

J. W. WOOD & E. A. DRAGO.

Check-Rein Holders.

No. 158,818.

Patented Jan. 19, 1875.

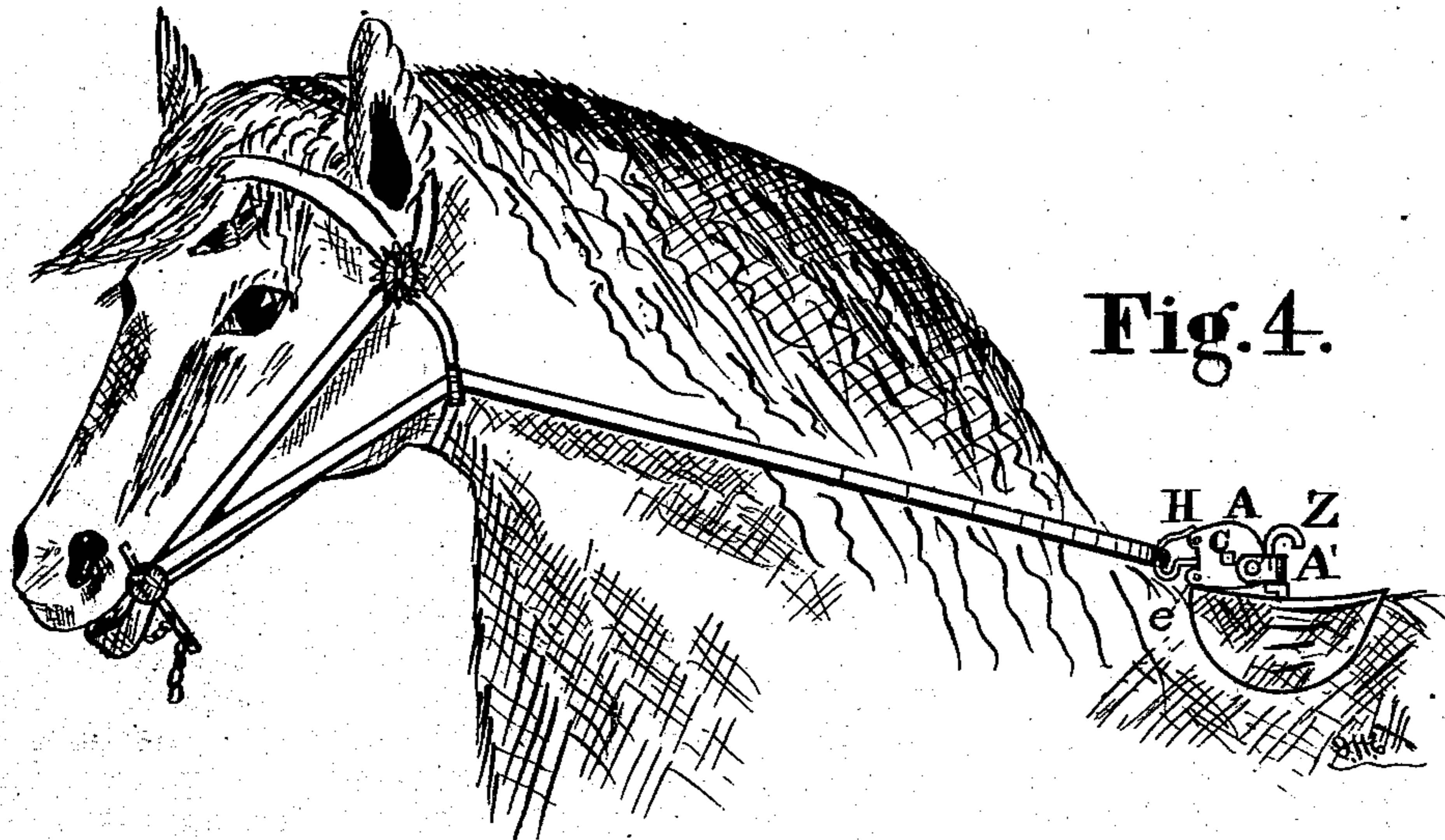


Fig. 4.

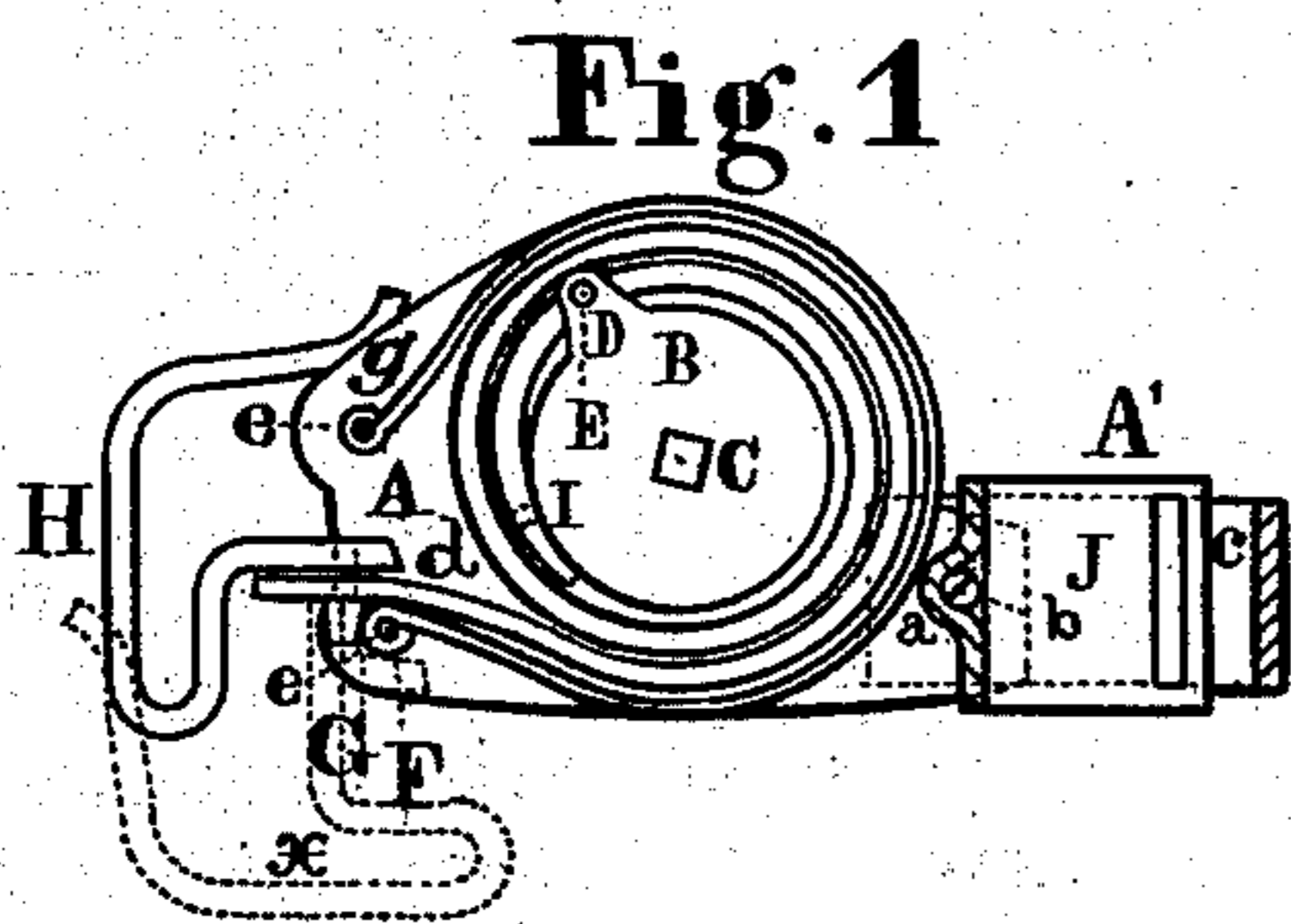


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

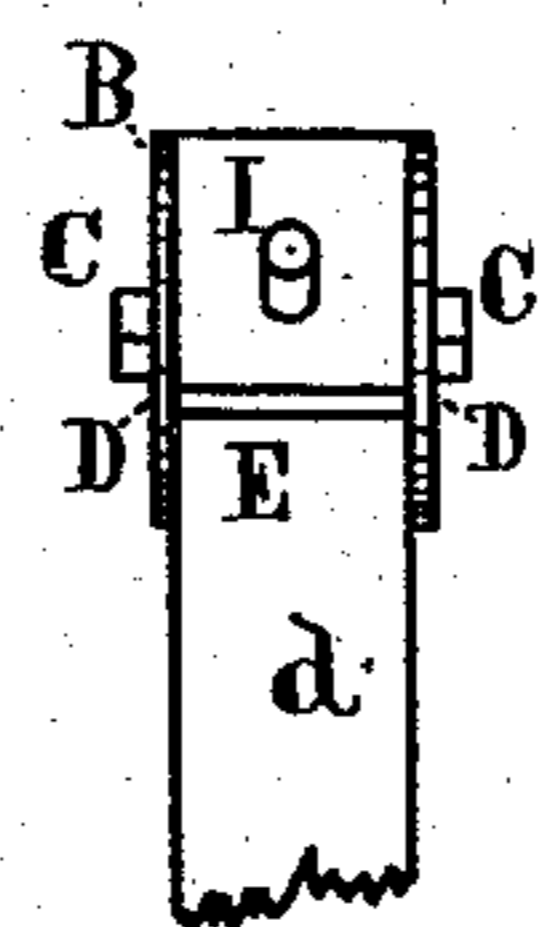
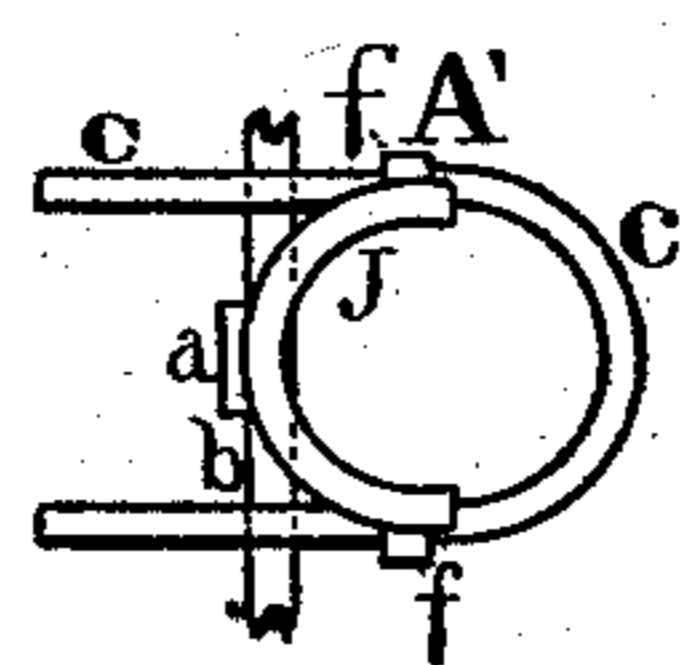


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. WOOD AND EDWARD A. DRAGO, OF VALPARAISO, INDIANA.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHECK-REIN HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 158,818, dated January 19, 1875; application filed April 4, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, JOHN W. WOOD and EDWARD A. DRAGO, of Valparaiso, in the county of Porter and State of Indiana, have invented an Improvement in Check-Rein Holders, of which the following is a specification:

The nature of the present invention consists, first, in the employment of a loop or bar, combined with the spring-cylinder, for the purpose of preventing the strap thereon from becoming detached if drawn out too far; second, in the novel construction of the attachment for holding the cylinder or case to the water-hook of the back-tree of the harness; third, in a stop so combined with the check-hook and fulcrum-pin on the case that the said hook may be turned on the fulcrum-pin as a joint, and be opened and shut for attaching and detaching the check-rein; fourth, in the construction of the case, so arranged that one of its plates may be removed to set the spring-cylinder so as to give a stronger tension to the equalizing-strap, as the whole is hereinafter fully described and shown.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of our improvement in check-rein holders, with the face-plate removed to give a view of the internal parts, the water-hook fastener being a section. Fig. 2 is a view of the spring-cylinder, showing the loop or bar for holding the strap in place; Fig. 3, a plan view of the attachment for holding the case to the water-hook. Fig. 4 shows the check-rein holder attached to the water-hook and check-rein of a horse.

The case is composed of two plates, A, Fig. 1, one on each side of a rim, *g*. One plate is fastened rigidly to the rim, and the other is removable for the purpose of setting the inside spring-cylinder, so as to give the equalizing-strap *d* more or less spring-tension. The removable plate is held in place by means of short bolts *e*, put through eyes formed by coiling the ends of the rim *g*, and by a bolt, *b*, which also holds the attachment A' to the case. Inside of the main case is placed a spring case or cylinder, B, in which is coiled a spring for equalizing the strap *d*. The journal or post C, to which the inner end of the coil-spring is attached, is formed with square ends

fitting into square holes in both plates A, by means of which, by removing one of the said plates A, it can be turned and set farther round in the main case and thereby draw more firmly on the strap *d*. To fasten the strap *d* to the cylinder B, so as not to become detached in case it should be drawn out too far, in addition to the ordinary catch or hook I, there is a loop or bar, E, put through ears D, projecting out from the cylinder B, and the strap *d* is put under it, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. A rein-hook, H, is rigidly fastened to strap *d*, and is so formed that its end will, by means of the spring-cylinder B, be drawn closely to the rim of the main case, and thus prevent a horse from becoming unchecked. The rivet which fastens the strap *d* to the hook H has its head G elongated transversely with the strap to form a stop to bear against a fulcrum, F, and turn on it as a joint, so that the said hook H may be operated as a snap-hook—that is, open and shut, as shown by dotted lines *x*—for the convenience of fastening and unfastening a check-rein. The fulcrum, as will be seen, is the end of the rim *g*, bent for the purpose of receiving the short bolt *e*, which holds the sides of the main case to the rim. This arrangement is such that the strap *d*, by any unusual strain, will be drawn out and allow the check-rein attached to the hook H to ease upon the bit. We, however, do not claim anything on that movement, as equalizers for that purpose have been before used. The means for attaching the main case to the water-hook Z consists of a strip of looped leather, *c*, fastened to the elongated ends of the sides of the main case A by means of a bolt, *b*. Fastened to this loop *c* and to the bolt *b* is another loop, J, held to the loop *c* by two loops, *f f*, and to the bolt *b* by a loop, *a*, formed by cutting slots through the leather J. The object of forming the fastener or attachment A in this manner is, by simple and cheap means, to provide a padding or soft substance to prevent wearing off the plating of the water-hook Z, which would be the case were it not for the inner loop, J.

We are aware that yielding check-rein holders of various forms have been before used, as shown in the English patent of March 1, 1809, No. 3,212, and the United States Pat-

ents to R. B. Robbins, May 14, 1872, and J. B. Baker, June 7, 1859, that cylinders have been combined with a strap wound thereon, and that coil-springs have been used in cases with radial hooks; therefore, we do not claim, broadly, the devices thus shown, but confine ourselves to the construction and combination shown.

We claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. The main case A, provided with removable side, in combination with a spring cylinder-case, B, provided with a square-ended post, C, and the rim *g* coiled round the bolts *e* for setting the cylinder B, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The attachment A', consisting of the looped leather J *c*, loops *a f f*, and bolt *b*, in combination with the case A, substantially as described.

3. The hook H, as described, in combination with the strap *d*, elongated pivot-stop G, and fulcrum F, as and for the purpose set forth.

4. The cylinder B, provided with the loop or bar E and elongated ears D, in combination with the strap *d*, as described.

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Witnesses:

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