(No Model.)

D. B. ADAMS.

SNAP HOOK.

No. 443,630. Patented Dec. 30, 1890.

FIG. 1.

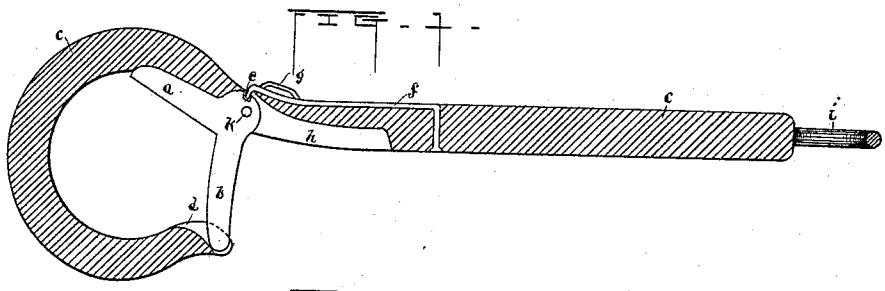


FIG. 2.

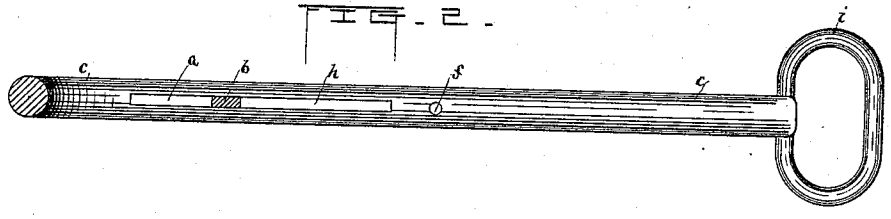


FIG. 3.

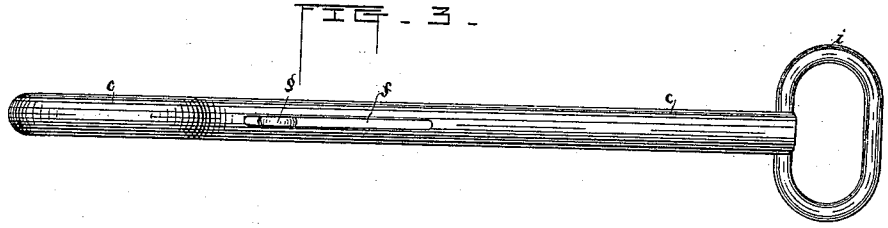
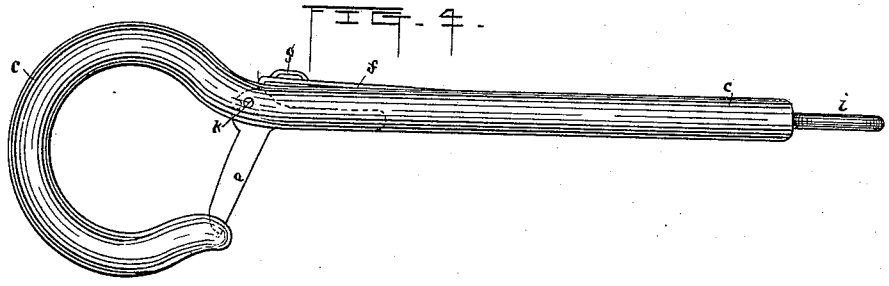


FIG. 4.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DON B. ADAMS, OF FORT WORTH, TEXAS.

SNAP-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 443,630, dated December 30, 1890.

Application filed September 15, 1890. Serial No. 364,979. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DON B. ADAMS, a resident of Fort Worth, in the county of Tarrant and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Snap-Hooks; and I do hereby 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 pertains to make and use the same.

The object of the invention is to provide a hook of simple construction that shall be securely locked when in use, and that shall then also be without an exposed point liable to catch upon or be caught by lines, chains, rings, or other articles, and which also, when not in use, shall present a locking-lever to the ring, line, or other part with which it is to be engaged, in such manner that the introduction of said article shall act upon the arm of the lever to throw it into a locked position, in which position it retains the ring in the hook; and it consists in the matters hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal section. Fig. 2 is a transverse section through the body of the hook. Fig. 3 is a rear edge view, and Fig. 4 is a side view.

Reference-letter *c* denotes the hook, and *i* the usual strap-receiving loop. These parts may be of any convenient or usual form or size.

d indicates a short slot formed in the extreme end of the hook, and *h* is a longer slot formed in the body of the same opposite the point.

a b denote the two arms of a bell-crank lever pivoted at *k* in the slot *h*. This slot is made sufficiently long toward the loop end of the hook to receive the arm *b* of the lever when it is thrown back in that direction, and upon the other side of the pivot *k* the slot is adapted to receive the arm *a* of the lever when the latter is in the position indicated in Fig. 1.

Adjacent to the pivot *k*, at the back of the angle of the lever, the slot *h* is cut entirely through the hook.

f is a spring secured at one end to the hook, and having its other end bent at right angles and adapted to enter a notch or hole *e* in the lever.

g indicates a thumb-piece secured to the spring, by which the latter can easily be withdrawn from engagement with the lever at *e*. When so withdrawn, the lever *a b* can easily be turned by a slight pressure outward on the arm *b*. This can be effected by moving the hook so that the contained ring or other article strikes the inner face of the lever-arm *b*, whereupon it is carried outwardly and backwardly into the groove *h*, the arm *a* at the same time being moved into the position indicated in Fig. 4. At such time the bent end of the spring *f* will bear upon the rounded elbow of the lever adjacent to slot *e*, and the spring will be under a small degree of tension.

To introduce the ring, link, or other article, it is brought against the outside of lever-arm *a* when in the position shown in Fig. 4, by which the lever is thrown into the locked position, (see Fig. 1,) the ring being at the same time carried into the hook.

The spring *f* is represented as passing through the shank of the hook and having its end upset or clinched therein; but any convenient mode of securing it may be employed. It is preferably arranged to lie in a suitable groove formed in the back of the hook.

The thumb-piece is preferably inclined or rounded at its ends to present as little angular projection as practicable, and for a like reason the slot *h* is made sufficiently deep to receive the arms of the lever, and the latter are suitably chamfered or rounded; also, slot *d* is made of such depth and the arm *b* so proportioned that when the latter is locked in the slot it guards the point of the hook, and the two together present an approximately rounded surface not liable to catch into other objects.

Having thus described my invention, what I desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A hook having a recess in the inner face of its shank, extending in front of and to the rear of the point of the hook, with a slot through the shank near its central portion, in

combination with a notched bell-crank lever pivoted in said recess opposite the slot, either end of said lever being adapted to lie lengthwise in the recess, and a spring located in a recess on the outside of the body and provided with a bent portion engaging the notch, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

DON B. ADAMS.

Witnesses:
E. MORT. REILY,
FRANK L. TWOMBLY.