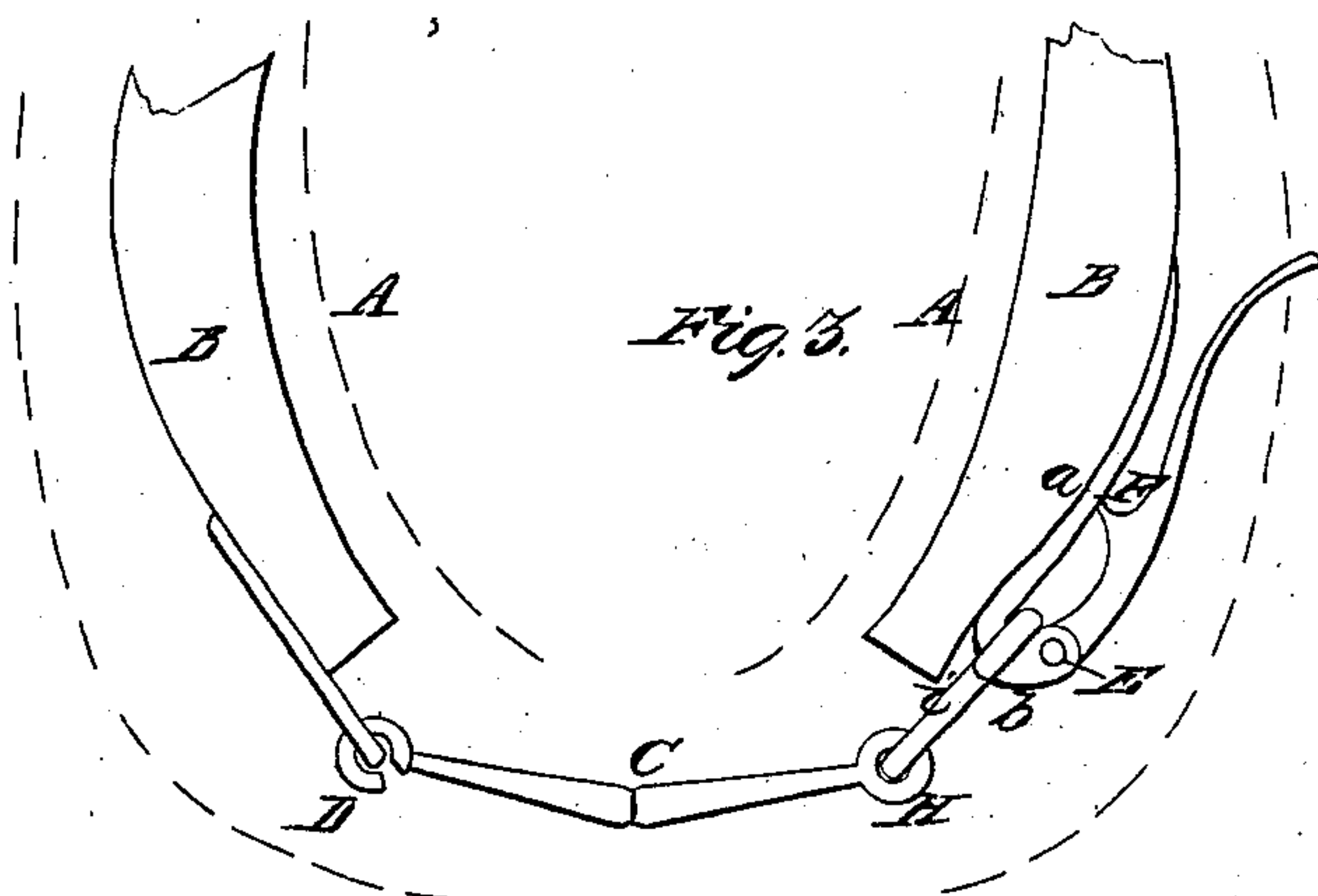
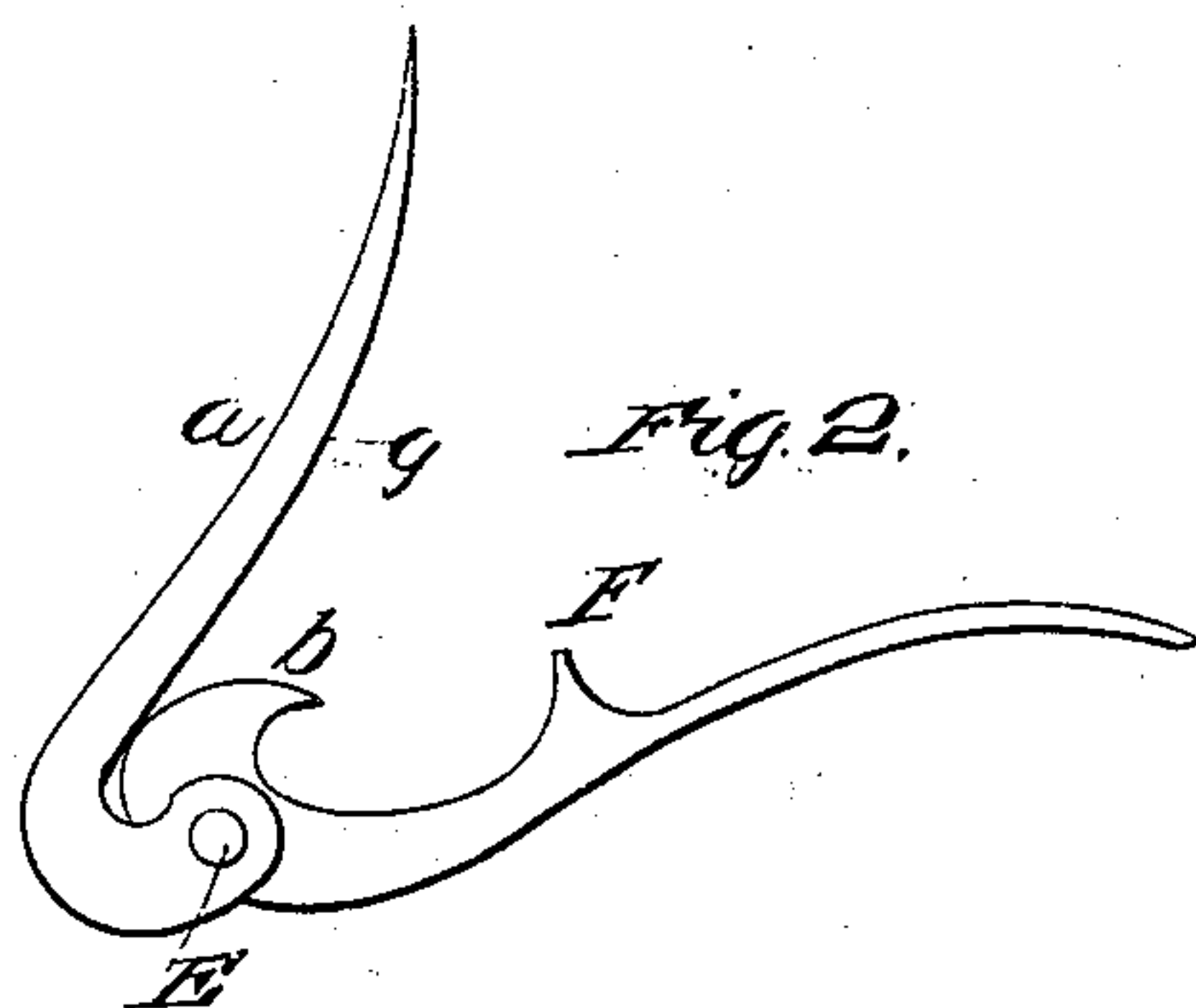
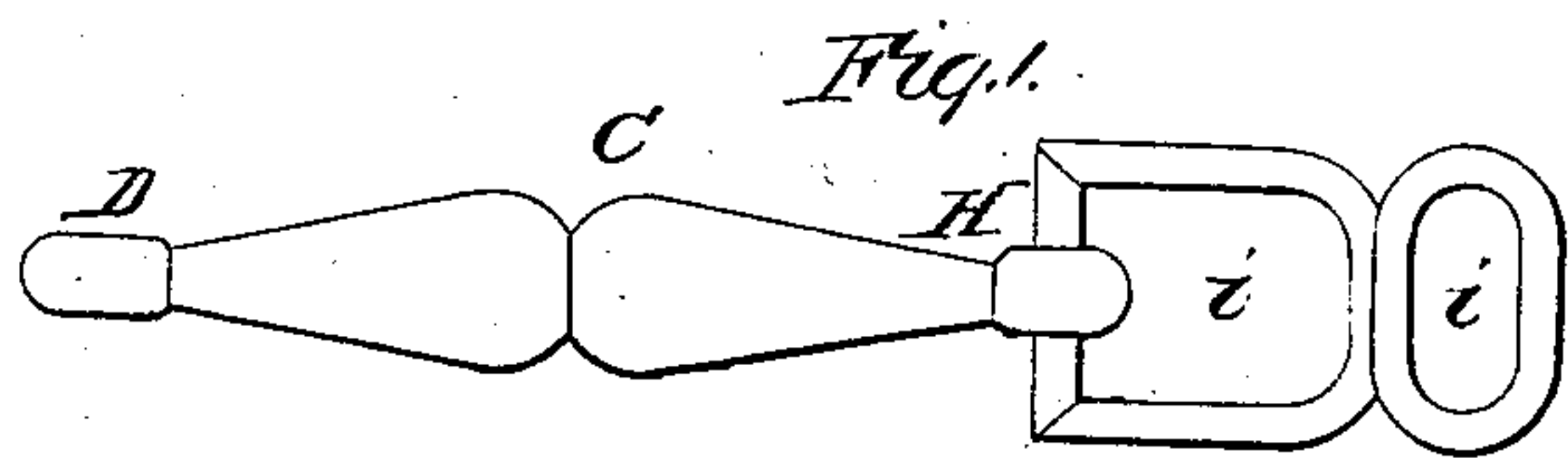


J. H. McKinley,
Home Fastener,
No 85,464, Patented Dec. 29, 1868.



Witnesses:

John A. Diederichsen
George H. Ketchum

Inventor:

John H. McKinley

United States Patent Office.

JOHN H. MCKINLEY, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

Letters Patent No. 85,464, dated December 29, 1868.

IMPROVED HAMES-FASTENER.

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, JOHN H. MCKINLEY, of the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and improved Mode of Fastening Hames; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of this invention is to furnish a fastening for hames on the collar of horse-harness, that will be easily and quickly operated, either to fasten the hames upon the collars, or to release the hames for removal, and that will be effectual and yet entirely secure as a fastening, and from liability to accident; and

It consists of a combination of devices, which, together, operate to effect the result, when attached to the hames in the manner to operate as hereinafter set forth.

To enable those skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will describe its construction and operation.

Figure 1 is a full view of the bar and loops to be used in place of the ordinary hames-strap.

Figure 2 is a side view of the fastener, to be attached to the hames.

Figure 3 shows a full collar and hames with my improvement attached, and in which—

A represents a common collar of a harness;

B, the hames, all constructed in the usual manner; and to one side of the hames is attached the fastener, by means of rivets, screws, or other convenient and secure device; and to the other side of the hames, attached by means of a hook at the end of the bar with the loops, are attached the bar and loops, which I intend shall take the place and operate instead of the usual hames-strap, as shown more fully in figs. 3 and 4.

The fastener consists of a hook-plate, *a*, which is firmly secured to hames B by any means.

Upon this plate, near the end of the hook on plate *a*, is pivoted, at *e*, a hooked and bent lever, *b*.

Upon this bent lever or hook is a projecting stud, *F*, which, when in position, fits into a hole, *g*, in plate *a*, and thus prevents any lateral motion.

The bar and loops, which I intend to take the place of the hames-strap, and operate with my fastener, is a slightly-curved bar, *C*, with a hook at one end, *D*, and an ordinary eye, *H*, at the other end, through which are put the loops *i*, that are intended to connect with the fastener, as described, and set forth in the above drawings and figures.

Thus the hook-end of the bar *C*, marked *D*, is passed through the metal straps or eyes which are ordinarily used to strengthen the hames, and the loops, marked *i*, are passed over the lever *b*, into the hooked part of plate *a*, as seen in fig. 3, and when in position, the stud *F* enters hole *g*, in plate *a*, and is thus held securely in position.

To release the hames, it only requires one finger to

be placed under the end of the bent lever *b*, and upon pressing the same upward, and toward the hook-end of plate *a*, the loops *i*, attached to bar *C*, slip over the hook-end of plate *a*, and the operation is complete, only requiring a single hand to release or fasten the hames effectually.

Various modes of construction may be used in making hook-plate *a*, or bar *c*, or loops *i*, or lever *b*, without varying the principle of construction or operation of my invention; for instance, plate *a* may be formed with a slot in the hook-end, and the hook-end of lever *b* be pivoted to the hook by means of a rivet or studs on the same, which would fit into holes in the inner sides of hook on plate *a*, in such a way that hook-end of lever *b* will work in such slot; or bar *c* may be made flat or round, according to the taste or fancy of the user. The loops *i*, instead of being oblong, may be round, and made like rings within each other, and yet not depart from the principle of my invention.

I am aware that fasteners for hames have been made and used, in which hook-levers are employed for tightening or releasing the hames-straps, but such were not constructed like mine, as the hook-lever alone holds and operates the hames-straps, instead of allowing the real strain of the strap or looped bar to rest on the hook-end of plate *a*, as in my invention, while, in the other methods used, in place of a hames-strap, those made and now in use, are a series of stiff rings or loops, made in one solid piece, and mine, being separate, allows the strap or looped bar to play with the movements of the collar when in use, while the others, being stiff, are liable to either break or tear the collar; hence I claim that my invention is decidedly not only an improvement, but a new idea.

Hook-levers have also been used with the strap and ring to attach the hames; but the hook-lever as invented by me, used in connection with the bar and loops, as described herein, has never been used before. Besides, all other inventions for hames-fastener or straps cannot be used with pole-straps or neck-yoke straps, while, in my invention, in place of the hames-strap, I use the bar and loops, and the whole apparatus of fastening or releasing the hames is out of the way of the neck-yoke or pole-straps.

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

The hook-plate *a*, bent lever *b*, having stud *F*, hole *g*, and pivoted together as described, in combination with the curved bar *C*, with hook *D* at one end, the ordinary eye *H* at the other, and the movable loops *i*, all being constructed and arranged, with relation to each other, and to operate together in the manner and for the purpose herein described.

JOHN H. MCKINLEY.

Witnesses:

WM. H. BROWNE,
M. C. MITCHELL.