

G. A. Parker.

Horse Shoe.

N^o 85,689

Patented Jan. 5, 1869.

Fig: 1.

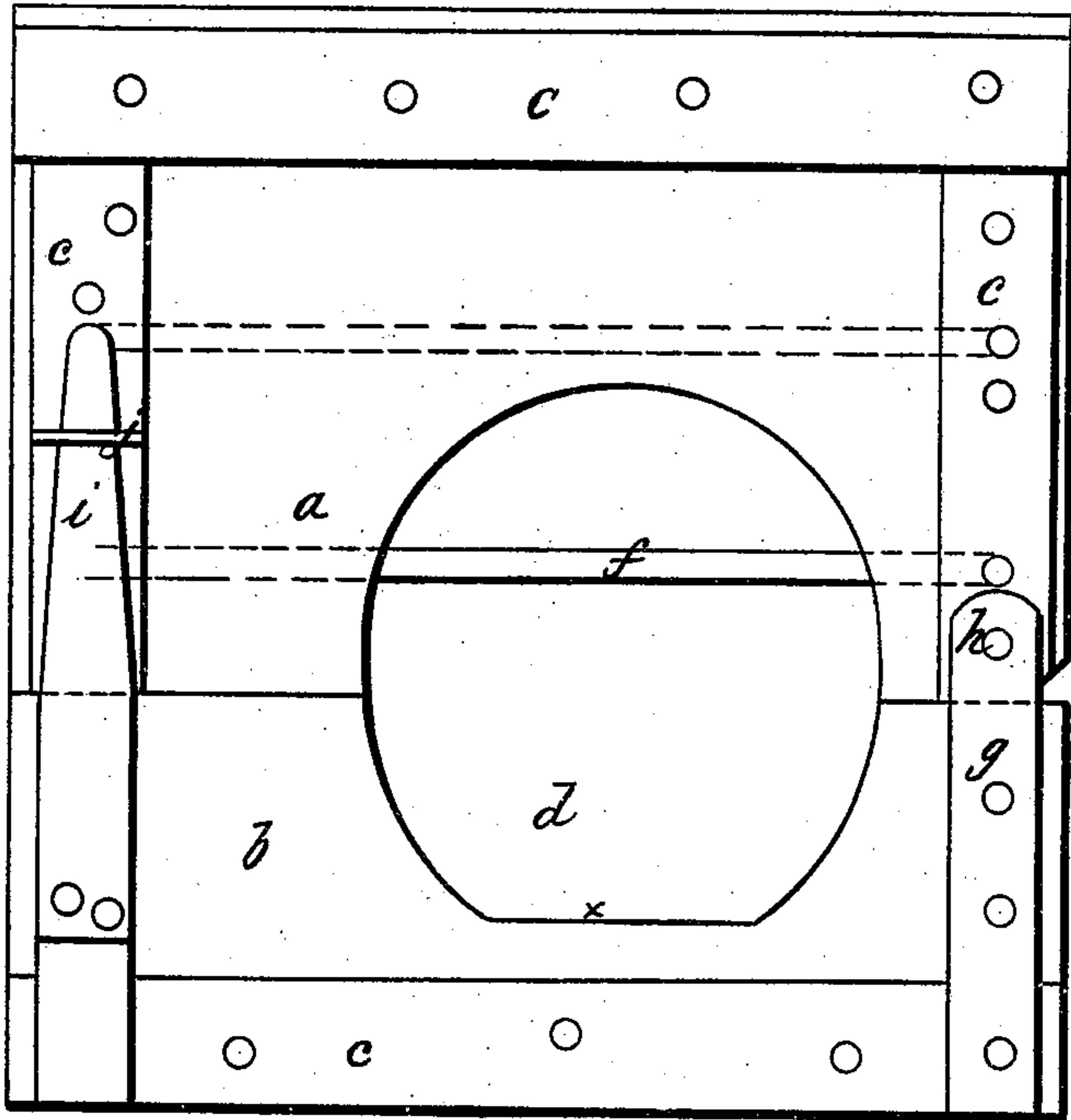


Fig: 2.

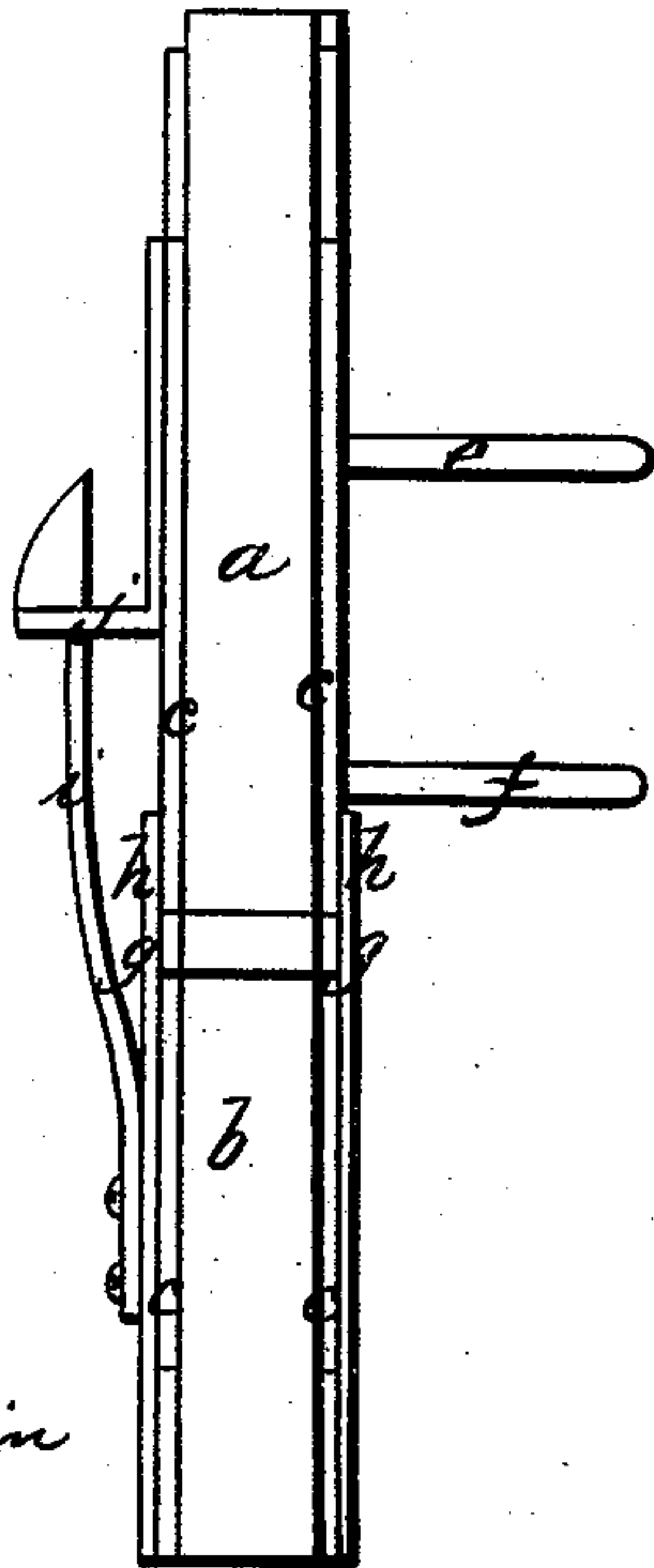
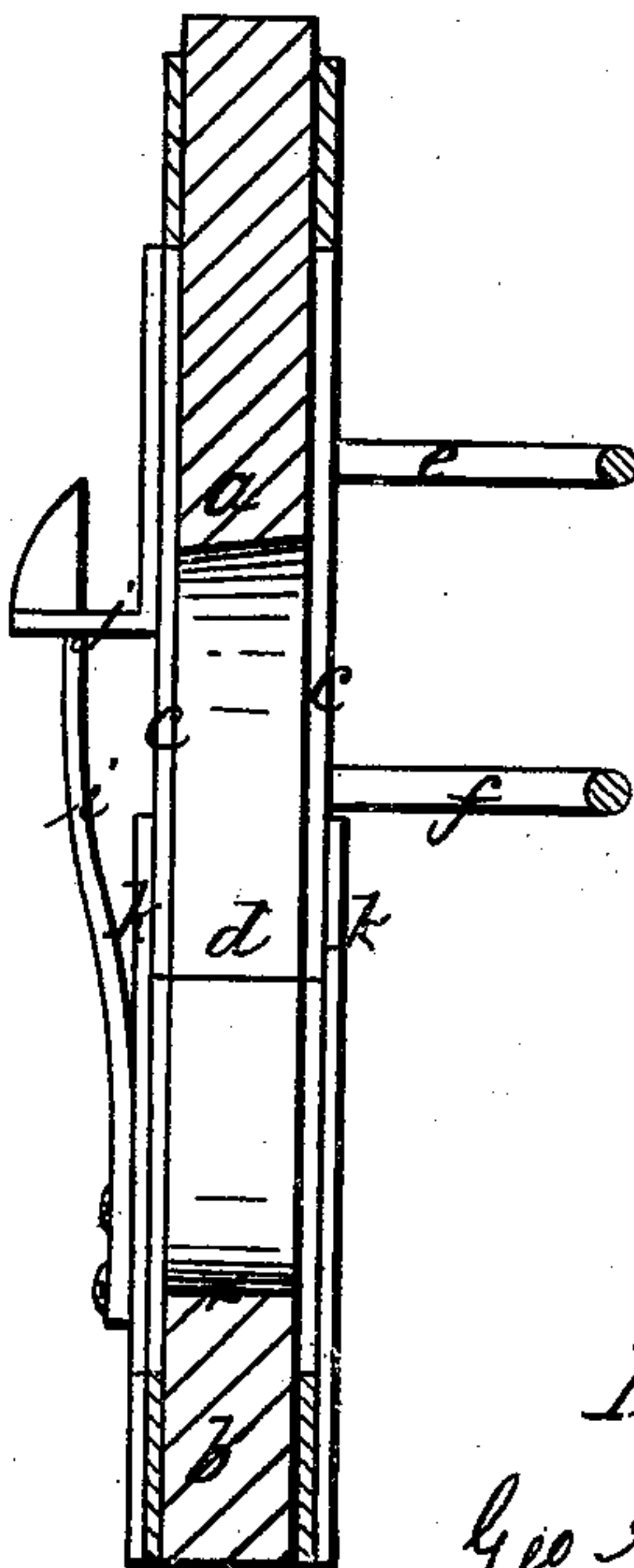


Fig: 3.



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GEORGE A. PARKER, OF WESTFORD, MASSACHUSETTS.

Letters Patent No. 85,689, dated January 5, 1869.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE-SHOES.

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, GEORGE A. PARKER, of Westford, in the county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented new and useful Improvements in Horse-Rackets; 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 nature of my invention consists in the arrangement and combination of the racket, formed in two parts, they being furnished with one or more treads, and bound with metallic strips, being connected and fastened together by a hinge and spring; the object of this invention being to furnish a racket that can be easily and quickly operated and secured, and worn by the animal without injuring or fretting him in the least.

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

Figure 1 represents a plan of my improved horse-racket.

Figure 2 represents a side elevation of the same.

Figure 3 represents a vertical section of the same.

Similar letters, in the different figures, indicate corresponding parts.

I construct my improved horse-racket of wood, formed in two parts, *a* and *b*, their outside edges being bound with metallic strips *c c c c*, giving them the required and desired strength. These rackets are made in pairs, rights and lefts, of different sizes, as represented in the drawings, as being designed for the nigh front or hind foot.

Formed in and through the parts *a* and *b* is the foot-hole *d*, which is constructed the same for either pair of rackets, for the front or back feet of the animal, the centre of the hole *d* always being the nearest the hinge-side and back part of the racket, thus leaving but a small portion of the bearing-surface on the inside and back of the racket, and a larger portion in front and on the outside. By thus locating the hole *d*, the animal will not interfere with the same in the least.

This foot-hole *d* is also formed as the shape and size of the animal's foot demands, being always larger rather than smaller, so that the back part *t* of the racket will not interfere with the pasterns or coronet of the same.

By this construction it will not chafe or irritate those parts.

The under part of the racket *a* is provided with one or more treads, *e* and *f*, which, when the racket is placed on the hoof of the animal's foot, brings the tread *e* directly in the rear of the toe-calk of the shoe, and the tread *f* further back towards the centre of the foot.

The parts *a* and *b* are connected, on their inside, by the hinge *g*, which hinge, being so constructed with supports *h h*, gives additional strength to the joint where required.

On their outside, the parts *a* and *b* are connected and fastened firmly together by means of the spring *i* and catch *j*, they being located on top of the same, and supplied with supports *k k*.

The racket being thus constructed, and its several devices arranged in position, is then ready for use. The operator, in applying the same, depresses the spring *i*, relieving it from the catch *j*, swinging the part *b* from the part *a*, then places the toe or front part of the hoof between the treads *e* and *f* and bottom of the front part *a*, bringing the toe-calk of the shoe directly in front of the tread *e*. He then swings or closes the part *b* up against the front part *a*, where it is firmly secured and held by the spring *i* and catch *j*.

The racket being thus secured to and operated by the animal's foot on the front part of the hoof, where, whilst wearing the same, will not chafe or irritate the pasterns or coronet in the least, as the part *t* or any of the parts do not touch his skin; and he is enabled with this device to go over marshy, soft, or muddy land, without sinking into the same, with ease, thus avoiding accidents resulting in loss of life or breaking of limb, besides allowing him his entire strength to work, rather than to keep his feet clear and free.

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

The racket, consisting of parts *a* and *b*, hinge *g*, and spring *i*, when arranged to operate as described, and for the purposes set forth.

GEO. A. PARKER.

Witnesses:

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