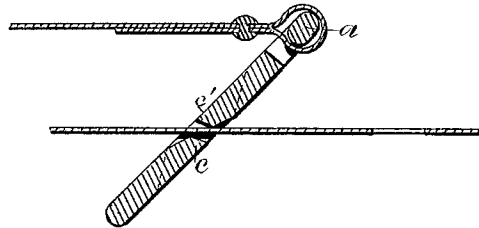


Fig. 2.

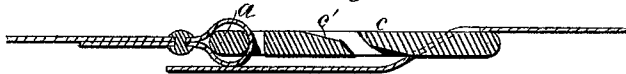
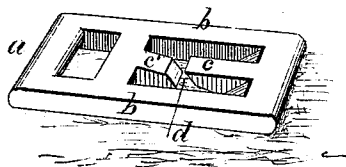


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

DAVID T. LEWIS, OF BROWNSVILLE, TENNESSEE.

IMPROVEMENT IN BALE-TIES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **183,948**, dated October 31, 1876; application filed September 21, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID T. LEWIS, of Brownsville, in the county of Haywood and State of Tennessee, have invented a new and Improved Bale-Tie; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

This invention relates to that class of bale-ties in which a metal buckle or loop connects the two ends of a metal strap that surrounds the bale.

It consists in the peculiar construction of the buckle, the tongue of which is made with an inclined passage for the admission of the end of the strap, said inclined passage being so inclined that, as the buckle is passed upon the tongue of the strap, the upper or outer end shall be inclined forward upon or over the strap, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the drawings, Figure 1 shows the buckle advancing upon the strap in the act of tying the bale. Fig. 2 shows the parts in position when the bale is tied. Fig. 3 represents the buckle detached and in perspective.

Similar letters of reference in the accompanying drawings denote the same parts.

The requirements of a bale-tie are well-known to those whose business makes it necessary to use those articles, and need not be here enumerated. The manner in which I have met these requirements will appear in the following description of the invention.

Referring to Fig. 3 of the drawings, *a* represents that part of the tie to which one end of the strap is permanently attached. It is formed in a well-known way by a rectangular transverse perforation, leaving a shank around which the end of the strap is bent, and fastened in any of the well-known methods. The other part is cut with two longitudinal slots, which leave sides *b b*, and a tongue, *c c'*. This tongue is severed at *d* by an inclined transverse cut, which leaves a space between the ends sufficient for the passage of a strap of ordinary thickness moving in a plane parallel, or nearly parallel, to its sides.

The buckle is represented in Figs. 2 and 3, as it would appear when in position on a bale. The space between the two parts of the tongue of the buckle is inclined, at its upper end, to the permanent fastening *a*. The upper part

of the tongue on the left hand, and the lower part on the right, may be slightly beveled, as shown in all the figures, to admit of greater inclination of the buckle when the same is forced over the strap, in the process of tying, as well as to facilitate the entrance of the strap into the transverse slot in the buckle, and to prevent accidental displacement. The movement of the buckle when passing upon the strap is indicated in Fig. 1. The lower and rounded end slips over the surface of the bale, and the strap passes through the inclined slot. This goes on while the bale is under compression. As soon as the compression ceases, the buckle, being brought over a hole in the strap, is immediately turned, the lower tongue *c* passes through the hole, and the buckle lies, securely fastening the strap, as shown in Fig. 2.

The bale may be loosened and the straps untied by the same compression and reverse movement of the parts.

It will be observed that the buckle is of such form that it may be stamped out of wrought metal, or made of malleable iron, as may be preferred, the parts being such that the buckle will be strongly made in either way. It may thus be cheaply made, and at the same time it is applied and removed with facility. Further, it is removable without injury to any of the parts, and the straps and buckles may be used and reused until worn out.

The amount of inclination of the slot is not essential, and indeed the slot may be made at right angles to the buckle, though it would be more liable to detach, and not so easy to apply.

I am aware that a buckle having a rigid tongue with a passage for the end of the strap, is not new, and such I do not broadly claim.

I claim as my invention—

A bale-tie consisting of a solid buckle, formed at one end for attachment to one end of the strap, and provided with a tongue which is cut transversely at or near the middle, so as to leave an inclined passage between the ends, as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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