G. P. HOUSTON.

HAND-CUFF.

No. 169,443. Patented Nov. 2, 1875.

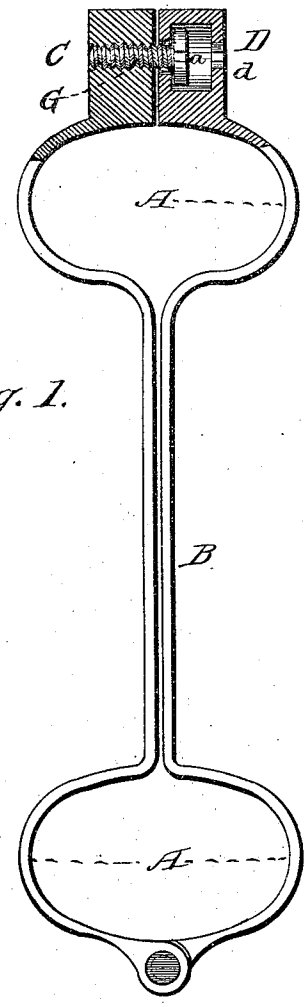


Fig. 1.

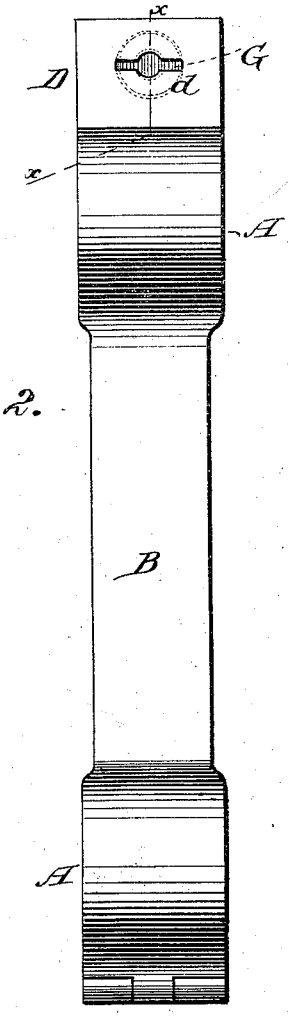


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

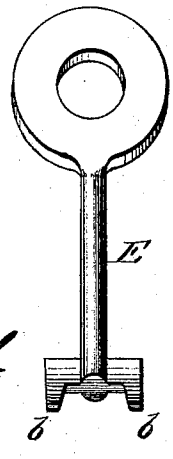
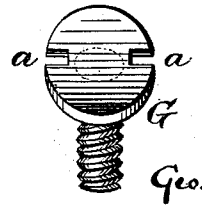


Fig. 4.



WITNESSES:

P. C. Dieterich

F. H. Duffy

INVENTOR:

Geo. Porter Houston

per:

C. H. Watson & Co

ATTORNEYS.

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE PORTER HOUSTON, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND WALTON BROTHERS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN HANDCUFFS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **169,443**, dated November 2, 1875; application filed October 1, 1875.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEO. PORTER HOUSTON, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Handcuffs or Shackles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of handcuffs or shackles, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the annexed drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation, partially in section. Fig. 2 is a front elevation, and Figs. 3 and 4 represent the key and lock.

The handcuffs are made of two pieces of wrought-iron, each forming a bend, A, at each end with a straight arm or bar, B, connecting the same. These two parts are hinged together at one end, and fastened at the other end by means of a screw in the following manner: At the free end of one of the parts is formed a solid projection, C, with a central hole having female screw-threads. At the free end of the other part is formed a closed box, D, within which the head of the screw G is placed, the shank projecting through a hole in the inner side thereof. The head of the screw G is provided with two slots, *a a*, as shown, for the insertion of the prongs *b b* of the key E, which is passed through a key-hole, *d*, made in the outer side of the box D. It will readily be seen that the screw G can under no circumstances come out from the box D, and can only be turned by the proper key, shaped to enter the key-hole *d*, and the key, after entering said key-hole, must be turned until its prongs *b* enter the slots *a* in the screw-head, when the screw may be turned so as to open or close the handcuffs, as desired, the screw entering the nut C.

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

A handcuff formed of two pieces of wrought metal, bent as described, forming parts A A and bars B, said parts being hinged at one end and locked at the other, substantially as and for the purpose described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEO. PORTER HOUSTON.

Witnesses:

CHAS. H. MURRAY,

JAMES P. WILSON.