(No Model.)

J. H. MITCHELL.

LOCK FOR HOOPS.

No. 421,104. Patented Feb. 11, 1890.

Fig. 1.

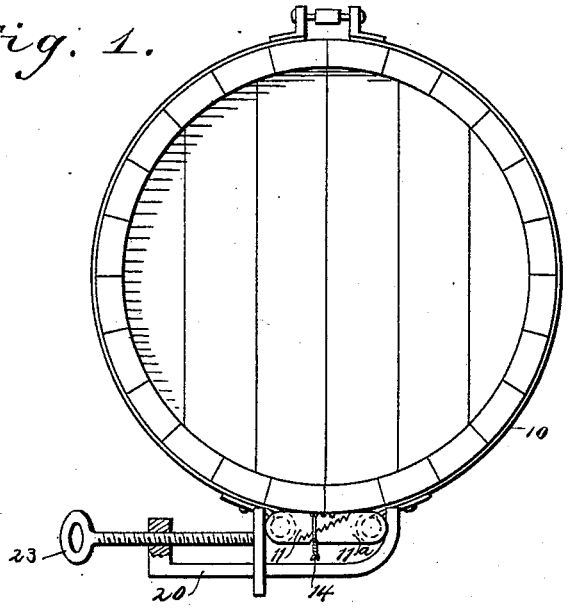


Fig. 5.

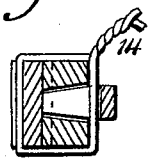


Fig. 2.

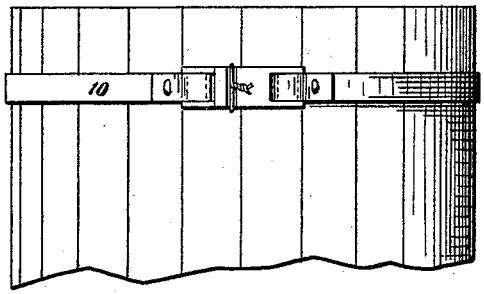


Fig. 3.

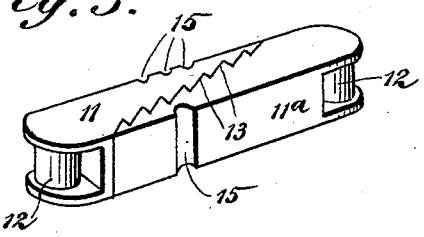
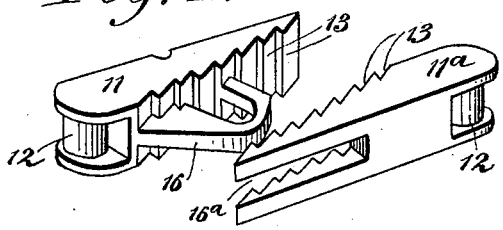


Fig. 4.



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JOHN HENRY MITCHELL, OF BLOOMFIELD, IOWA.

LOCK FOR HOOPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 421,104, dated February 11, 1890.

Application filed July 8, 1889. Serial No. 316,862. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HENRY MITCHELL, of Bloomfield, in the county of Davis and State of Iowa, have invented a new and Improved Lock for Hoops, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The invention will be first described, and then set forth in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar figures of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a shipping-case embodying my invention, and showing also a clamp for drawing the lock-sections together. Fig. 2 is a partial vertical elevation showing a hoop in the fastened position. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the fastener-blocks. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of a modified construction of the fastening-blocks. Fig. 5 is a cross-sectional view of the fastening-blocks shown in Fig. 4.

In constructing my improved hoop-lock I provide two blocks 11 11^a, which form the main part of the lock. The blocks 11 11^a are pivotally secured direct to the hoops 10 by passing the ends of the hoops around the cross-bar 12, with which the blocks 11 11^a are provided, after which the end of the hoop is returned on itself and riveted, as shown. The blocks 11 11^a are oppositely beveled and their beveled faces are formed with teeth 13 to cause them to interlock when brought together. To maintain the blocks in the interlocked position, a wire 14 is passed around the same and twisted, the blocks being formed with vertical grooves 15 for receiving the said wire.

In addition to the wire 14, the fastening-blocks may be formed as in Fig. 5, in which one of the said blocks is formed with a longitudinal slot 16^a for receiving a staple 16, that projects from the toothed face of the opposite block. The arch or bend of the staple is of greater thickness than the base of the legs thereof, and its thickness is likewise greater than the width of the slot 16^a. Thus the slotted block can only be made to engage the opposite one by causing the forks of the said slotted block to pass each side of the staple, and it can be unfastened only in the same manner, instead of being passed over the staple, after the manner of a hasp. By binding the blocks with a wire, as in Fig. 6, with the wire passed beneath the bend of the staple, the said wire and staple will prevent the slotted block from being moved out of engagement with the opposite teeth of the block. To provide for bringing the opposite blocks together, I have provided a clamp 20, (shown in Fig. 1,) and which need not be further described, as it forms no part of the invention claimed herein.

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

1. A fastener for hoops, consisting of oppositely-disposed beveled blocks having toothed interlocking faces and provided at their outer ends with cross-pieces, substantially as described.

2. The combination, with a hoop, of oppositely-beveled fastening-blocks pivotally connected to the ends of the hoop, the beveled faces of the blocks being toothed, substantially as described.

3. The herein-described fastener for hoops, the same consisting of oppositely-beveled blocks having toothed interlocking faces and formed with vertical grooves on their opposite faces for receiving a fastening-wire, substantially as described.

4. The herein-described fastener for hoops, the same consisting of oppositely-beveled blocks having vertical grooves on their opposite faces for receiving a fastening-wire, the beveled faces of which blocks are toothed, one of the blocks being slotted and the other provided with a staple, through which the fastening-wire may be passed, substantially as described.

JOHN HENRY MITCHELL.

Witnesses:
FRANK W. EICHELBERGER,
M. DONNING.