JOHN L. SHEPPARD.

Improvement in Cotton Bale Ties.

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Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 4.

Fig. 5.

Witnesses.

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Attorney.
Be it known that I, JOHN L. SHEPPARD, of the city of Charleston, county of Charleston, State of South Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Cotton-Bale Tie; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of same, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to the forming of a better and more durable tie for cotton-bales and other purposes than heretofore, where the bands to be united are metal hoops; and in constructing my said invention I take a piece of metal of a thickness somewhat greater than that of the hoop or band to be secured, and from this metal sheet or band, and in the manner which will best subserve the purpose of economy of material, as shown in section 1 of Fig. 1 of the drawing, I cut the pieces that are to form the ties or buckles. These pieces may be of different forms, as represented in sections 1, 2, and 3 of said figure; but the part that is to receive the strain of the hoop or band is equal or nearly so in all. Near the middle of the piece, at the distance of one-fourth to one-half of an inch from the narrow side, and perpendicular to this side, I cut a rectangular hole of sufficient length and breadth to admit of the loop at one end of the band or hoop being hooked into it. Leaving, then, a narrow strip of metal between the two, I cut another hole in the metal, of one of the forms shown in Fig. 1 of the drawing, project- ing an opening or slot from this second hole to the narrow side of the metal plate, so that the loop at the other end of the band may be slipped into the opening from the side. In the continuation of this second slot or opening, I extend it just sufficient to admit of the second loop being slipped beyond a lip, d, shown in Figs. 1, 2, and 5, falling below which the band settles in the seat e, and is prevented from unfastening by the intervention of the lip d on the one side, and curved shoulder f on the other.

The seats of the loops in both these holes or openings are straight, but they may be irreg-