

W. H. Bell,

Hitching Post.

NO. 103283

Patented May 24, 1870.

Fig. 1.

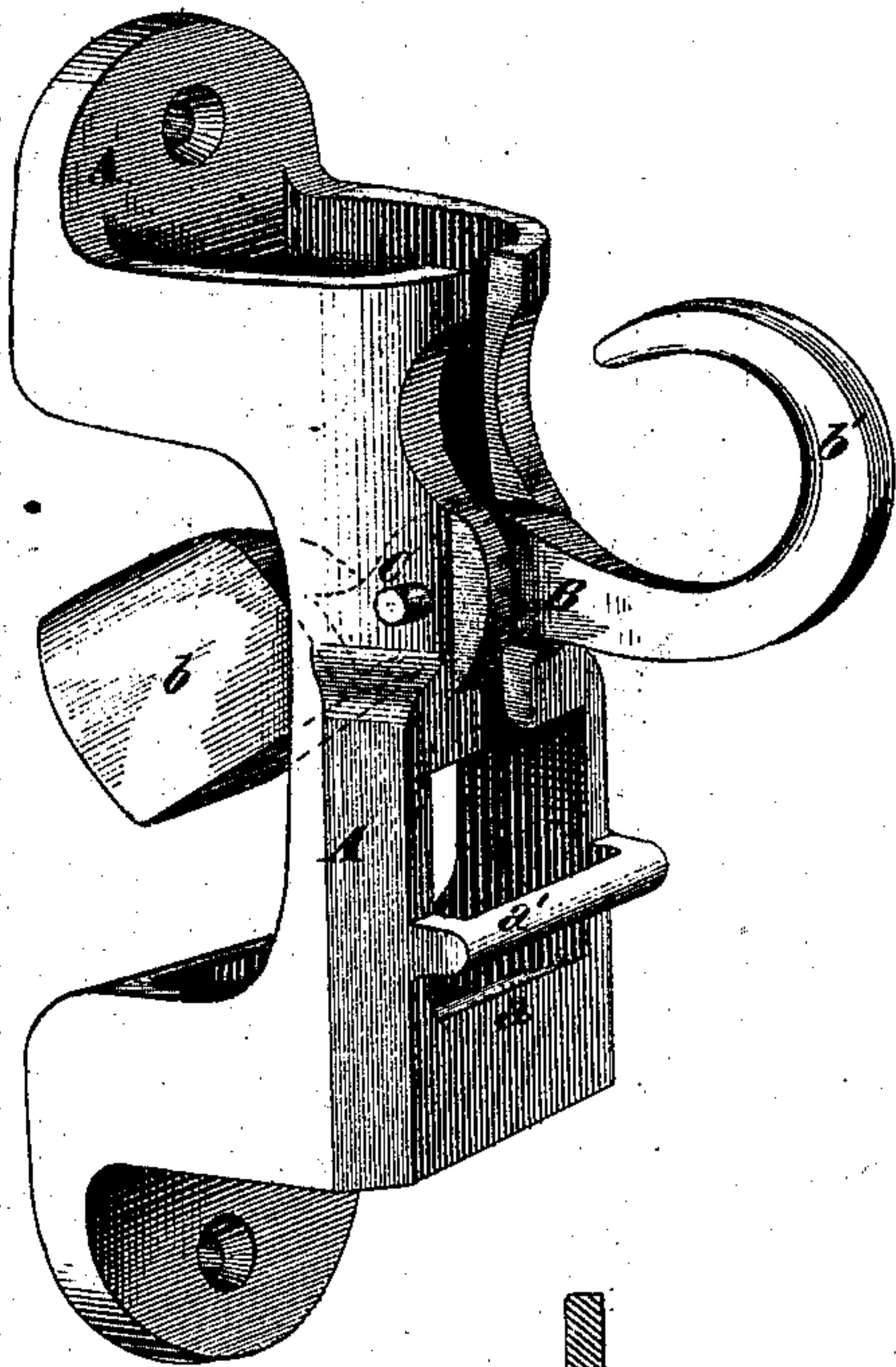
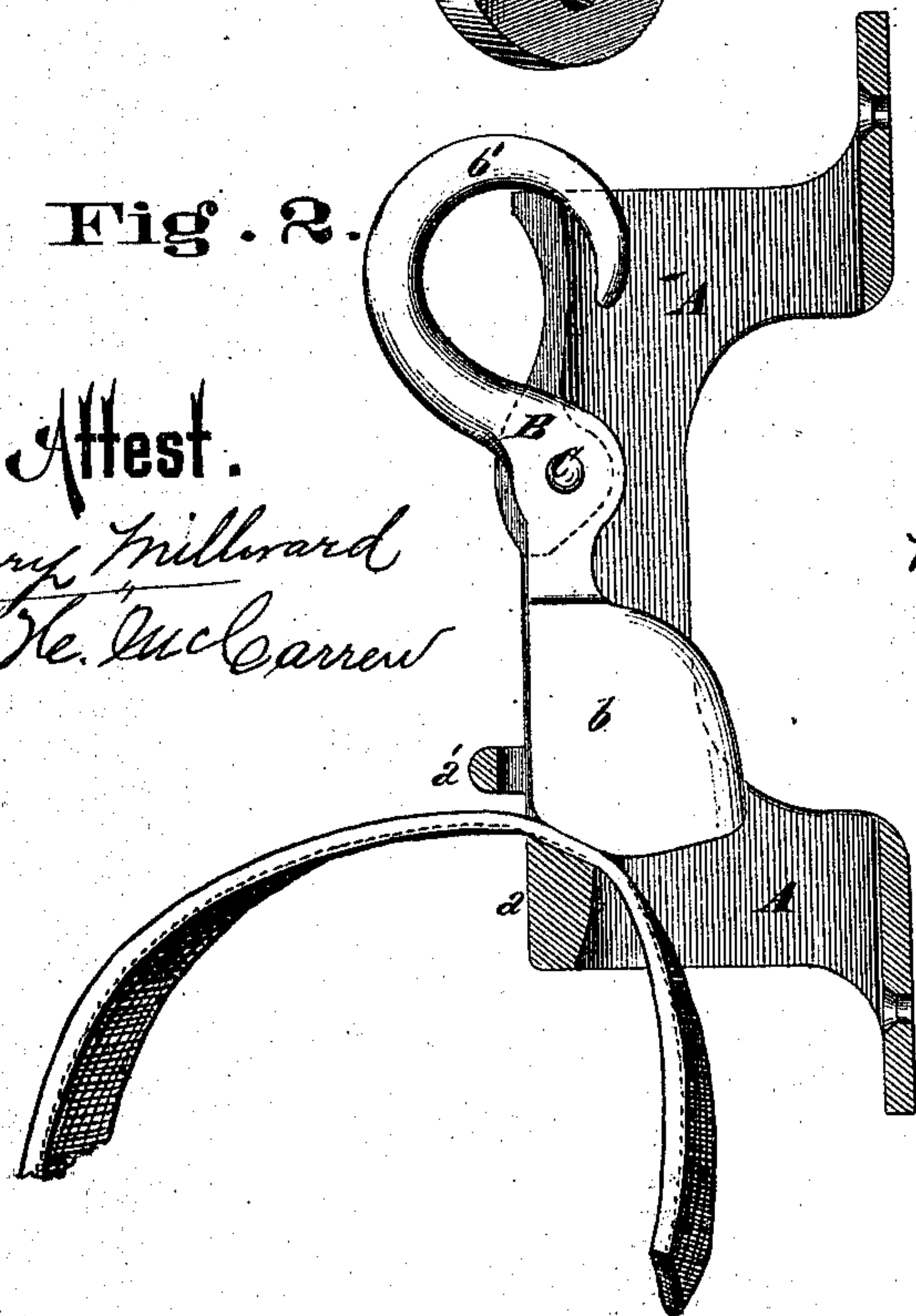


Fig. 2.



Attest.

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WILLIAM H. BELL, OF SPRING LAKE, MICHIGAN.

Letters Patent No. 103,283, dated May 24, 1870.

IMPROVED DEVICE FOR HITCHING HORSES.

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, WILLIAM H. BELL, of Spring Lake, Ottawa county, State of Michigan, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Hitching Devices; and I hereby declare the following to be a sufficiently full, clear, and exact description thereof to enable one skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings making part of this specification.

My invention relates to devices designed to firmly hold, in such a manner as to be readily detachable, the halters, reins, hitching-staps, &c., of horses, and for other kindred purposes; and consists, in connection with a peculiarly-shaped fixed jaw-frame, of a swinging jaw, which is provided at one end with a heavy block to match the fixed jaw, and at the opposite end with a hook for the attachment of chains, reins, ring-ended lines, &c., the heavy end being constructed to hold between itself and the fixed jaw the strap to be hitched, with a fastening power which increases with any increase of pulling or tensile strain on the strap.

In the accompanying drawings illustrating my invention—

Figure 1 is a perspective of the device, and

Figure 2, a vertical section of same.

A is a light metallic frame, of tubular form, designed to be secured by screws, nails, or bolts, to a hitching-post or wall. It is provided with an inclined jaw, *a*, and a bridge, *a'*. It is also provided, in its upper part, with an opening for the reception of the swinging jaw B, which is pivoted or hinged to the frame A by means of pin C.

The piece B terminates at the lower end in a heavy block, *b*, which has a wide and tapering face in front

to fit the fixed jaw *a*. Between these inclined faces the hitching-strap is inserted, in the manner shown in fig. 2, and the weight of the block *b* serves to swivel the piece B, so as to bind or bite the strap.

Any degree of tensile strain upon the strap in an effort to detach it will only serve to tighten the jaws.

The bridge *a'* prevents the possibility of the strap being pulled in a vertical direction. If the bridge were removed, the fastening could be released by pulling the strap in the direction of the upper end of the piece B.

The upper end of the jaw B is formed into a hook, *b'*, whose end, when the fastening is closed, falls within the frame A.

The hook is provided for the hitching of chains, reins, or ring-ended straps, and it will be seen that, in consequence of the swiveling character of the hook and the fact of the end of the hook passing into the frame, a strap or chain cannot be released from the hook by pulling in any direction.

A rope or chain can also be held between the inclined jaws *a b*, in the same manner as a strap is held, by the provision in the faces of the jaws of curved depressions for the occupancy of the rope or chain.

Claim.

The hitching device herein described, consisting of the frame A *a a'* and the swinging hooked lever or jaw B *b b'*, substantially as set forth.

In testimony of which invention I hereunto set my hand.

WM. H. BELL.

Witnesses:

HENRY F. HUNTER,
ALLEN C. ADSIT.