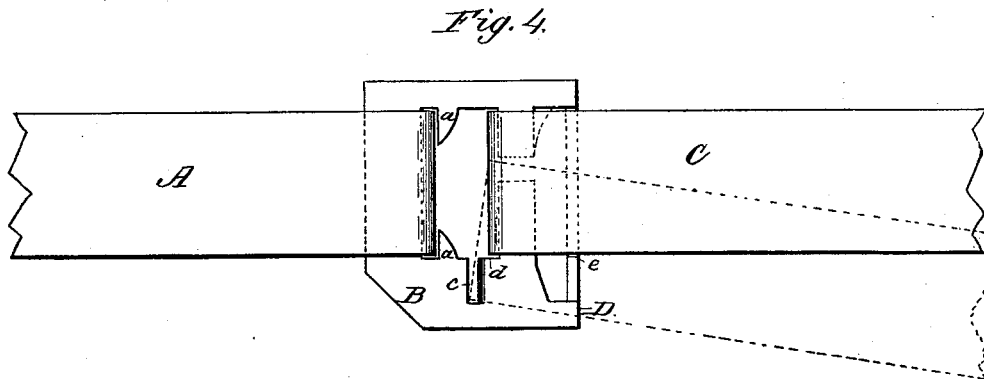
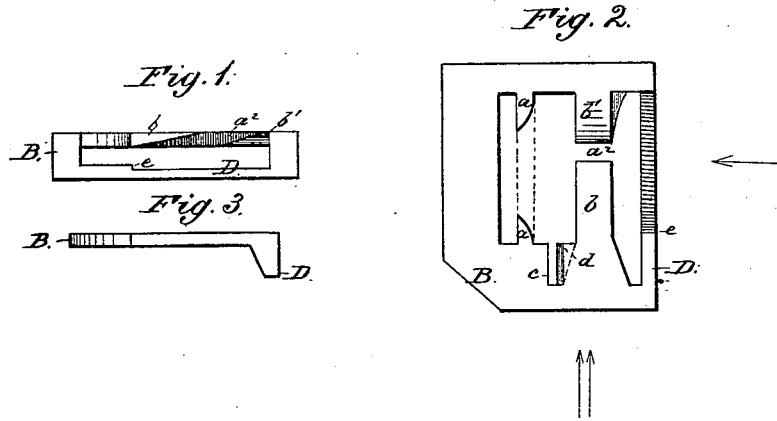


(No Model.)

J. B. LAW.  
Bale Tie.

No. 233,522.

Patented Oct. 19, 1880.



WITNESSES:

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ATTORNEYS.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES B. LAW, OF DARLINGTON COURT-HOUSE, SOUTH CAROLINA.

## BALE-TIE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 233,522, dated October 19, 1880.

Application filed September 7, 1880. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES BRADLEY LAW, of Darlington Court-House, in the county of Darlington and State of South Carolina, have invented a new and Improved Bale-Tie; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is an edge view of the buckle, looking in the direction of the single arrow in Fig. 2. Fig. 2 is a plan of the buckle. Fig. 3 is an edge view of the buckle, looking in the direction of the twin arrows. Fig. 4 is a plan view showing the buckle applied to the ends of a band, and showing in dotted lines the entering position of the band end.

My invention relates to an improved construction of buckle for fastening the ends of cotton and other bale bands; and it consists in a buckle having the following peculiarities, to wit: a permanent seat for one end of the bale-band, a central opening, into which the other end of the band is entered through an oblique channel, and a bar offsetting from the plane of the buckle, notched or recessed to prevent lateral movement of the band, and connecting the free ends of the buckle on each side of the oblique channel to strengthen the buckle, as hereinafter fully described.

In the drawings, A represents one end of the band, which is permanently fastened in the buckle B by being looped around one side of the same and held in place by the lugs or spurs *a a*, or in the place of the same by a bar running all the way across, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2. In the center of the buckle is formed an opening, into which the other looped end, C, of the band is entered by being inserted laterally through the oblique channel *a'*. On each side of this channel are the projecting ends or prongs *b b'*, one of which, *b*, is longer than the other, and lies with its end in the plane of the upper surface of the buckle, and the other of which, *b'*, is made shorter and lies with its end in the plane of the lower surface of the buckle. Through the channel between these two projections *b b'* the looped end C of the band is inserted laterally, and to permit the entering edge to move far enough to allow the back edge to pass the short projection a slot, *e*, is formed in the buckle, into which the

entering edge of the band slips, while the other edge is adjusted over the short prong *b*, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 4. This being done, the end C is moved back so as to pull partly against the prong *b* and partly against *b'*, the band being prevented from moving laterally into the unlocking position in the slot by the shoulder *d* and the natural tension of the bale.

The slot *e*, I may make with a rectangular shoulder, *d*, or with an inclined side, as shown in dotted lines in Fig. 2.

Just outside of the free ends *b b'*, and connecting and strengthening the same, is a bar, D, which joins the butt-ends of said projections. This bar is offset from the plane of the buckle and lies close against the bale, and it is formed with a shoulder, *e*, which, when the end C of the band is in place, holds it to this adjustment and co-operates with shoulder *d*, to prevent it from moving laterally into the unlocking position.

This buckle is designed to be cast, and while of cheap construction it affords great strength, combined with great security, permitting, at the same time, the easy and rapid locking or unlocking of the bands. This buckle also is fastened on the hoop at the factory, and it can only be fastened on the bale in one way, so that the person fastening them can soon become expert in fastening them after learning the movement, and all being fastened in one way, it enables them to be unfastened much faster after one becomes accustomed to the movement. So this tie secures a uniformity in fastening and unfastening of the hoop, while most of the other ties are very often fastened upside down and wrong side next to the bale. This gives great trouble in unfastening the buckles when the cotton is to be used.

In defining my invention more clearly I would state that I am aware of the patent to Stewart, No. 219,993, and also the English patent No. 231 of 1871. My invention differs from these in that it is a flat buckle with all the parts in a single plane except the offsetting bar, which offsets from the plane of the buckle at a right angle, and is provided with a shoulder, *e*.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

1. The buckle B, made flat or in a single

plane, with a fixed seat for the permanent connection of one end of the band, and having a central opening, with projecting prongs *b b'*, forming an oblique inlet, and having a bar, D, connecting the prongs *b b'*, which bar is offset at right angles from the plane of the buckle, substantially as described.

2. The buckle B, made flat or in a single plane, with a fixed seat for the permanent connection of one end of the band, and having a

central opening with projecting prongs *b b'*, forming an oblique inlet, and having a bar, D, connecting the prongs *b b'*, which bar is offset at right angles from the plane of the buckle and provided with a shoulder, *e*, substantially as described.

JAMES BRADLEY LAW.

Witnesses:

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