



# United States Patent Office.

ROBERT H. LECKY, OF ALLEGHENY CITY, PENNSYLVANIA.

*Letters Patent No. 70,230, dated October 29, 1867; antedated October 9, 1867.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN COTTON-BALE TIE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ROBERT H. LECKY, of the city and county of Allegheny, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in "Clasp for Metallic Bands or Hoops;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in the combination of a ratchet-clasp combined with a metallic band provided with slots, said clasp and bands being constructed, arranged, combined, and operating in the manner hereinafter described.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation. In the accompanying drawing, which makes part of my specification—

Figure 1 represents a top view of my improved clasp and band.

Figure 2 represents a longitudinal section of the same.

In the drawings, *x* represents the clasp, which is made of wrought iron, and provided with openings C, D, and *e*, and a projection, B: said clasp, its openings and projection, being made in the form represented in the accompanying drawings. The band is made of hoop iron about one inch in width, and in thickness about No. 12. One end of the band is provided with a series of slots marked A, made in the form shown in fig. 1. One end of the band is secure on the cross-piece *f* of the clasp, by the end of the band through the openings D and C, in the manner shown in fig. 2. The other end of the band, in baling, is passed through the opening C, in the manner shown in fig. 2. In removing the band from the bale, any round-pointed instrument is forced in between the band and the clasp, just forward of the projection B, so as to raise the band above the projection B; the band can then readily and easily be withdrawn from the clasp. It will readily be observed that the band is locked together by the band passing through the openings *e* and D, and the projection B entering into the slots A. The incline of the projection will allow the band to be forced through the openings *e* and D for the purpose of contracting it. The advantage of my improvement consists in its adjustability, and, by its peculiar construction, being able to remove the band from the bale without injury to either clasp or band.

Having thus described the nature, construction, and operation of my improvement, what I claim as of my invention, is—

A clasp for bands or hoops used for baling cotton, said clasp consisting of the piece X, provided with openings C, D, and *e*, and a projection B, constructed, arranged, and operating substantially as herein described and for the purpose set forth.

R. H. LECKY.

Witnesses:

JAMES J. JOHNSTON,  
ALEXANDER HAYS.