

J. Letchworth,

Name

No. 102138.

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Fig. I.

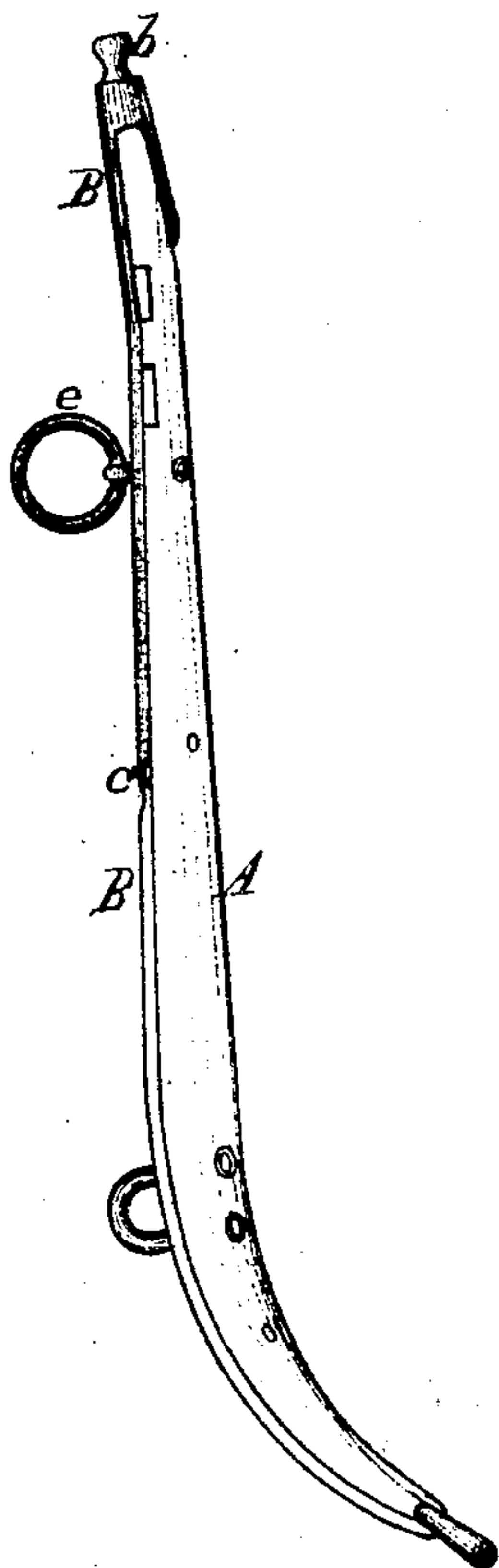
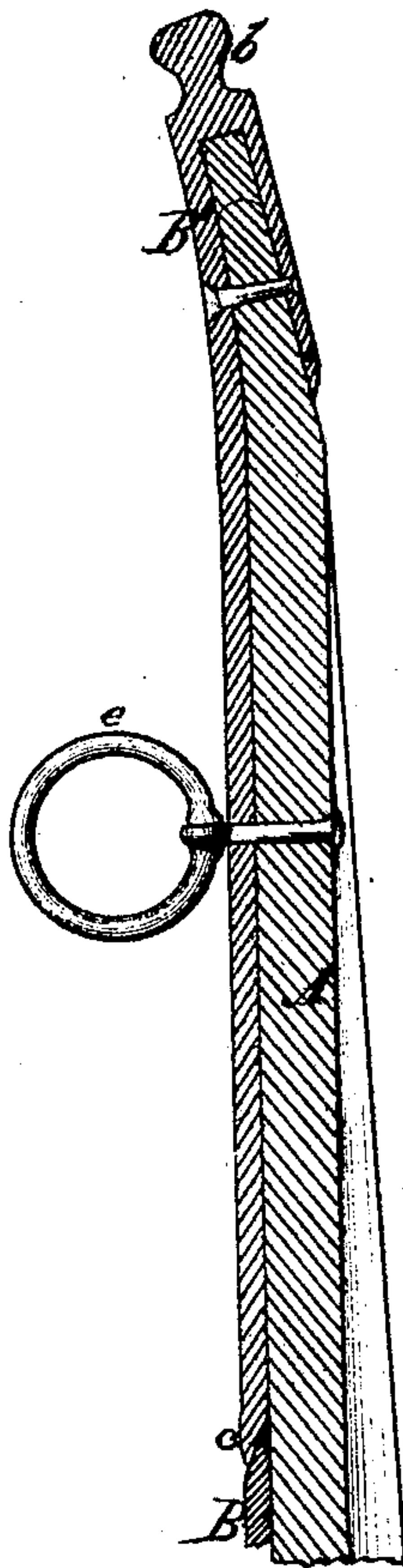


Fig. II.



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United States Patent Office.

JOSIAH LETCHWORTH, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 102,138, dated April 19, 1870.

IMPROVED HAMES FOR HARNESS

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

I, JOSIAH LETCHWORTH, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hames, of which the following is a specification.

The draft-staples of hames being inserted at a point considerably below the center thereof, and the hame-straps or other fastenings which secure the lower ends of the hames together being attached to loops at the lower ends of these metallic back-straps, it is evident that a much greater strain comes on the lower portion of the hames and back-strap than on the upper portions thereof. To properly withstand this strain, the back-straps have hitherto been made wholly of wrought iron. In order to protect the wood at the upper ends of the hames, and to give them a more finished and ornamental appearance, a metallic cap or socket has been applied thereto.

The end of the hame is so reduced in size and strength in fitting and securing the tip thereon, that the latter is extremely liable to become detached by the breaking of the wood at the lower edge of the tip.

My invention consists in making the upper portion of the back-strap of malleable metal, with a cap or socket cast therewith to receive the top of the hames, and then welding this cast upper portion to a wrought-iron lower portion, so as to form a back-strap which shall possess the required strength of wrought iron where great strength is required, and, at the same time, improve the appearance of the upper portion of the hame, and render the connection of the tip therewith secure.

In the accompanying drawings—

Figure I is a front view of a hame provided with my improved back-strap.

Figure II is an enlarged sectional view of the upper portion of the hame.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in each of the figures.

A is the wooden hame, and

B B' the metallic strap applied to the back thereof.

The lower portion B is made of wrought iron in the ordinary manner. The upper portion B' is cast with the socketed tip *b* forming a part thereof, and is then welded to the wrought-iron portion, as shown at *c*.

Casting the portion B' enables the tip or cap *b* to be readily formed with it, and the back or outer side of the strap rounded, so as to give it a more finished and ornamental appearance without any additional expense.

The upper end of the hame is fitted in the socket of the tip *b*, and the strap then attached to the hame in the ordinary manner by nails or rivets, suitable holes for the same and for the staple of the rein-ring *e* being cast in the portion B'.

My improved construction of the socketed tip and back-strap together enables the strap to be more readily applied to the hame-stick when the latter is formed and finished before being bent, the socket at the end serving as a clamp or stop for the end of the hame, to prevent the slipping of the fiber during the process of bending.

What I claim as my invention is—

A metallic back-strap for wooden hames, composed of a lower portion, B, of wrought iron, welded to an upper cast portion, B', of malleable iron, provided with a socketed tip, *b*, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

JOSIAH LETCHWORTH.

Witnesses:

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