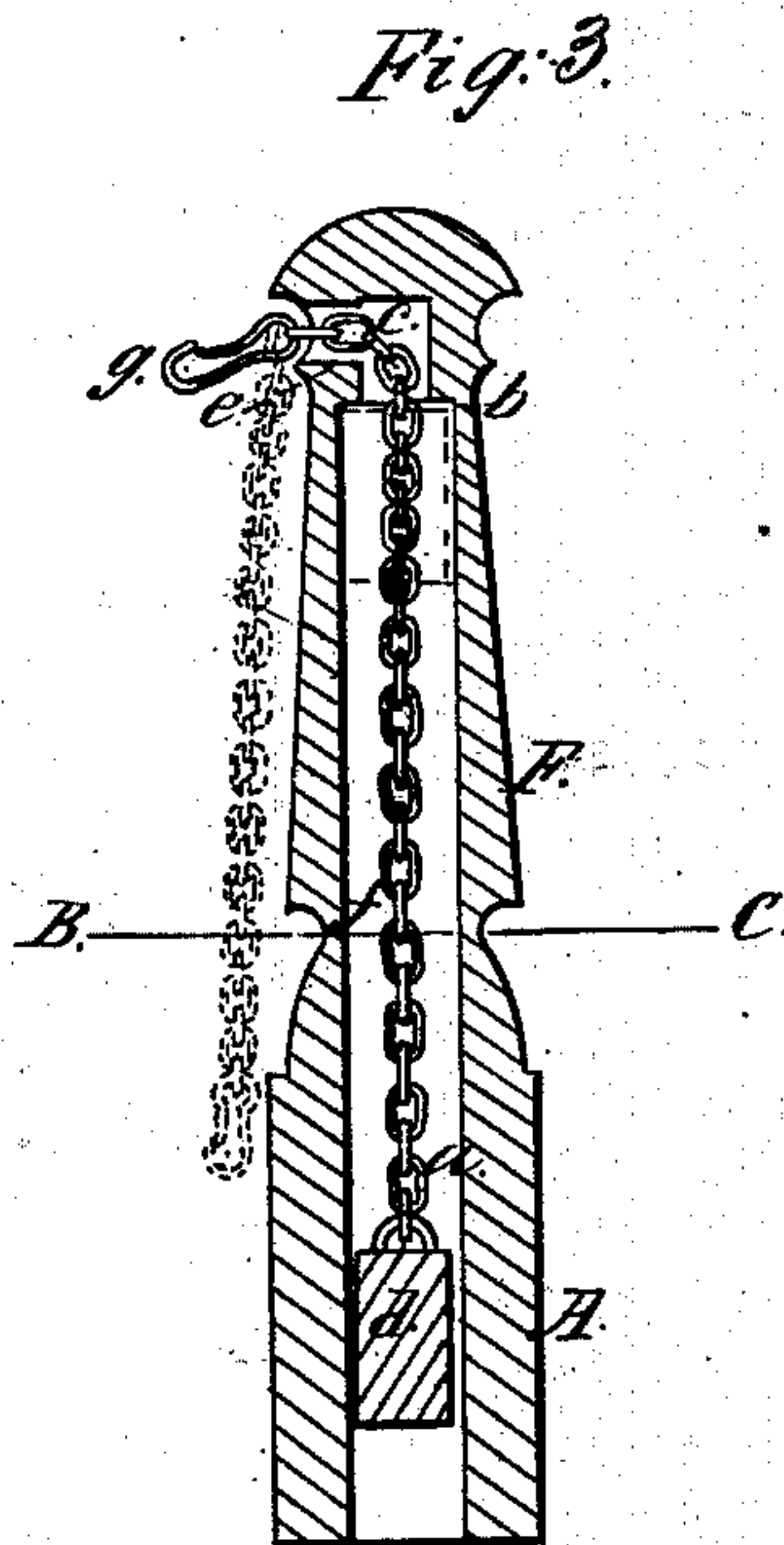
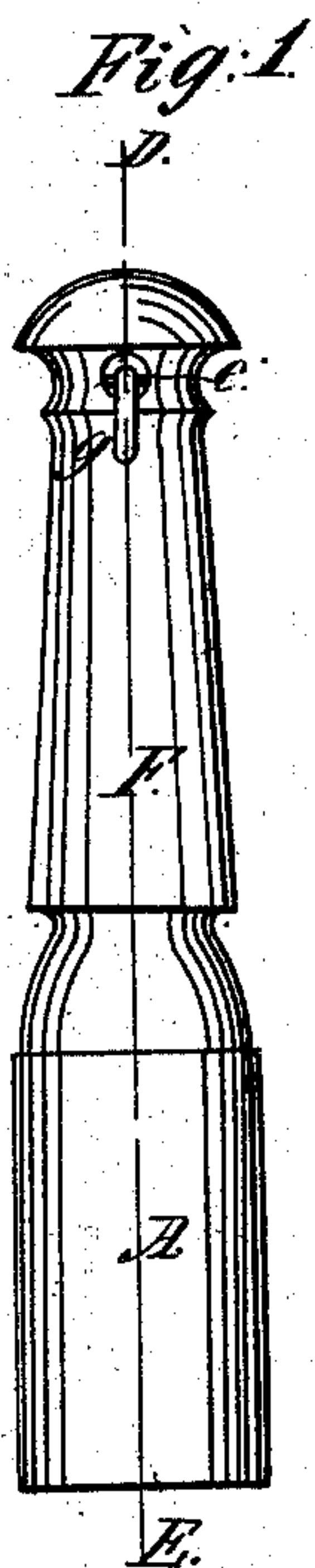


D. C. Robie.

Hitching Post.

Nº 69,027.

Patented Sep. 17, 1867.



Witnesses.

Ogden Griswold.

J. G. Chase.

Inventor.

Daniel C. Robie
By his Attorneys
Brockland & Curtis

United States Patent Office.

DANIEL C. ROBIE, OF SPRINGFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF AND MOSES GOLDTHWAITE, OF THE SAME PLACE.

Letters Patent No. 69,027, dated September 17, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN HITCHING-POSTS.

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, DANIEL C. ROBIE, of Springfield, in the county of Hampden, and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hitching-Posts, or posts used for securing thereto horses and other animals; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, similar letters referring to like parts in all the drawings, whereof—

Figure 1 is an elevation of said hitching-post.

Figure 2 is a horizontal section through the line B C, fig. 1, and

Figure 3 is a vertical section through line D E, fig. 1.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing a hitching-post hollow or perforated as to a portion or the whole of its length, and combining with such post a fastening, or hitching-chain and weight, in such a manner that the chain, when needed for use, can be readily drawn out through an aperture at or near the top of the hollow post, and when no longer needed, will be retracted within the post by the action of the weight attached to it, such weight also serving as a stop to detain one end of the chain within the post, and prevent its being entirely withdrawn. My invention also contemplates the use of any substitute for the chain which possesses the requisite flexibility and strength.

The construction of my invention is as follows: The general external form and appearance of the post A F is similar to that of an ordinary hitching-post, consisting of a base, A, to be set in the earth, and a part, F, rising to a suitable height above the surface of the ground or pavement. This post I construct of metal, wood, or stone, of any desired form and height. The base A and standard or part F above the surface of the ground may be constructed in one piece, or the standard may be made separate and fastened to a base of the same or of different material, as in the case of the application of an iron standard to a base of wood. The standard F may also be constructed with a flange or foot at the lower end for fastening it to a curbstone or pavement. An annular space, *a*, within the post extends from the bottom to the shoulder *b*, and is continued in a right line (but of smaller diameter) to *c*, and thence at a right angle through the side of the post to *e*. I have also made the opening at the top of the post instead of in the side at *e*, but prefer the latter position, as rain and snow are less liable to enter the hollow space at *e* than through an opening at the top. Posts made of cast iron can of course be cast hollow, and by the use of proper cores the entire annular space *a c e* can be formed without difficulty. In posts made of other materials, the hollow space can be formed or wrought out in any convenient manner. It is immaterial whether the annular or hollow space extends from *e* entirely through the bottom of the post, as shown, or only to a point sufficiently below *c* to allow the weight to descend far enough to draw in the chain. Openings may be made in the post near the surface of the ground to allow the escape of any water which may have collected within the hollow space. The hitching-chain *f* has, at its upper end, a common snap-hook, and is attached at its lower end to a small weight, *d*, which answers the double purpose of a weight to draw in the chain and of a stop to prevent the lower end of the chain from being drawn out beyond the shoulder *b*. The snap-hook itself, or a ring between the links of the chain and the hook, or a fid or cross-bar, will serve as a stop to prevent the upper end of the chain from being drawn into the aperture at *e*, and out of reach. The weight *d* may be of any form and material, and should be of sufficient weight to draw the chain within the post, and should be no heavier than is necessary for that purpose. The length of chain to be used will vary with the height of the post used, but should be of sufficient length to be used without inconvenience to the animals fastened thereby.

The operation of my invention is briefly as follows: The hitching-post, with the chain and weight properly arranged, having been set in the earth, or bolted to the curbstone or pavement, is ready for use. By grasping the snap-hook, ring, or other device at the outer end of the chain, the latter can be readily drawn out through the aperture at *e* as far as the weight or stop *d* will allow, and can then be used in the same way as any hitching-cord or chain attached to a post would be used. By actual trial it is shown that the slight draught upon the

chain, which is caused by the weight, is not a cause of any alarm or inconvenience to the animal fastened by the chain. When released, the chain is withdrawn within the post, leaving only the snap-hook, ring, or fid projecting, and is thus kept dry and free from rust and dirt.

I am aware that "a post or shell, sunk underneath a sidewalk or pavement, having an extension shaft or bar to be drawn from or inserted in said post or shell at will," has been described in the Letters Patent granted to Valentine Word on the fifth day of June, A. D. 1866, which device differs from my invention both in construction and operation, as the top of the post or shell in said Word's invention is set level with the surface of the sidewalk or pavement, and forms, with the extension bar or shaft, a jointed or extension post, without any chain attached thereto, while my invention relates to a permanent post rising to a suitable height above the ground, and to the application of a weighted chain thereto, and the manner of such application. I do not therefore claim a hollow post, considered apart from the hitching-chain and weight or stop described.

I do not confine myself to any particular form of hollow post, or to an annular or cylindrical space within the post, it being only necessary that the shape of the hollow space should be such that the weight or stop will move within the post without obstruction. I am aware that a hollow post is not new, I therefore do not claim the same; but what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The hitching-post, constructed of a closed top and an opening, *e*, on its side, communicating with the annular space *a*, for the purpose and in the manner substantially as described.

Witness my hand this 30th day of April, A. D. 1867.

DANIEL C. ROBIE.

Witnesses:

O. L. COWLES,

G. W. PEABODY.