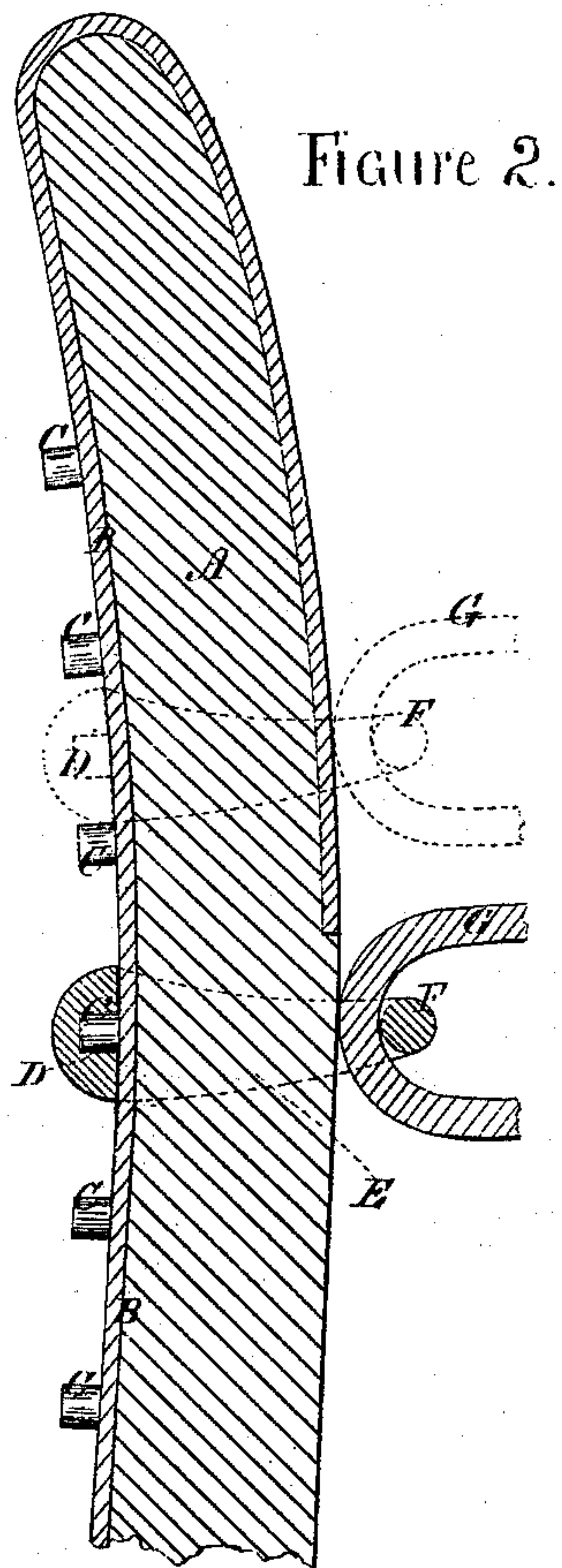
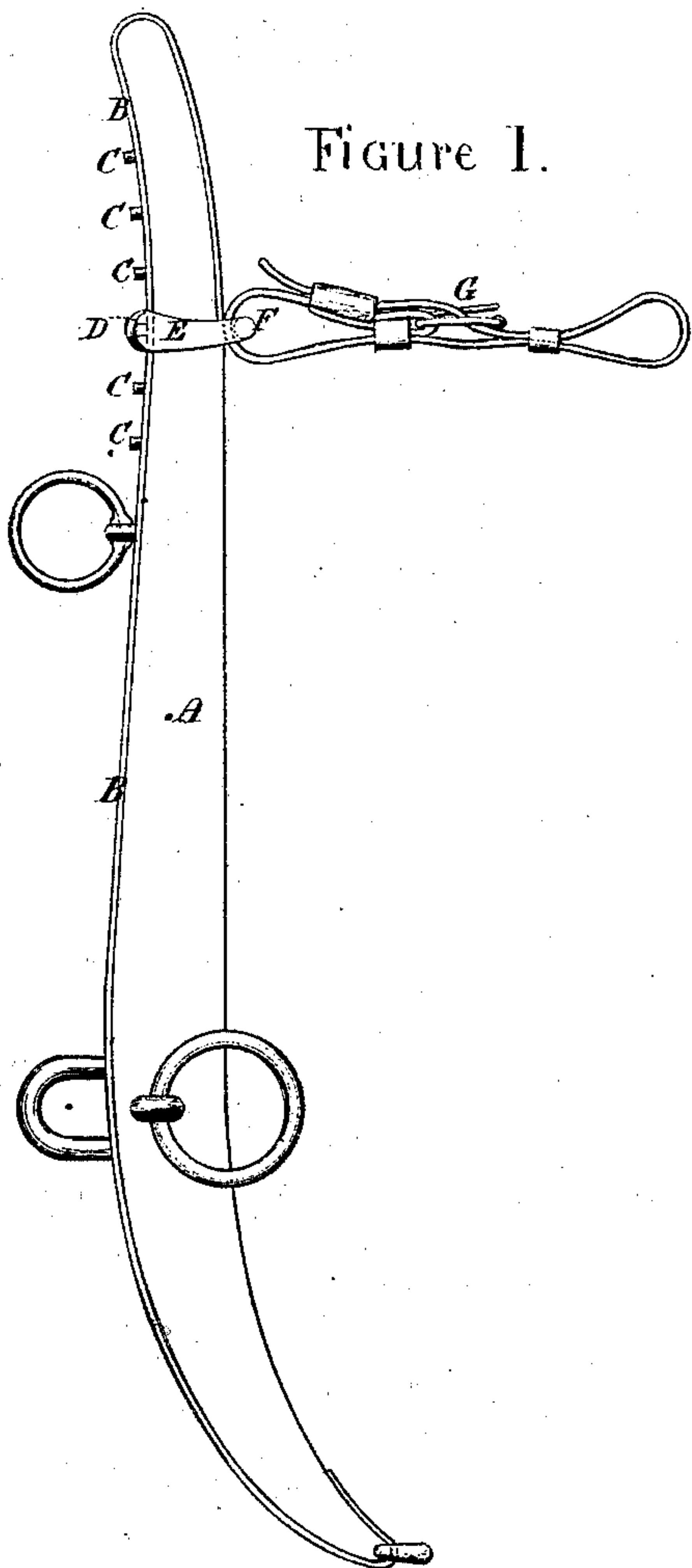


G. J. Letchworth,

Hanes.

No. 98834.

Patented Jan. 11. 1870.



Witnesses.
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GEORGE J. LETCHWORTH, OF AUBURN, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 98,834, dated January 11, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN HAMES.

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 J. LETCHWORTH, of Auburn, in the county of Cayuga, and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hames; 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, which make part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents an elevation of a pair of hames.

Figure 2 represents an enlarged section of the upper portion of one of the hames, with the clasp locked in its position by the connecting-strap.

I am aware that a tongued clasp has been used within the looped end, to which the connecting-strap is secured, to unite the upper portion of a pair of hames, in such manner as to admit of adjustment to suit different-sized collars, such adjustment being effected by constructing the loops of the clasps with an upward inclination, so as to cause them to be held firmly against the outer faces of the hames, by which the tongues prevent the displacement of the clasps, so long as the hames are braced and held to the collar by the connecting-strap, and that the adjustment up or down of the looped clasps is effected, without removing the connecting-strap, by pressing their looped ends down, so as to withdraw the tongues from the holes in the plates of the hames. I have found that this method of attaching and adjusting the looped clasps not only renders them liable to drop off the hames, and become misplaced when the latter are not in use, but are also liable to get out of adjustment, because, when the loop is not locked to the hames at its proper angle, the locking-pin will be readily withdrawn from the hole in the plate, and thus render a readjustment of the clasp necessary every time the hames are placed on the collar; and especially is this the case in removing the hames from or placing them upon the collar, because, in doing so, they are grasped by their lower ends, and the moment the connecting-strap is relieved from the collar, it sags, and its weight brings down the oblique arms of the clasp, and releases the tongue from its socket in the plate, thereby destroying the adjustment of the clasp, and rendering it necessary to refix the adjustment of the hames, when placed upon the collar.

It is the object of my improvement to remedy these disadvantages, and to obtain a clasp that will remain locked to the hames in whatever position it may be adjusted, whether in use or not, so that it cannot be removed therefrom, by means of the connecting-strap, such adjustment being effected only by the removal of the strap, and, in addition to this, to employ a close-fitting clasp, in connection with a series of pins pro-

jecting from the outer face-plate of the hames, so that the clasp may not only be locked with any one of said pins, but, to effect a closer adjustment of the hames to the collar, the clasp may be locked and supported between the pins.

To this end, therefore, I construct the hames A with the usual outer face-plate B, and provide the upper portion thereof with a series of pins, C, at suitable distances apart, and of sufficient projection to form a lock for the clasp; and I make that side of the clasp, adjacent to the face-plate, with a socket, D, for the pins C to fit into; and the arms E, which embrace the sides of the hames, instead of having an angular position, with reference to the clasp, and lengthwise of the hame, are at right angles to the length thereof, while the arms E extend only so far beyond the inner face of the hames to form a loop, F, for the reception of the connecting-strap G, which intervenes between the inner face of the hames and the looped end of the clasp, so that when the strap is in place, the inner ends of the arms E can neither move up nor down, nor the socketed portion toward or from the face-plate, but constitutes a close-fitting clasp, which cannot be removed from its seat, except by the removal of the connecting-strap.

The arrangement of the pins C, in connection with a socketed close-fitting clasp, it will be seen, also admits of its adjustment between the pins, and, when so adjusted, will rest either upon the lower pin or against the upper one, by which I am enabled to obtain a double adjustment directly upon the pins, or between them, while in either adjustment, the necessary connecting-strap forms the lock to the clasp, as shown by dotted lines, fig. 2.

By this construction of clasp, the hames can be adjusted to any-size collar; and as the connecting-strap is never unbuckled from the hames, unless it be to change the adjustment of the clasps, it is obvious that it is impossible for the hames to become separated from their connecting-strap, whether in use or not.

The projections on the hames possess the advantages over open holes or sockets, of not being liable to be filled up with dirt and ice, or snow, which would necessitate their being cleaned out in adjusting the clasp.

Having thus described my invention,

I claim the projections C, when used in connection with a socketed clasp, in such manner as to admit of the adjustment of said clasp, either upon or between the pins, as described.

GEORGE J. LETCHWORTH.

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