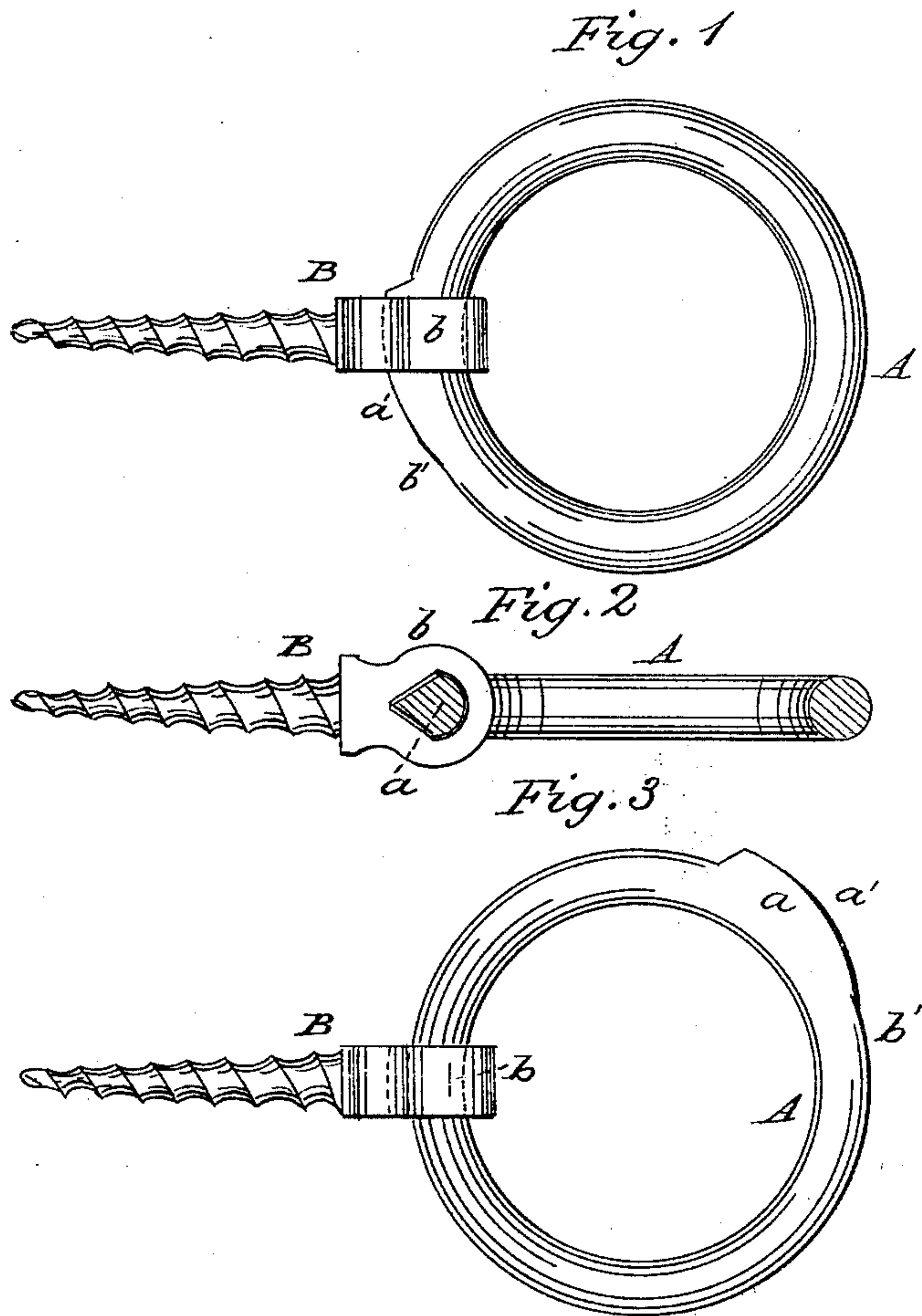


J. P. HOWELL.

Hitching Ring.

No. 69,212.

Patented Sept. 24, 1867.



Witnesses:  
*M. Bloomby.*  
*G. W. Reed.*

Inventor:  
*J. P. Howell*

# United States Patent Office.

JAMES P. HOWELL, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 69,212, dated September 24, 1867.

## IMPROVED HITCHING-RING.

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, JAMES P. HOWELL, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Rings; 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, making a portion of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of a hitching-ring constructed according to my invention, and in the position in which it is placed while being attached to a fixed support.

Figure 2 is a section of the same in a like position.

Figure 3 is a side view of the same in the position it occupies when in use.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

This invention relates to a hitching-ring designed to be portable, so as to be conveniently carried by travellers or others, and attached, when desired, to any suitable fixed support; and it consists in a ring so constructed and combined with a screw-shank that when placed with the screw-shank at one portion thereof it will be held in a fixed position thereon so as to serve as a handle, whereby the shank may be screwed into a tree, post, or other suitable support, and when placed with the said shank at other portions thereof will hang loosely upon the same, as is desirable when the device is in use and when the same is being carried, as in travelling. The invention further consists in the construction of the ring just mentioned with an enlarged portion made wedge-shaped in its cross-section, and operating in connection with an eye or slot of corresponding shape formed in the head of the screw-shank, whereby the most efficient operation of the leading feature of the invention is secured.

To enable others to understand the nature and construction of my invention, I will proceed to describe it with reference to the drawings.

A represents a ring, of any desired or suitable size, and made of any proper material, the said ring having formed upon one point of its circumference an enlarged portion, *a*, the outer edge of which extends out beyond the circular portion of the circumference of the ring, and which slopes at one end to the said circular portion of such circumference, as shown at *a' b'*. This enlarged and outwardly projecting portion of the ring A is made wedge-shaped in its transverse section, as shown more clearly in fig. 2. The ring A passes through an eye, *b*, formed in the head of the screw-shank B, the longitudinal section of the said eye corresponding in shape to the transverse section just described of the portion *a* of the ring A. The aforesaid screw-shank B is made of tapering form, and is provided with a screw-thread of any desired depth and of any suitable variety, and has its small or outer extremity made of such shape as to easily enter the wood or material into which it is desired to screw the shank, in a manner similar to the point of a gimlet. When it is desired to attach the device to a tree, post, or other like support the ring A is turned around until the portion *a* thereof is forced into the eye *b* of the screw-shank B, and inasmuch as the said portion fits snugly in the said eye it follows that the shank is held in a fixed or rigid position upon the ring, so that the latter may be used as a handle in screwing the shank into the support, which being done the ring is turned around so as to bring the portion *a* out of the eye *b*, whereupon, the remaining portion of the ring being smaller than the aforesaid eye, the said ring hangs loosely upon the shank as it is attached to the support, as just described, and the halter or bridle by which it is desired to secure the horse or other animal to the hitching-ring may then be tied or otherwise attached thereto. Besides enabling the ring A to hang loosely upon the shank B, when thus in use, this construction of the device enables the shank to be folded over or turned inward across the ring when it is desirable to bring the device into compact shape, as, for instance, when carrying the same in the pocket when travelling.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A ring so constructed and combined with a suitable screw-shank that when such shank is placed at one portion of the ring it will be rigidly fixed thereon, and when placed at other portions thereof will permit the said ring to hang loosely, substantially as herein set forth for the purpose specified.

2. The construction of the ring A, with an enlarged portion, *a*, wedge-shaped in its cross-section, and operating in connection with the eye *b* of corresponding shape formed in the head of the screw-shank, substantially as herein set forth for the purpose specified.

J. P. HOWELL.

Witnesses:

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