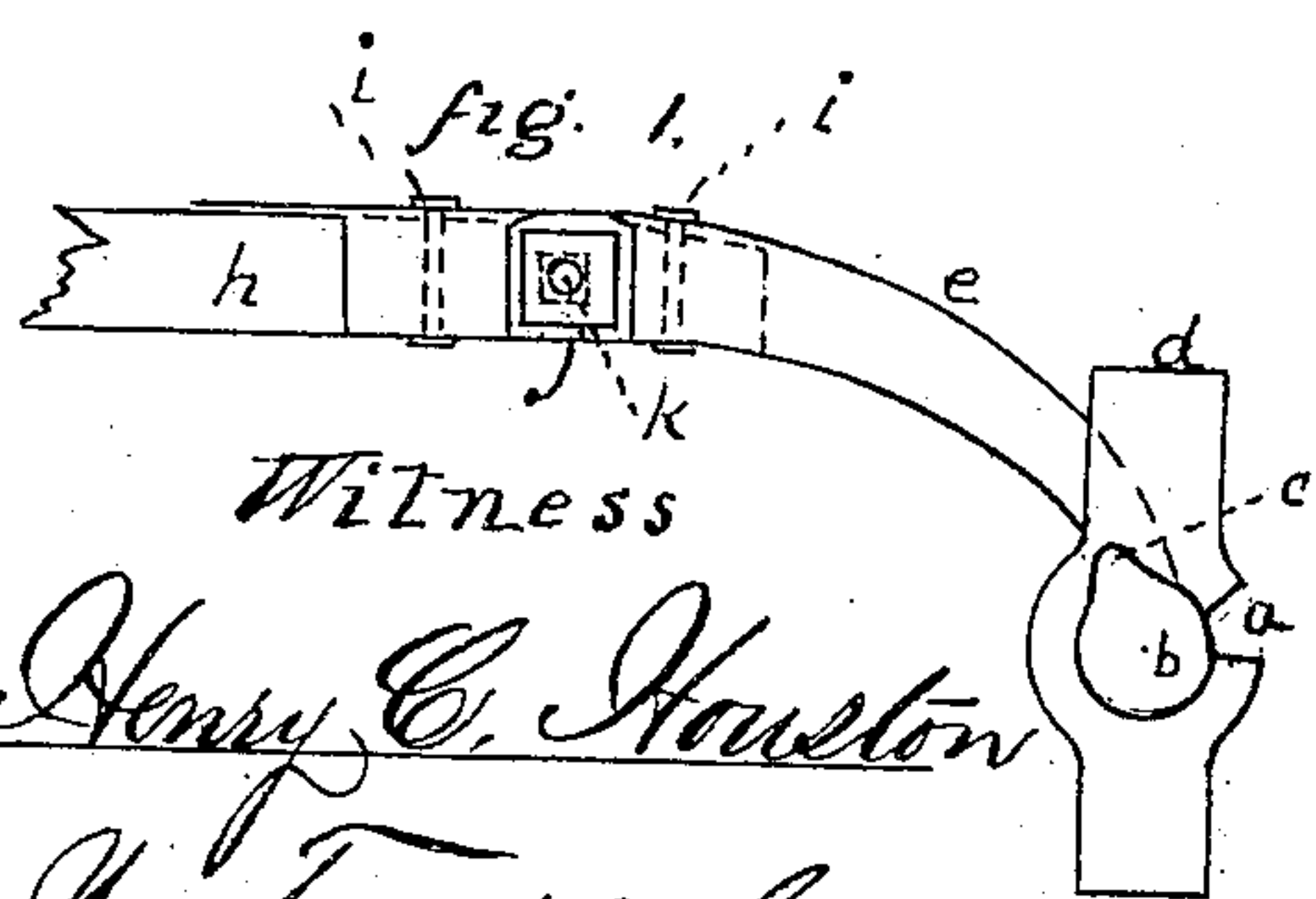


H. SMITH.  
Thill Coupling.

No. 102,327.

Patented April 26, 1870.



*Witness*  
*Henry C. Houston*  
*Am. Franklin Seavey*

*Inventor*  
*Hugh Smith*  
*Per M. H. Clifford, atty.*

# United States Patent Office.

HUGH SMITH, OF WEST GRAY, MAINE.

*Letters Patent No. 102,327, dated April 26, 1870.*

## IMPROVEMENT IN SLEIGHS.

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, HUGH SMITH, of West Gray, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Sleighs; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my improved method of attaching the shafts.

I will first describe my improved method of connecting the shaft to the sleigh.

*d* shows the curvature of the extension of the runner that extends up on the front of the dasher, and to which the shafts are attached. In this I form a circular hole, with an opening therein at *a*. On the end of the shaft is a circular button or head, which will slip into the circular hole.

*b* is the button or head, and it has a projection, *c*, which extends over the side of the hole, and so keeps the button or head in the hole, except when the projection comes opposite the aperture *a*. When the projection is there the button or head will readily slip

out. When, however, the shaft is horizontal, or nearly so, as when the sleigh is being drawn by the animal, the projection *c* will always be in some place other than opposite *a*, as seen in the drawings.

When sleighs are put into stables or put away, however, then the shafts, being lifted up to a nearly vertical position, can be easily and readily removed from the sleighs, and thus the latter may be stored in a very much more compact manner than if the shafts were attached to them.

One of the projections is on the inside and the other on the outside of the curved part *d* or extension of the runner, so that the two shafts will drop out at one side, both at the same time.

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

The combination of the head *b*, projection *c* formed on the end of the thill-iron *e*, the hole to receive the head *b*, and the aperture *a* formed on the curved runner *d* of a sleigh, as herein described.

HUGH SMITH.

Witnesses:

HENRY C. HOUSTON,  
WM. FRANKLIN SEAVEY.