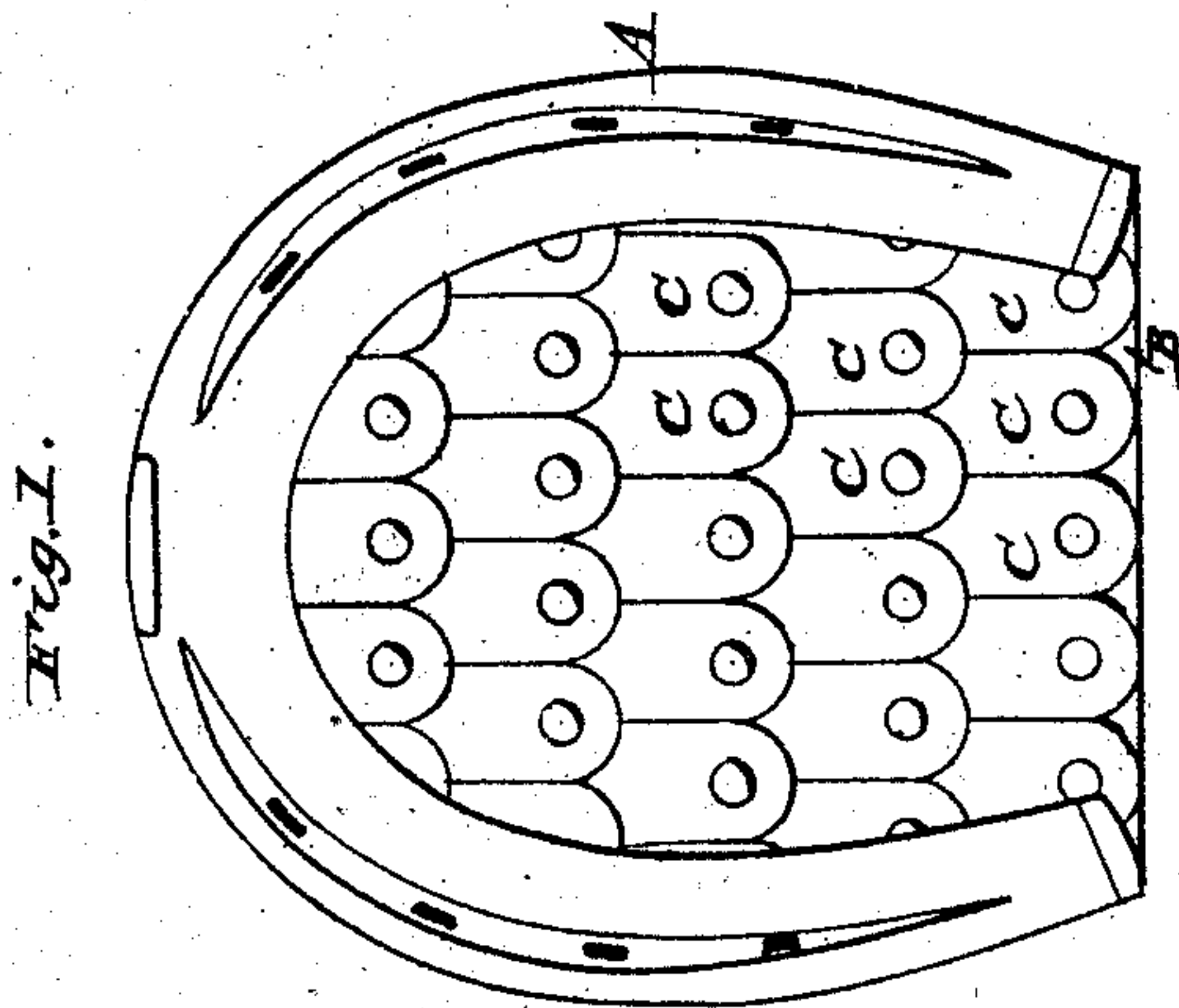
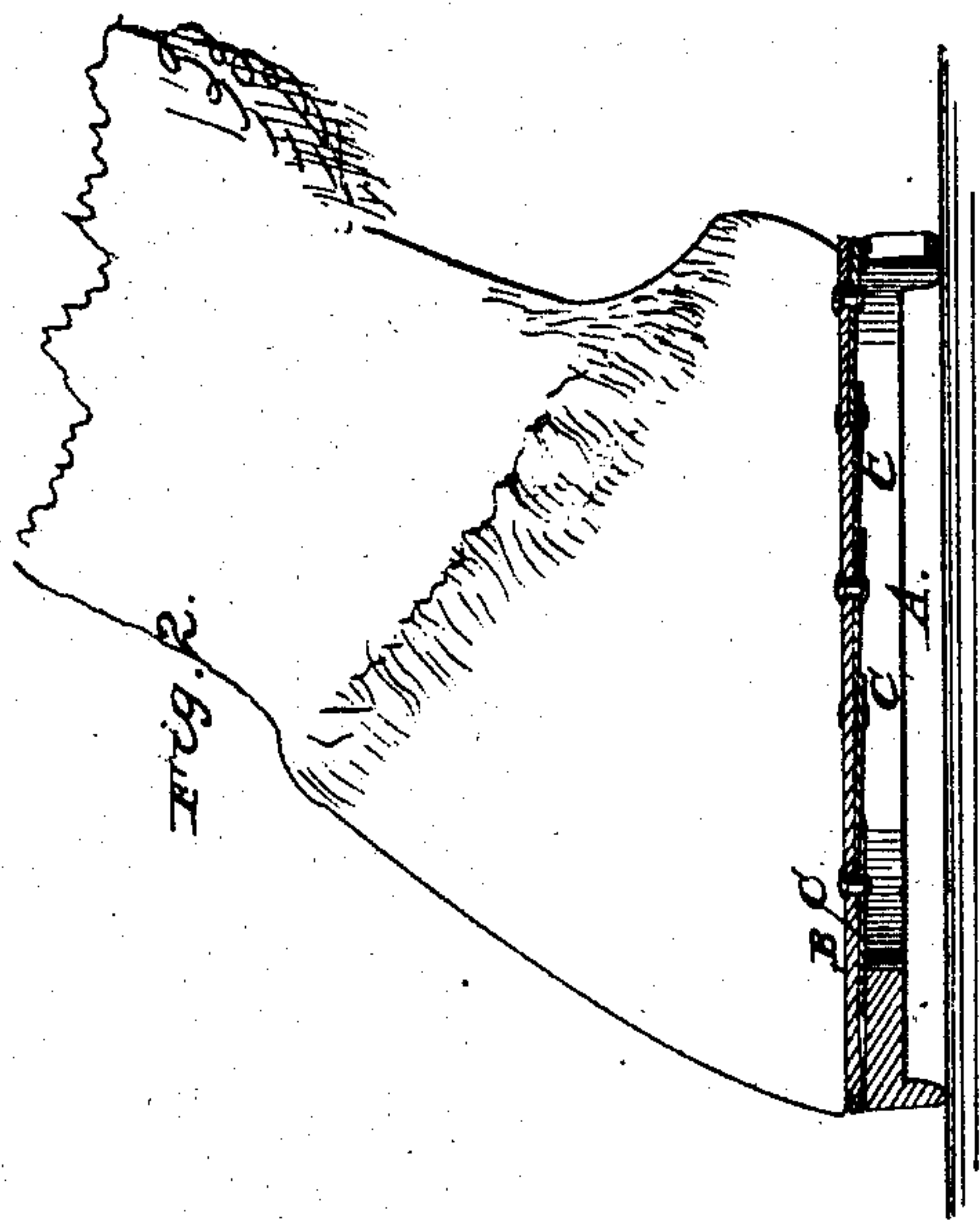


H. SPLITDORF.
ARMOR FOR HOOFS OF HORSES.

No. 69,720.

Patented Oct. 8, 1867.



Witnesses:
Geo. A. Southern
Gustav Berg.

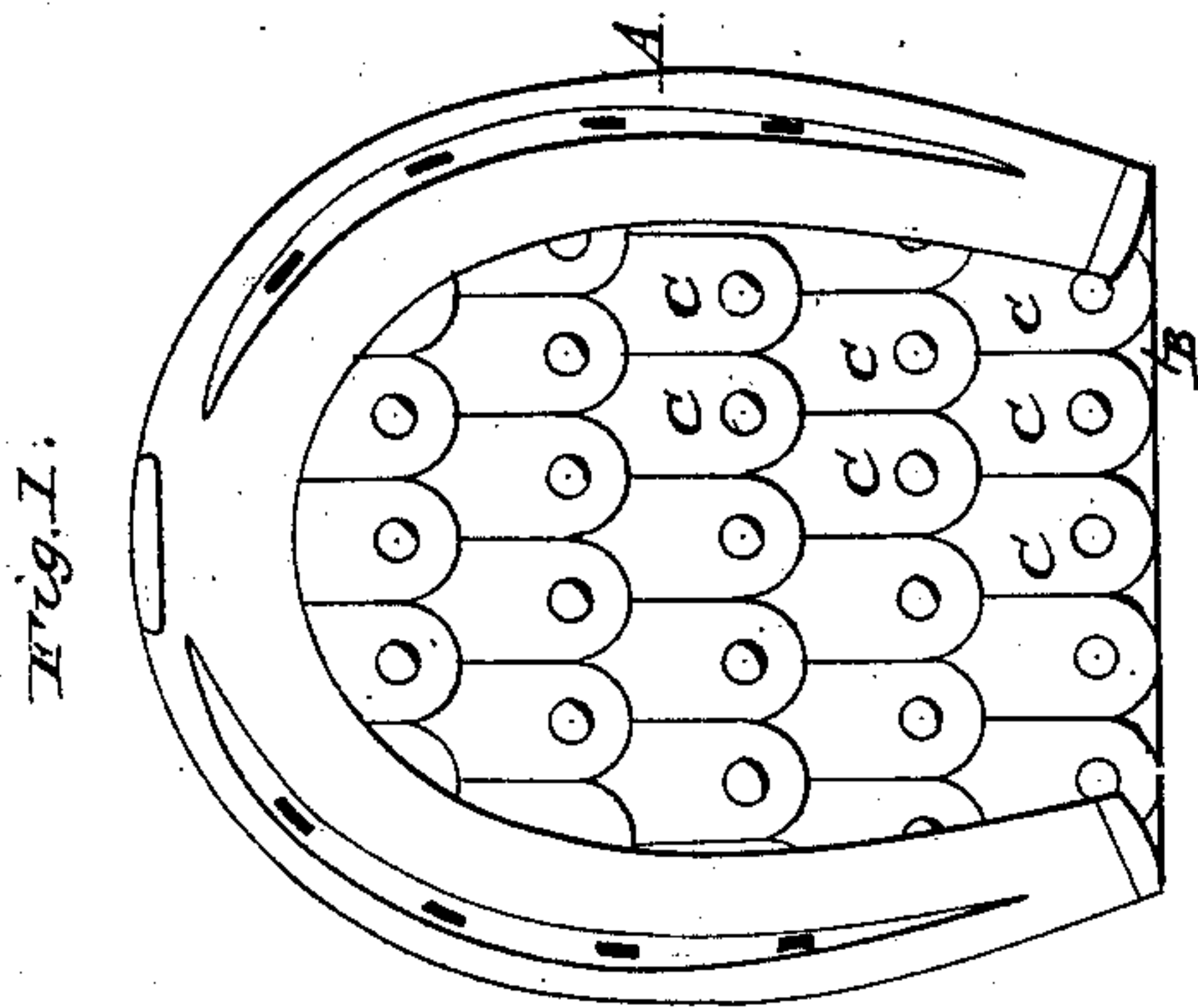
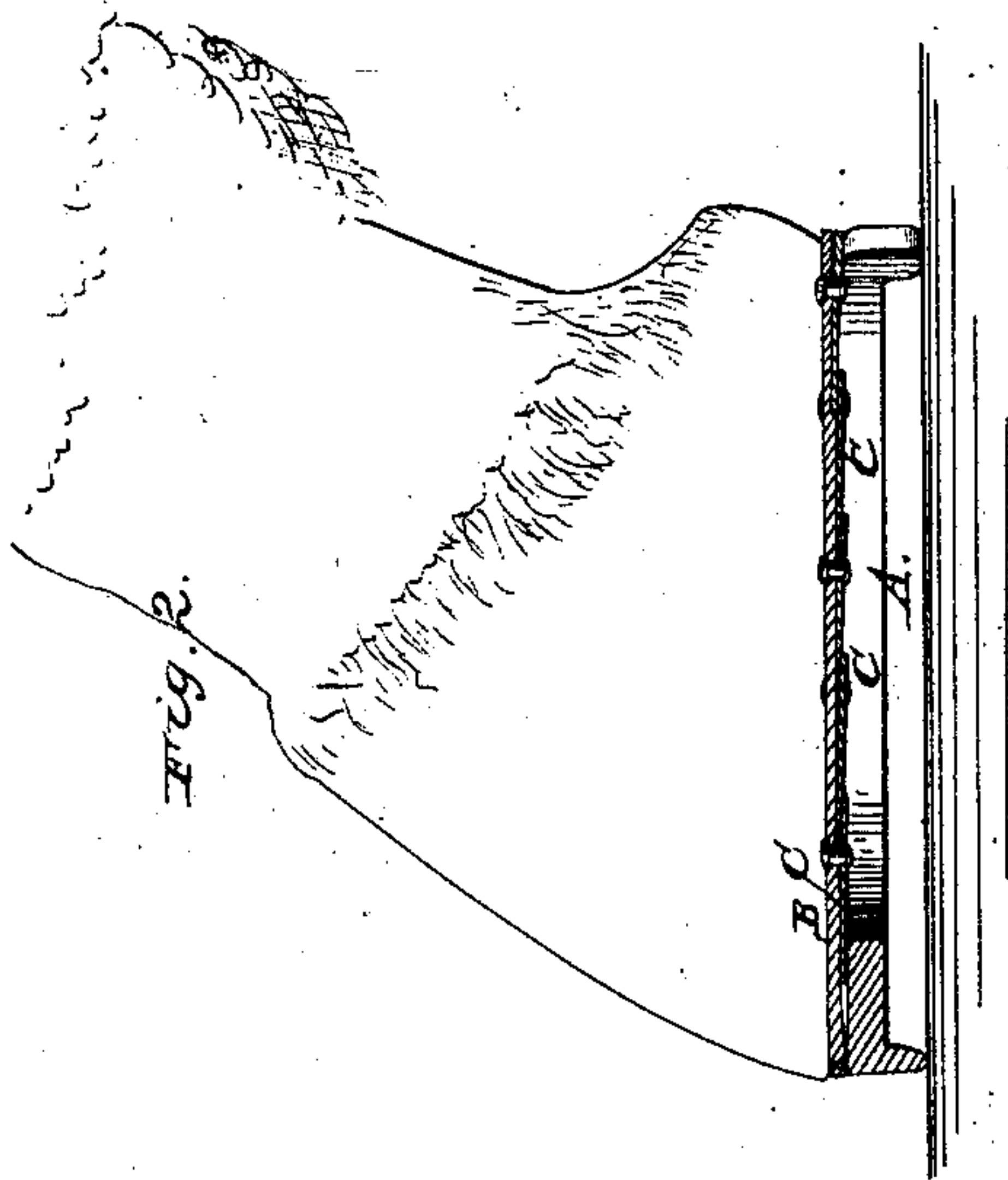
Inventor:
H. J. Splitdorf
By Vauclaire & Co.
his atty.

H. Splittorf,

Horseshoe.

No 69,720.

Patented Oct. 8, 1867.



Witnesses:
Geo. A. Southern
Jesse Perry

Inventor:
H. Splittorf
By Vauclaire & Hauff
his attys

United States Patent Office.

HENRY SPLITDORF OF BRIGHTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Letters Patent No. 69,720, dated October 8, 1867.

IMPROVEMENT IN ARMOR FOR HOOFS OF HORSES.

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, HENRY SPLITDORF, of Brighton, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Armor for the Feet and Hoofs of Horses and other animals; 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 drawing, forming part of this specification, in which drawing—

Figure 1 is an under side view of my improvement in connection with an under side view of a horse-shoe.

Figure 2 is a longitudinal vertical section taken through the armor and shoe.

The object of this invention is to protect the feet of horses and other burden-bearing animals, especially such as are shod, so as to prevent the under side of their feet from being pierced or bruised or otherwise injured by objects on the ground, and to do away with the exposure to which the under side of the feet or hoofs of such animals are subjected when wearing shoes of ordinary construction, that is to say, shoes consisting of a rim fastened beneath the circumference or outer edge of the hoof.

In order to illustrate my invention, I have shown it applied in connection with a horse-shoe, A, of the ordinary construction. The armor consists of a series of steel or other metal plates, C C, overlapping each other, and united so as to form a flexible sheet or surface by means of joints of suitable construction. In this example I have connected them to form a plate by riveting them singly to a piece of leather, B, which is itself united to the upper side of the shoe by rivets D D, or in any other convenient way. The leather forms a foundation or support for the plates, and is made of such a size as to come to the outer edge of the shoe, whereby it becomes confined between the shoe and hoof or foot of the animal, as seen in fig. 2, where a horse's foot is delineated in red outline, the nails that fasten the shoe to the hoof passing through the leather. Any flexible material of suitable strength can be used instead of leather, and the plates C may be of any suitable material, which has the required hardness, besides metal. The plates C are placed so as to overlap one another like scales or shingles, whereby I obtain at once a flexible or jointed armor, and an armor which presents everywhere a hard surface, composed of the surfaces of the plates C, the flexible foundation to which they are fastened not being exposed. The plates C are so arranged as to come within the inner edges of the shoe A, so as to let the leather only come between the top surface of the shoe and the horse's foot. The plates C are of course on the under side of the armor. When my invention is applied to the hoofs of oxen, the armor must be cleft to conform to the character of the feet.

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

The armor C, for protecting the feet or hoofs of horses or other animals, made substantially as described above, by fastening a series of plates to each other or to a flexible foundation, B.

HENRY SPLITDORF.

Witnesses:

CAROLINE W. BRAMAN,

JOSEPH B. BRAMAN.