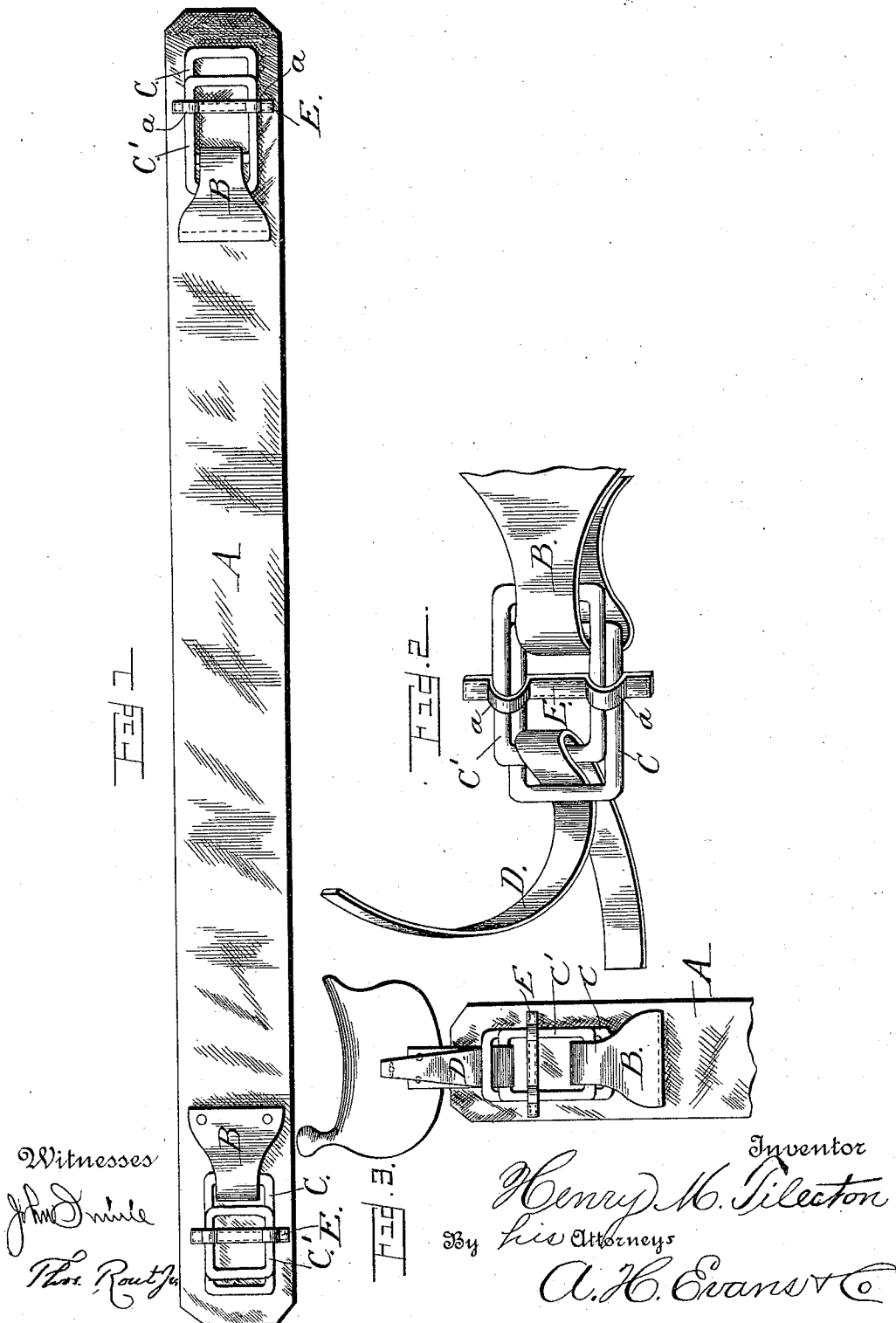


(No Model.)

H. M. TILESTON.
GIRTH FASTENER.

No. 485,481.

Patented Nov. 1, 1892.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY MERRILL TILESTON, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

GIRTH-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 485,481, dated November 1, 1892.

Application filed January 4, 1892. Serial No. 417,040. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY MERRILL TILESTON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Strap-Fasteners, as set forth in the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

10 Figure 1 is a girth, cinch, or band having my improved fastener at both ends. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the fastener. Fig. 3 shows the application of my invention to a riding-saddle and showing the free end of an attaching-strap attachable to the saddle with-
15 in easy reach of the rider's hand.

My invention relates to means for securing girths, bands, or cinches or analogous strap devices; and it consists of the improved strap-
20 fastener hereinafter described and claimed.

To enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now describe its construction and indicate the manner in which the same is car-
25 ried out.

Heretofore many girths, cinches, or straps have been secured by means of buckles having a movable tongue, or by rings and straps, or by knots, or a series of interlacing of straps;
30 but in most of these cases it required the unbuckling, untying, or unlacing of the securing devices to retighten or adjust the girths, cinches, or straps, and in the event of saddle-animals the dismounting of the rider to ad-
35 just the device.

In my invention I dispense with the objectionable constructions just mentioned and provide a means whereby a girth, cinch, or strap may be readily secured, tightened, or
40 adjusted, either while in the saddle or dismounted, and so arrange the parts of the device that the subsequent locking and securing are automatic.

Referring now to the drawings for a more complete explanation of my invention, A represents a girth, cinch, or strap, to one or both ends of which my fastening devices are se-
45 cured, preferably by the metal or leather or other flexible loops B, as shown.

50 The fastener proper consists, preferably, of two plates, rings, or loops C C', one of which

slides upon or within the other, a suitable guide or keeper furnishing the means by which one of the plates, rings, or loops may move upon the other. These plates, rings, or
55 loops may be of rectangular form, as shown in Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, or may be rings, the operation and results produced in all cases being the same.

The plate, ring, or loop C has but little move-
60 ment in the end of the bight of the loop B, while the other plate, ring, or loop is adapted to slide back and forth on the other plate, ring, or loop with one end slidable in the loop B, or unconfined, if desired, and the other end
65 adapted to have the bight of the securing-strap D passed around it, as shown particularly in Fig. 2. In order that the two plates, rings, or loops may be held in slidable contact, I employ a keeper E, which may consist of a
70 transverse leather or metal bar secured to the girth, cinch, or band and having bearings at a to enable the plates, rings, or loops to slide longitudinally within the bearing or guide thus formed.
75

The attaching-strap D may represent any strap. In Fig. 3 I illustrate this strap as hav-
ing one end secured to a riding-saddle and with its free end passed under the cross-bars of the plates, rings, or loops at their free ends
80 and thence carried around the said cross-bar of the plate, ring, or loop C' and under the cross-bar of the plate, ring, or loop C, and finally attached to the saddle within easy reach of the rider's hand, whereby it may be
85 readily operated to tighten, loosen, or adjust the girth, cinch, or band without difficulty and without the rider dismounting.

It will be understood that when it is desired to adjust or tighten the girth, cinch, or band
90 the free end of the strap D is pulled upon, which movement causes the plate, ring, or loop C' to be drawn in the direction of the pull until it cramps or binds the bight end of the strap D tightly between the cross-bars of
95 the two plates, rings, or loops and to be maintained in this locked position until readjusted or loosened. When so locked, the greater the strain upon the girth, cinch, or band the greater will be the cramping action at the
100 bight end of the securing-strap D.

The plates, rings, or loops may be composed

of any desired metal or material and they may be of the same length, or one may be shorter than the other, without affecting their successful operation.

5 Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with a girth, cinch, or band having the loops B, of a fastening consisting of two plates, rings, or loops, a keeper
10 passed transversely across the plates, rings or loops for connecting them with the girth and providing for their free longitudinal sliding movement one on the other, and a securing
15 strap or connection adapted to have its bight passed around the free ends of the plates,

rings, or loops, whereby said strap is cramped or pinched between the latter, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination, with a girth, cinch, or band, of a strap-fastening comprising two rings or loops, one or both of which may be attached to a strap, and a transverse keeper secured to said girth, cinch, or band and adapted to hold the loops together and permit them to slide
25 one upon the other to pinch a strap between them, substantially as herein described.

HENRY MERRILL TILESTON.

Witnesses:

CHAS. G. UPTON,
MARY WATTS.