

B. J. DAVIS & I. S. CRAMER.  
CRIBBING PREVENTER.

No. 75,382.

Patented Mar. 10, 1868.

Fig. 1

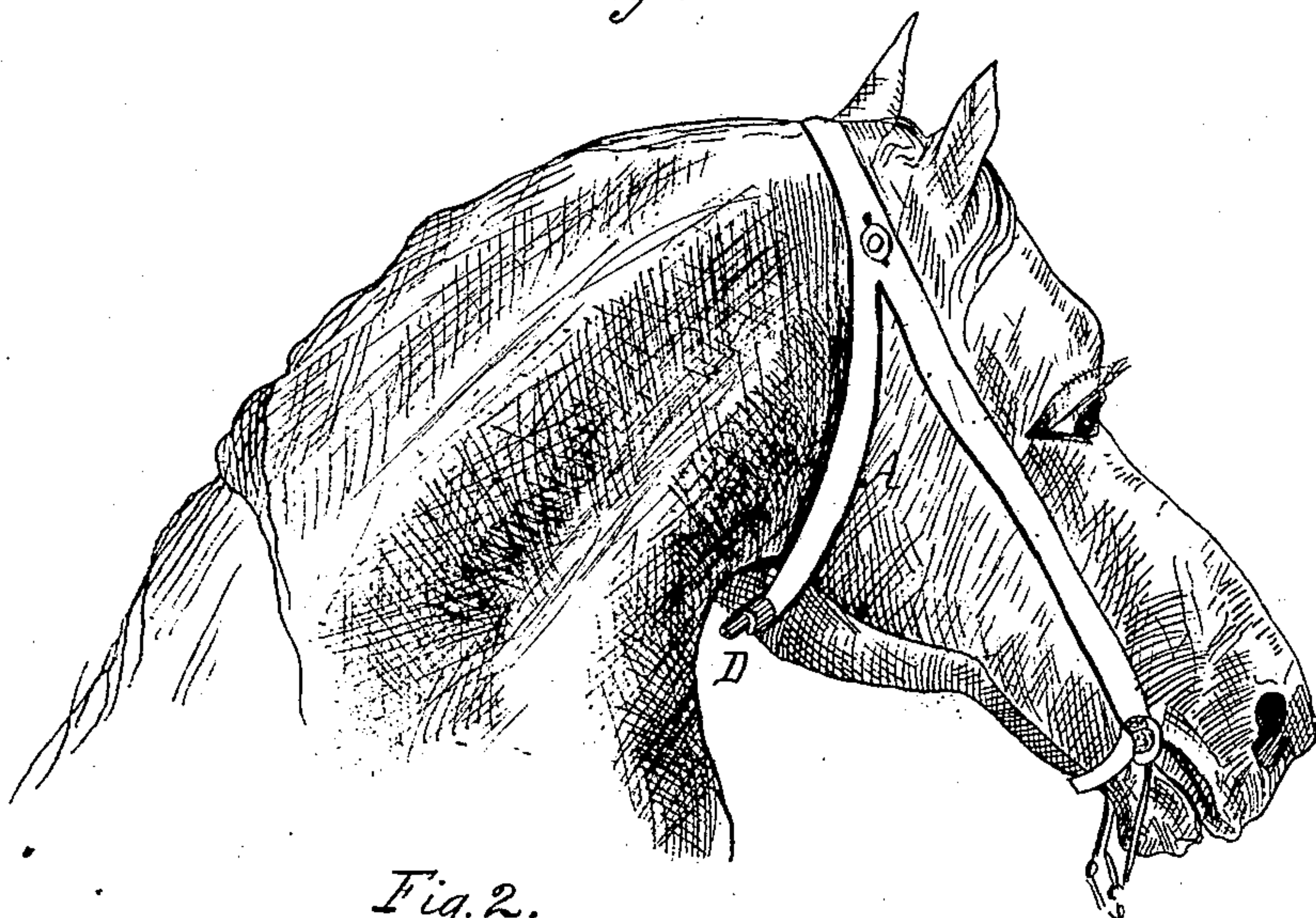


Fig. 2.

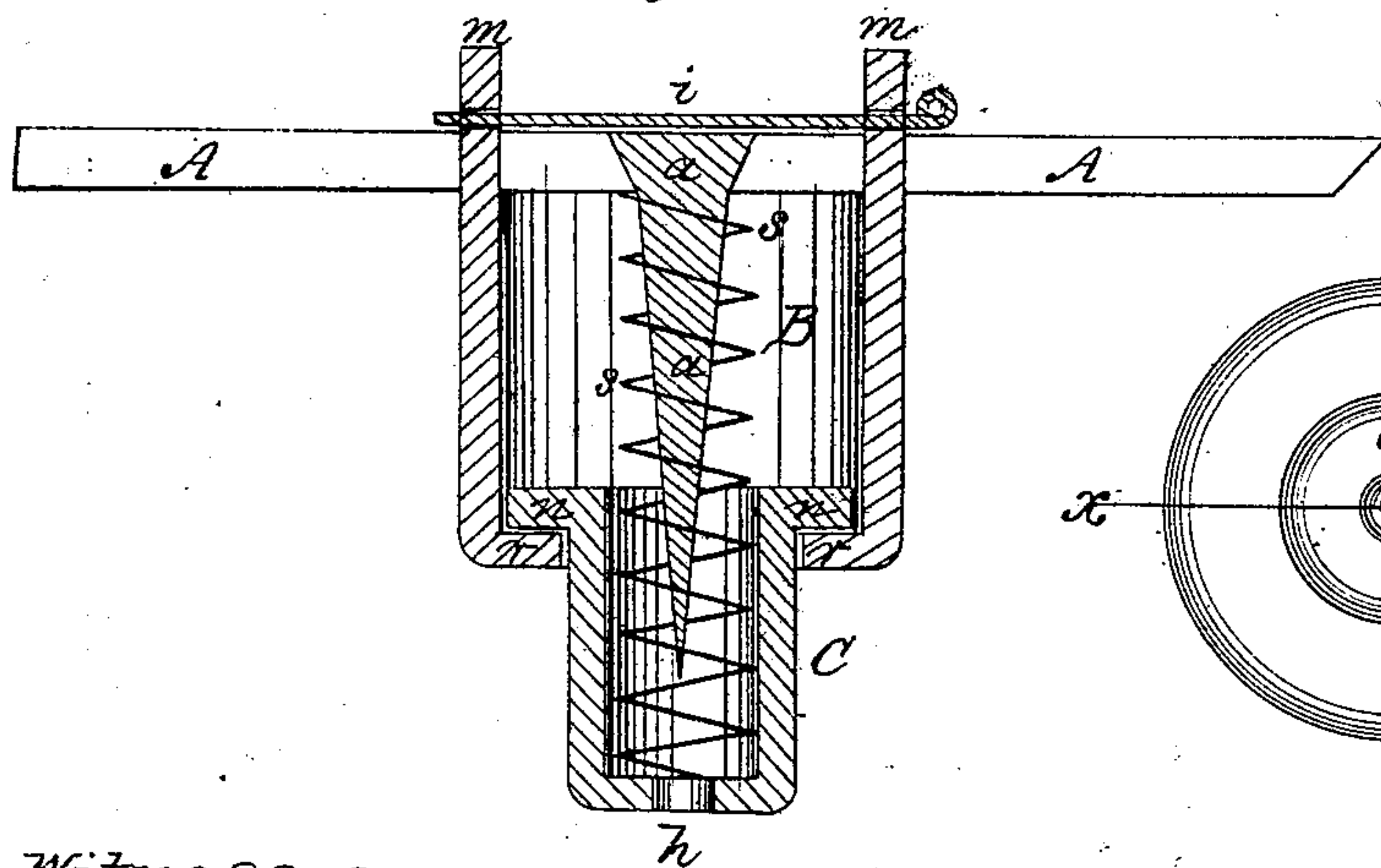
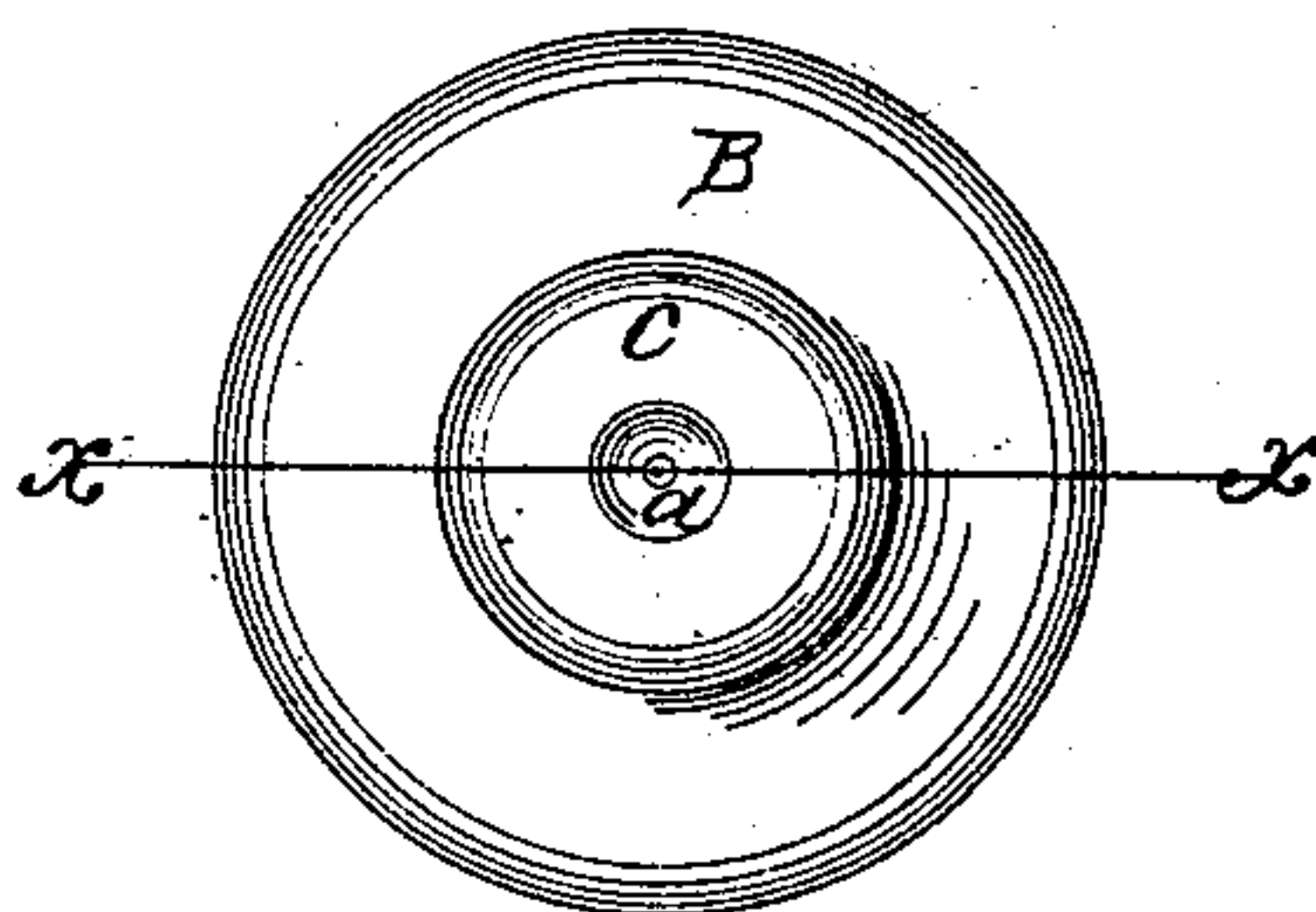


Fig. 3.



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# United States Patent Office.

BENJAMIN J. DAVIS AND ISAAC S. CRAMER, OF SERGEANTSVILLE, NEW JERSEY.

*Letters Patent No. 75,382, dated March 10, 1868.*

## IMPROVED CRIBBING PREVENTER.

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

### TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that we, BENJAMIN J. DAVIS and ISAAC S. CRAMER, of Sergeantsville, in the county of Hunterdon, and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and improved Cribbing Preventer; and we 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, showing the location of the cribbing preventer on the throat-strap of a bridle.

Figure 2 is a central vertical section of the same enlarged to four times its proper size.

Figure 3 is a top view of the cribbing preventer, showing the line  $x x'$ , from whence the section shown at fig. 2 was taken.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention relates to an attachment for bridles for the purpose of preventing horses from indulging in the vicious and hurtful habit of cribbing, so called. It consists of a pricking-point enclosed and guarded by a cylindrical cap working within a larger cylindrical base, to which it is attached by a telescopic joint. The two cylindrical parts enclose the pricking-point, which is firmly seated in the throat-strap, and presents its point through a central hole in the cap when the latter is pressed against the tension of a spring, which otherwise keeps the cap out and over the pricking-point.

Fig. 1 shows the invention in place, at D, on the throat-strap of a common bridle. The other figures more fully illustrate its construction.

A is the strap, to which the cylindrical part B is attached, by means of projections  $m m$  passing through the throat-strap, and keyed by a wire,  $i$ , passing through holes in the said projections, in the manner shown. The pricking-point  $a$  is set into the throat-strap by a flaring base, as shown, or by a washer and shoulder, or in other suitable manner. This point is located in the centre of the parts surrounding it, so that a portion of it will be presented through the central hole  $h$  in the cap C when the latter is forced inward. The part B is made with a flange,  $r$ , to meet and stop the flange  $n$  on the cap C, as shown; thus the latter works within the part B in a manner similar to the joints of a telescope. The helical spring  $s$  is coiled around the pricking-point, and exerts its tension to keep the cap C thrust out, so that the point  $a$  shall not inflict pain or prick the animal in any manner other than the one intended.

A horse addicted to the vice of cribbing generally seizes with his teeth some stationary wood, as the manger, post, or fence to which he is hitched, and, bending the head, so that the angle formed by the head and neck is very acute, proceeds to make a gurgitating noise, resembling and considered to be the swallowing of air—a practice which has a pernicious and hurtful effect upon the horse, and which detracts from his value as a merchantable animal.

Now, when the invention hereinabove set forth is attached to the throat-strap of a bridle or halter, in manner shown at fig. 1, the animal cannot practise the habit above described, for when the head is drawn in vertically, and the neck arched or flexed, the cap C is pressed upon by the neck, and thrust down against the tension of the spring  $s$  till the pricking-point  $a$  is presented through the hole  $h$ , which, when the animal feels, he will desist from the attempt and return his head to its ordinary position.

Many devices for the same purpose have been patented, but they are all liable to objection. They are either too bulky, or too severe, or the points are not sufficiently guarded, or are often inoperative, or are too complicated and expensive. Our invention presents none of these objections, but is at once a safe and simple cribbing preventer, small in compass, and of a variable degree of severity, giving to the colt or young horse just learning the habit a gentle reminder to desist, or to one more fixed in the practice a severer pricking, according as the head is bent with more or less determination.

We are aware that a patent is issued for an invention for this purpose, in which the pricking-point is enclosed in a spherical soft-rubber guard, but this is found ineffective, as the flexible nature of the rubber permits it to be crowded over and upon the pricking-point, thus preventing the proper action of the latter.

The parts B and C in our invention can be made of metal, or may be made of hard rubber, which latter would, perhaps, be more desirable in some cases

We do not claim broadly the presentation of a pricking-point guarded when not in operation; but

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

The parts C and B, the one sliding within the other, in combination with the pricking-point *a* and spring *s*, all substantially as shown and described, for the purpose of preventing horses from indulging in the so-called habit of cribbing, all as set forth.

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