

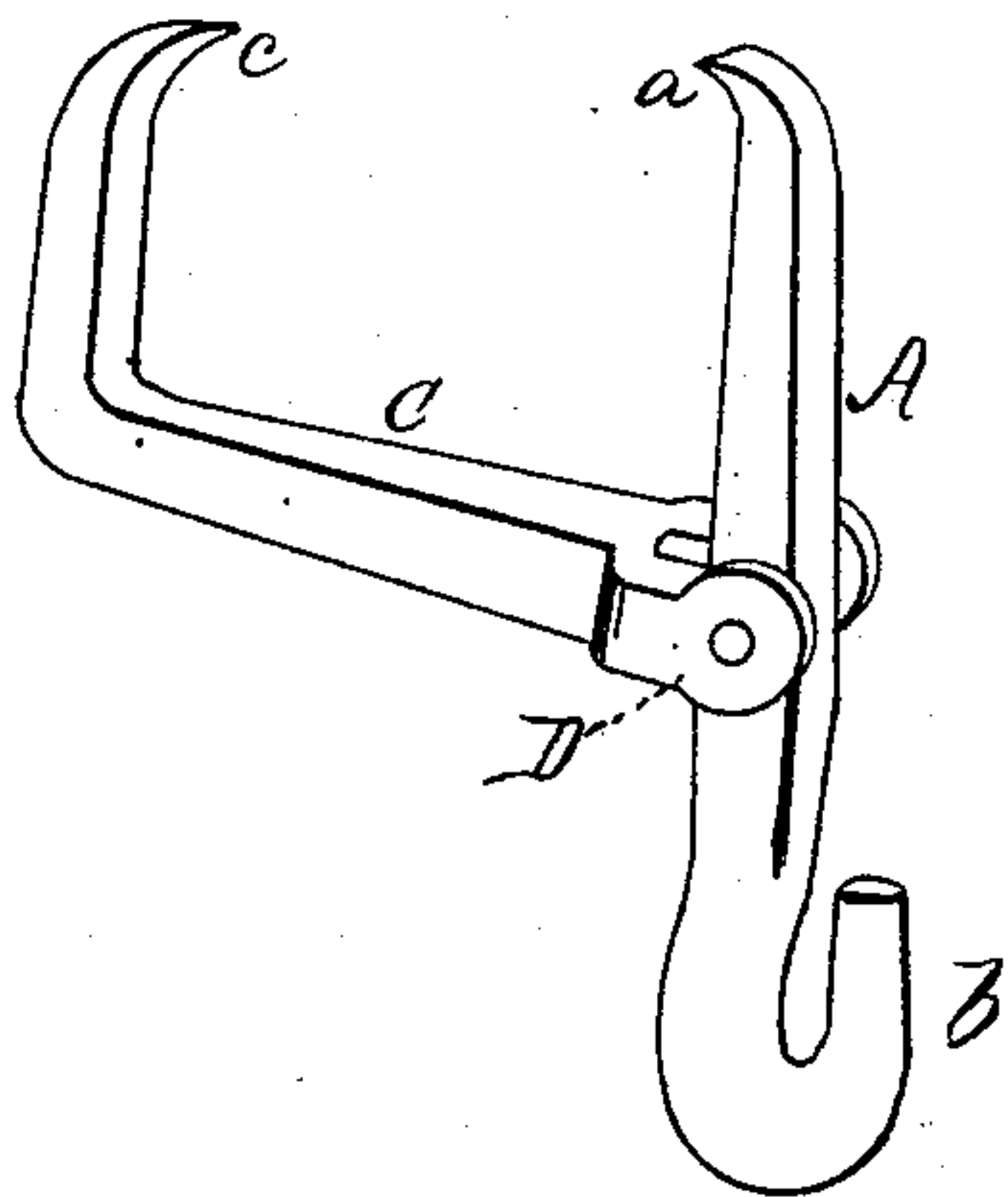
*C. S. Kershaw,*

*Grapple.*

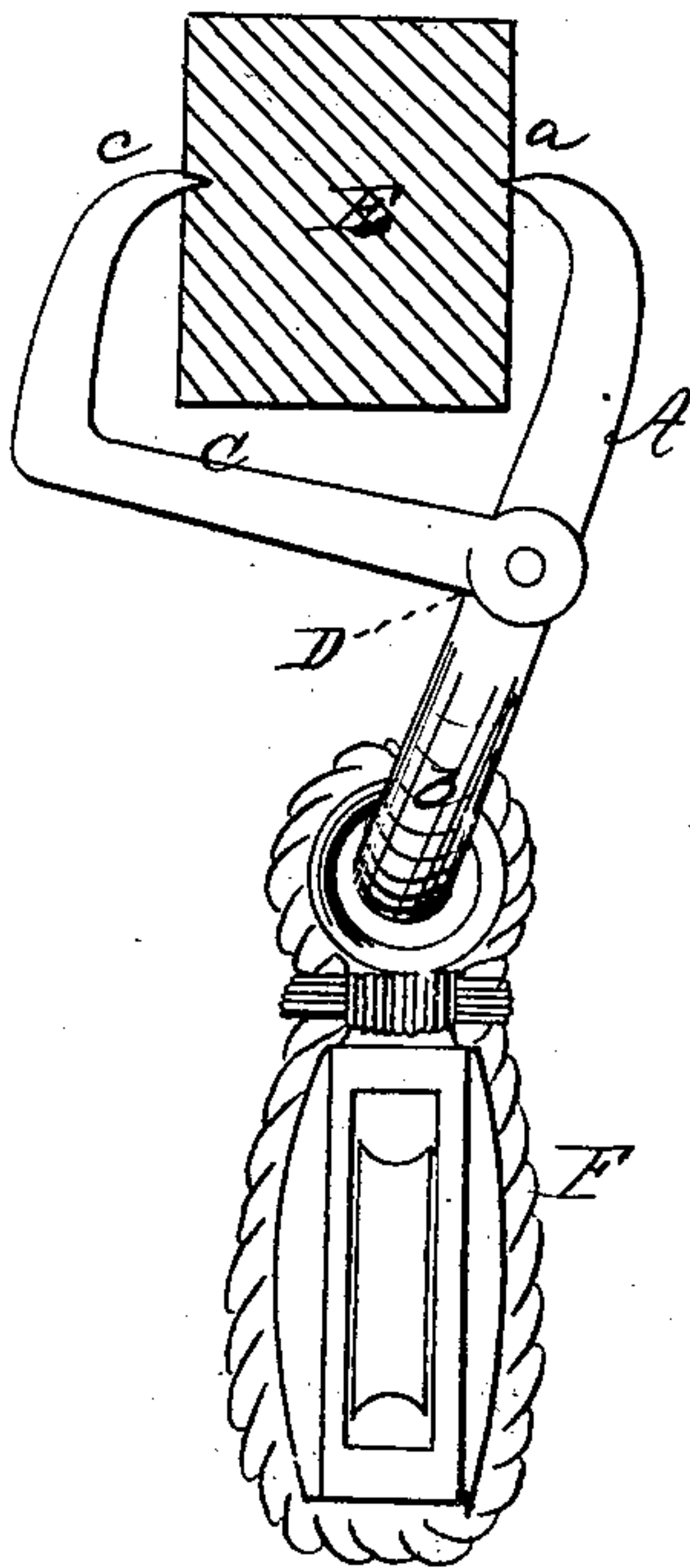
*N<sup>o</sup> 67,199.*

*Patented July 30, 1867.*

*Fig. 1*



*Fig. 2*



*Witnesses:*  
*E. Cha<sup>d</sup> Foot*  
*Willst Bower*

*Inventor:*  
*Charles S. Kershaw*  
*per J. A. Morley*  
*Attorney*

# United States Patent Office.

CHARLES S. KERSHAW, OF SHERBURNE, NEW YORK.

*Letters Patent No. 67,199, dated July 30, 1867.*

## IMPROVED SUSPENDING CLAW FOR HORSE HAY-FORKS.

*The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.*

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, CHARLES S. KERSHAW, of Sherburne, in the county of Chenango, and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Suspending Claw for Horse Hay-Forks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention, and

Figure 2 is a side view of the same.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts.

In filling a hay-loft with a horse hay-fork, the upper pulley-block of the fork has to be changed about to another part of the loft when one part has become filled; and as these changes have to be made frequently, the lashing or fastening of said block to different parts of the loft is the occasion of considerable labor and loss of time. This trouble and loss of time I obviate, in a great measure, by providing the block with a self-acting claw or pair of jaws, which, by the weight of the fork, is made to bite upon a rafter or other timber, and serve as a means of suspending the block in such a manner that it may be detached and removed to another position with the greatest facility, as hereinafter explained.

In the accompanying drawing, A C are a pair of jaws, which are pivoted together at D, each jaw having a hook, as shown by *a c*, for taking hold of a wooden beam, and one part or jaw, A, having a hook, *b*, on its lower termination for holding a pulley-block, F, of the fork, as shown in fig. 2.

Its operation is as follows: E, in fig. 2, represents a rafter or other timber of the loft. The jaws A C are opened and brought against the sides of timber E, and are made to bite the said timber by the weight of block F and fork, which tends to close the jaws. When it becomes necessary to change the position of the block to another part of the loft, then the weight is removed from the claw or grab, and it is readily unhooked and placed upon some other rafter or timber, as desired. The claw may be used for suspending the fork-block, and also for suspending a block by which the fork is swung off laterally, or switched off so as to drop its load to one side in the loft. By these means a saving of labor is made, and the work of filling a loft is greatly expedited.

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

As an article of manufacture, the suspending claw, the same consisting of the jaw A, provided with hook *a* at one end, and the connecting-hook or eye *b* at the other end, and combined at right angles with the claw C *c* by means of pivot D, substantially as herein described and for the purpose specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 29th day of March, 1867.

CHARLES S. KERSHAW.

Witnesses:

F. A. MORLEY,

JOSEPH ENGLERT.