(No Model.)

W. P. PATTON.

TAG OR LABEL.

No. 295,799. Patented Mar. 25, 1884.

Fig. 1.

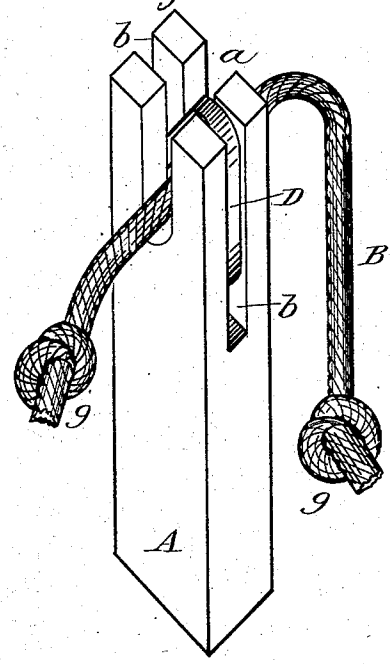


Fig. 2.

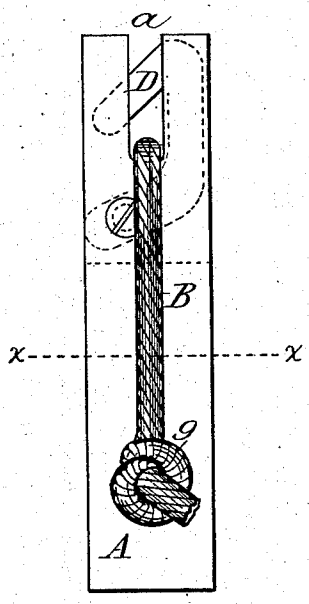


Fig. 3.

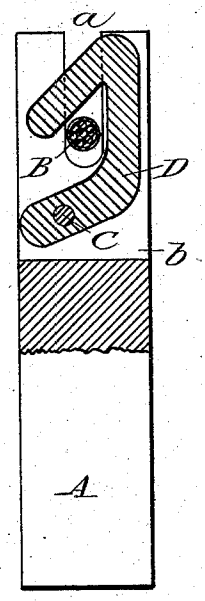


Fig. 4

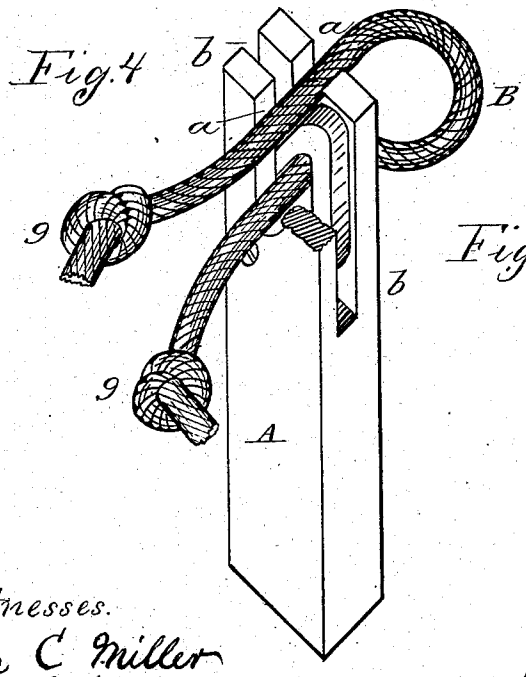
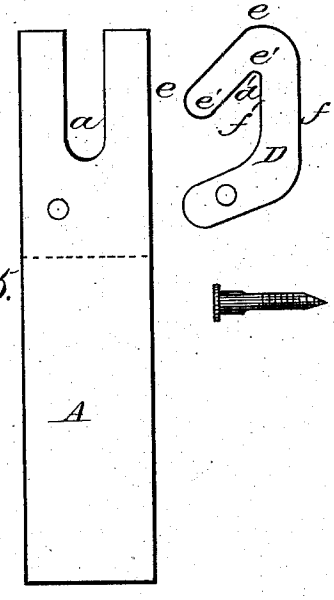


Fig. 5.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TAG OR LABEL.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 295,799, dated March 25, 1884.

Application filed February 21, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WM. P. PATTON, of the city of Harrisburg, county of Dauphin, and State of Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Address Tag or Label; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing the tag or label secured to the cord designed to attach it to a bag or other article. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the tag and cord. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view on the line *x x* of Fig. 2, with the parts in position to securely hold the tag to the cord. Fig. 4 is a perspective view with a portion of the tag cut away, to show the ready means for releasing the cord retained in the holding parts of the tag; and Fig. 5 shows the details of each part of the construction.

My invention relates to a ready and cheap means for addressing bags, bales, boxes, or packages of any description, but more particularly to the means of addressing governmental mail-bags, and has for its object to provide a tag which is readily attachable, impossibly removable accidentally, readily removable purposely, and exceedingly economical in production.

My invention consists in a tag-body made, preferably, of wood, though it may be made of any desired material, having a recess in one end to receive a holding-cord or similar device, and a securing-hook pivoted in a plane at right angles to the said recess, and adapted to seize and hold said cord when laid in the recess, all of which will be hereinafter fully described, and specifically set out in the claims.

In order that those skilled in the art may make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe the manner in which I have carried it out.

In the said drawings, A is the tag-body, adapted to receive any imprint or address. Into one end of this billet or tag I cut a recess, *a*, of width adapted to receive the cord B, with which the device is to be secured to the bag, bale, or parcel. In the same end of the tag with recess *a*, and at right angles to it, I cut a slit or saw-kerf, *b*, of greater depth than recess *a*. At a point, C, within the kerf *b* is pivoted a flat hook, D, which, in moving around its pivotal point, passes back and forth across the recess *a*. It will be observed particularly that the pivotal point of the hook is placed forward of or to one side of the center of recess or opening *a*, for a purpose hereinafter set forth, and also that the pivotal point is forward of the opening *d* of the hook, which is designed to embrace the cord. The upper edge of the hook D is cut, as seen at *e e*, on an incline to the rear edge, *f*, for a purpose hereinafter set out.

In use I contemplate securing this improved tag to a mail-bag—for instance, by means of a short piece of cord or small rope, B, one end of which is firmly attached to the mail-bag and the free end provided with a knot or enlargement of any kind, *g*, formed thereon. The conformation of the interior of the bight of hook D is in lines about parallel to the exterior lines—that is to say, the line *e' e'* is diagonal to the line *f' f'*.

In order to apply the label, the knot *g* of the cord is grasped by the left hand of the operator and the tag grasped in the right hand. The tag is then forced down on the cord-body so the cord will enter recess *a*, and as it passes in the cord comes in contact with the diagonal face or edge *e e* of the hook and causes the hook to recede, so that the cord passes beyond or within the point of the hook. By a pressure of the thumb on the back of the hook D—that is, on the line *f f*, now protruding from the kerf or slit *b*—the hook is thrown over the cord and the back edge brought flush with the body of the tag. A sharp, quick pull on the cord or on the tag will then cause the hook to bite or bind the cord tightly. This is caused by the peculiar manner of constructing the hook and pivoting, it in the manner and position hereinbefore stated.

To remove the tag, the knotted end of the cord is drawn away from the side of the tag (see Fig. 4) and the cord doubled back so that its body rests in the end of recess *a* upon the outer inclined edge of hook D, and by pressing down or pulling upon this turned-back portion of the cord it acts on the inclined edge *e e* and forces the hook back through the slit or kerf from over the cord, and allows it to be withdrawn.

In use upon ordinary mail-bags, if the cord

especially designed to hold the tag be removed by any accident, the tag obviously can be instantly attached to the draw-string of the bag.

Considerable economy can be attained in the consumption of cordage in the use of this tag, as will be quite apparent to those accustomed to using such articles.

New tags can be rapidly and economically constructed under my invention, and those now generally in use in the mail service can be quickly altered by well-known wood-working machinery, and the hooks employed can be struck by dies from sheet metal of the desired thickness.

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

1. In an address tag or label, a binding-hook pivoted forward of the longitudinal center of the bight of the hook, substantially as specified.

2. The tag or billet A, having the recess *a* cut through its end to receive an attaching-cord, and having the kerf *b* cut through its end at right angles to and of a greater depth than recess *a*, in combination with a hook, D, pivoted within the kerf *b*, so as to be entirely within the outer edges of the kerf when the hook seizes the attaching-cord, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

WM. P. PATTON.

Witnesses:
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