(No Model.)

J. REICHERT.

SNAP HOOK.

No. 553,017. Patented Jan. 14, 1896.

Fig. 1.

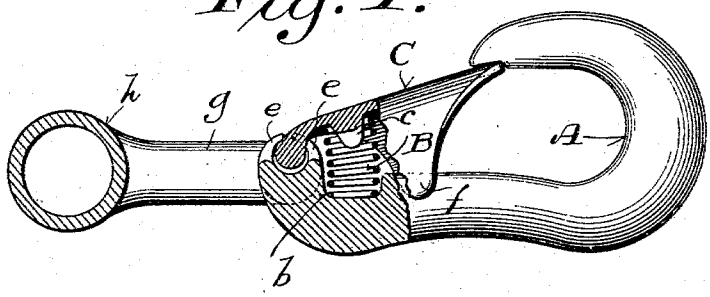
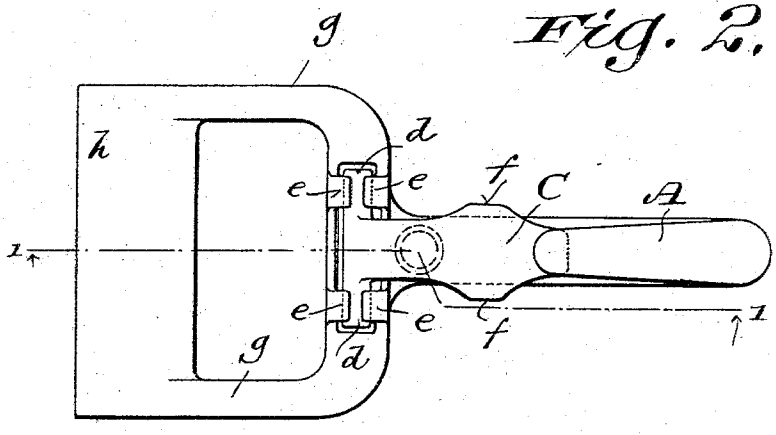


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
Geo. W. Young.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN REICHERT, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO LUCIUS J. ELLIOTT, OF SAME PLACE.

SNAP-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 553,017, dated January 14, 1896.

Application filed May 31, 1895. Serial No. 551,168. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN REICHERT, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Snap-Hooks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

My invention has for its object to prevent automatic release of rings or eyes engaged by snap-hooks; and it consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combination of parts hereinafter set forth with reference to the accompanying drawings, and subsequently claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents a view taken on the plane indicated by line 1 1 in the succeeding figure, and Fig. 2 a plan view of a snap-hook embodying my improvements.

Referring by letter to the drawings, A represents the hook proper, its shank being provided with a recess *b* in which a spiral spring B is seated. Engaging the outer end of the spring is a centering-lug *c* upon the inside of the tongue C that has trunnions *d* held by the power of the spring B against their bearings, the latter being bent lugs *e* at the upper end of the hook-shank. The tongue C is provided with inwardly-extended side ears that lap the hook-shank and serve as guards to prevent the ring or eye engaged with the hook from coming into contact with the spring. It has been usual to have the ears at the lower end or point of the tongue, and at times the ring or eye engaged by the hook will so twist in the latter as to be guided by one of said ears up to the tongue-point and exert leverage on the same, the result being that said ring or eye is automatically released from said hook.

To prevent automatic release of a ring or eye from the hook and at the same time protect spring B, the tongue-ears *f* are arranged back of the point or that portion of the tongue that abuts the hook proper, and this point is also narrowed to the same width as the abutting portion of said hook. The tongue being narrowed, as above specified, its edges intermediate of the point and ears *f* are practically continuations of the edges of the hook, and consequently a ring or eye twisted in this hook will readily pass the tongue-point and not exert leverage thereon, this being the important feature of my invention.

The snap-hook head herein shown comprises side arms *g* and a tubular cross-bar *h* connecting said arms, the latter and the cross-bar being cast in one piece with the hook and shank above specified. The snap-hook head just specified is intended to serve the function of a breast-strap guide, and while the tubular cross-bar *h* of considerable diameter is preferable in order to avoid a short bend in the breast-strap, this result would attain were the cross-bar otherwise than hollow, provided it presented a convex face of considerable radius to said breast-strap. It also follows that by the employment of a tubular cross-bar provision is made for a circulation of air through the same to prevent heating of a breast-strap, and as the cross-bar or breast-strap bearing in any form is cast in one piece with the arms *g* and hook B it cannot spring away from its supports under strain, while at the same time there are no journals to wear out. It is also to be observed that a large light bearing-surface is obtained and a gain in matters of strength and durability effected.

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

1. A snap-hook having a tongue that extends under the point of the hook proper and is provided with ears that terminate back of said point, the tongue being narrowed intermediate of its ears and point to thus present edges that are practically continuations of the hook-edges.

2. A snap-hook having a recessed shank, a spiral-spring seated in the shank-recess, and a tongue having a centering lug engaging the spring and trunnions that engage bearings on said shank, together with shank-embracing ears arranged back of the point or that portion of said tongue normally abutting the hook proper.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand, at Milwaukee, in the county of Milwaukee and State of Wisconsin, in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN REICHERT.

Witnesses:
N. E. OLIPHANT,
HENRY DANKERT.