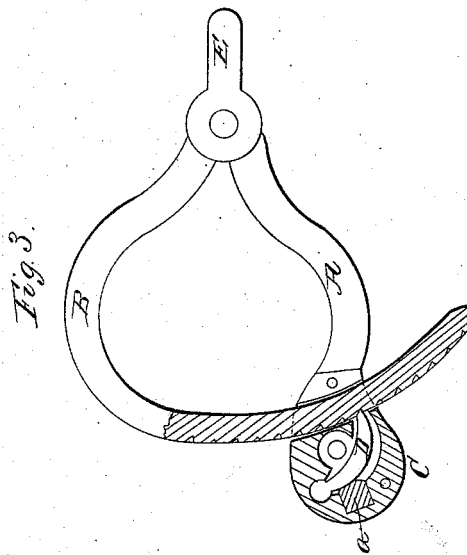
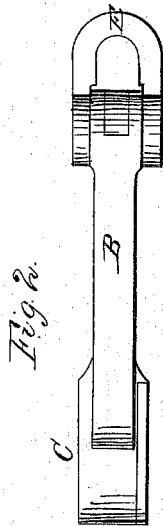
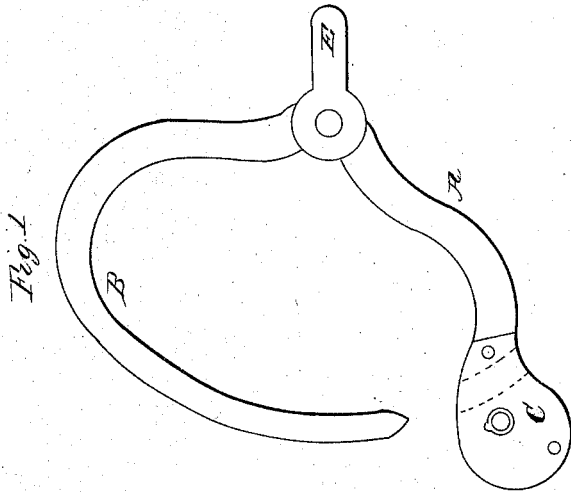


W. V. Adams,

Handcuff.

N^o 35,576.

Patented June 17, 1862.



Witnesses.

*John D. Seymour
Joseph Bishop*

Inventor.

*Wm V Adams
by Francis S Low
his attorney*

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM V. ADAMS, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

IMPROVEMENT IN SHACKLES OR HANDCUFFS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 35,576, dated June 17, 1862.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM V. ADAMS, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a certain new and Improved Shackle for Confining the Wrists and Ankles of Prisoners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan, Fig. 2 an end view, and Fig. 3 a sectional plan view.

The shackle or handcuff for confining the wrists and ankles of prisoners at present used consists of a fixed arrangement of given size, locked or otherwise secured, which does not permit of adjustment to allow it to be fitted securely and properly to wrists and ankles of different sizes. The result of its use for a hand or wrist cuff is that in many cases where it is applied the "iron" can be slipped over and off the wrist of the prisoner, allowing him thereby the free use of his hands to effect his escape, and, for an ankle-cuff, that it induces chafing and sores by its movement upon the ankle of the prisoner.

My improvement is intended to obviate these defects; and it consists in making the shackle adjustable in size, so that it can be fitted to the wrists or ankles of a prisoner, however large or small they may be, and to fit so closely that it will admit of no movement to produce the chafing and sores above named, while at the same time it produces no ill effects in the way of checking the circulation of the blood in the arm or of compressing the shin-bone of the leg.

A and B are the two sections of the shackle, pivoted together at their upper ends to allow them to be moved back and forth, as may be required. In the lower end of the section A is placed the locking apparatus C, which consists of a pawl or dog, D, held in contact with the cuts or notches in the face of the quadrant part of the section B by means of the rubber spring *a*, and which is released to unlock the shackle by a key applied to turn back the pawl or dog to allow the section B to be spread

apart or to be withdrawn from the lock. The face of the quadrant part of the section B is fitted so closely to the under edge of the lock-case that it is impossible to insert any instrument—such as a watch-spring—between them to release the pawl to unlock the shackle. It is provided with a series of cuts or notches at suitable distances apart for the reception of the pawl or dog D, which allows the shackle to be enlarged or diminished materially in size to fit all sizes of wrists and ankles.

E is a hasp, which is secured by and works upon the pivot that secures the upper ends of the sections A and B together, and through the eye of which the link of the connecting chain, below described, passes.

The shackles are made in pairs in the ordinary manner, and are connected together by a chain or other connection, which admits of the necessary degree of change of position of the shackles to each other when in use.

The two sections are so formed at their jointed end, as shown, as to permit them to be closely clasped to the wrist or ankle without impeding the circulation of the blood in the arm or compressing the shin-bone of the leg, while yet they are held from moving so as to produce chafing or sores on the parts covered by them.

As will be seen by the drawings, the shackle is self-locking, the key only being used to unlock it when it is required to be taken off. It is placed on the wrist or ankle of the prisoner, and the section B is pushed into and through the lock of the section A until both closely clasp the wrist or ankle, the pawl or dog D falling into the nearest cut or notch in the face of the section B to lock and hold the shackle securely in position.

I claim—

The combination of the hasp B with the sections A and B, for the purpose of allowing to each one of a pair of shackles a motion independent of the other when in use, as described.

WM. V. ADAMS.

Witnesses:

FRANCIS S. LOW.

A. MACDONALD, Jr.