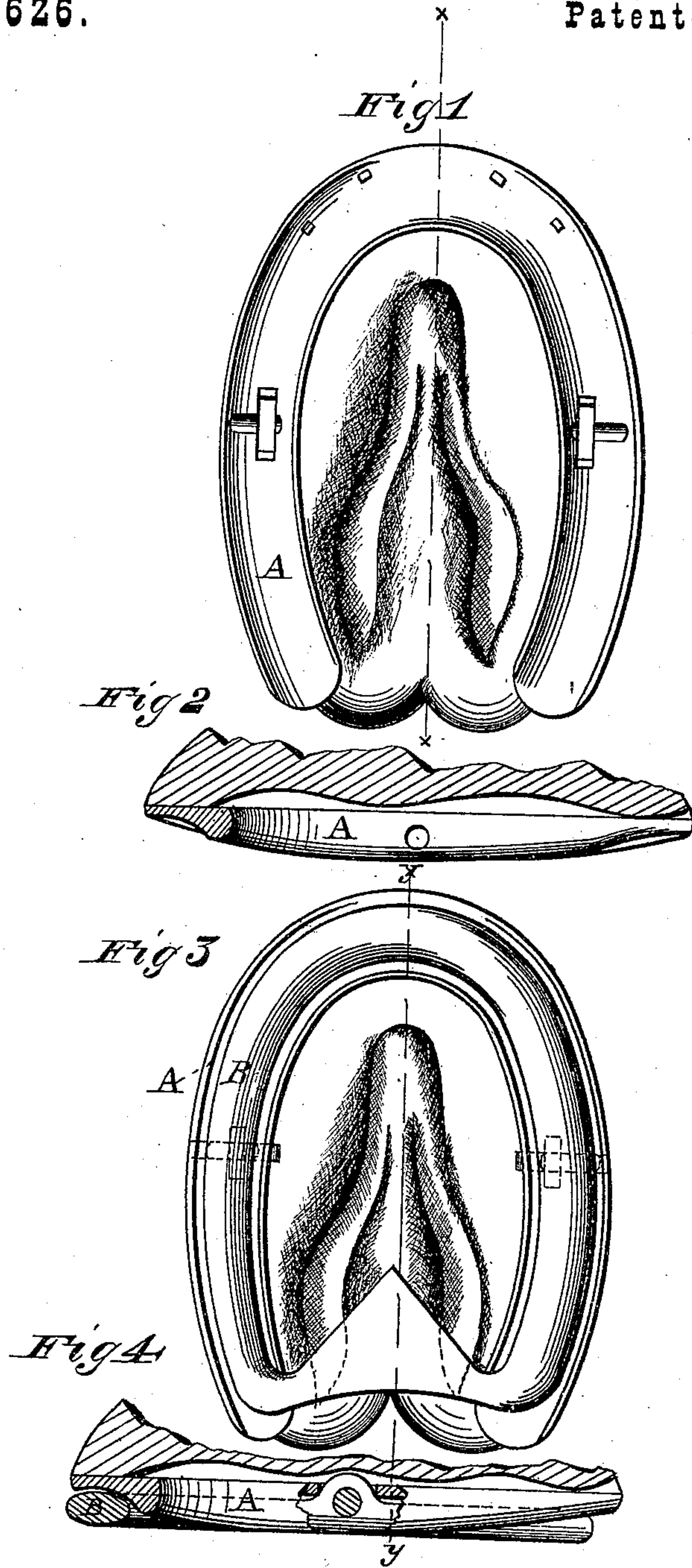


A. MOFFITT.  
HORSESHOE.

No. 171,626.

Patented Dec. 28, 1875.



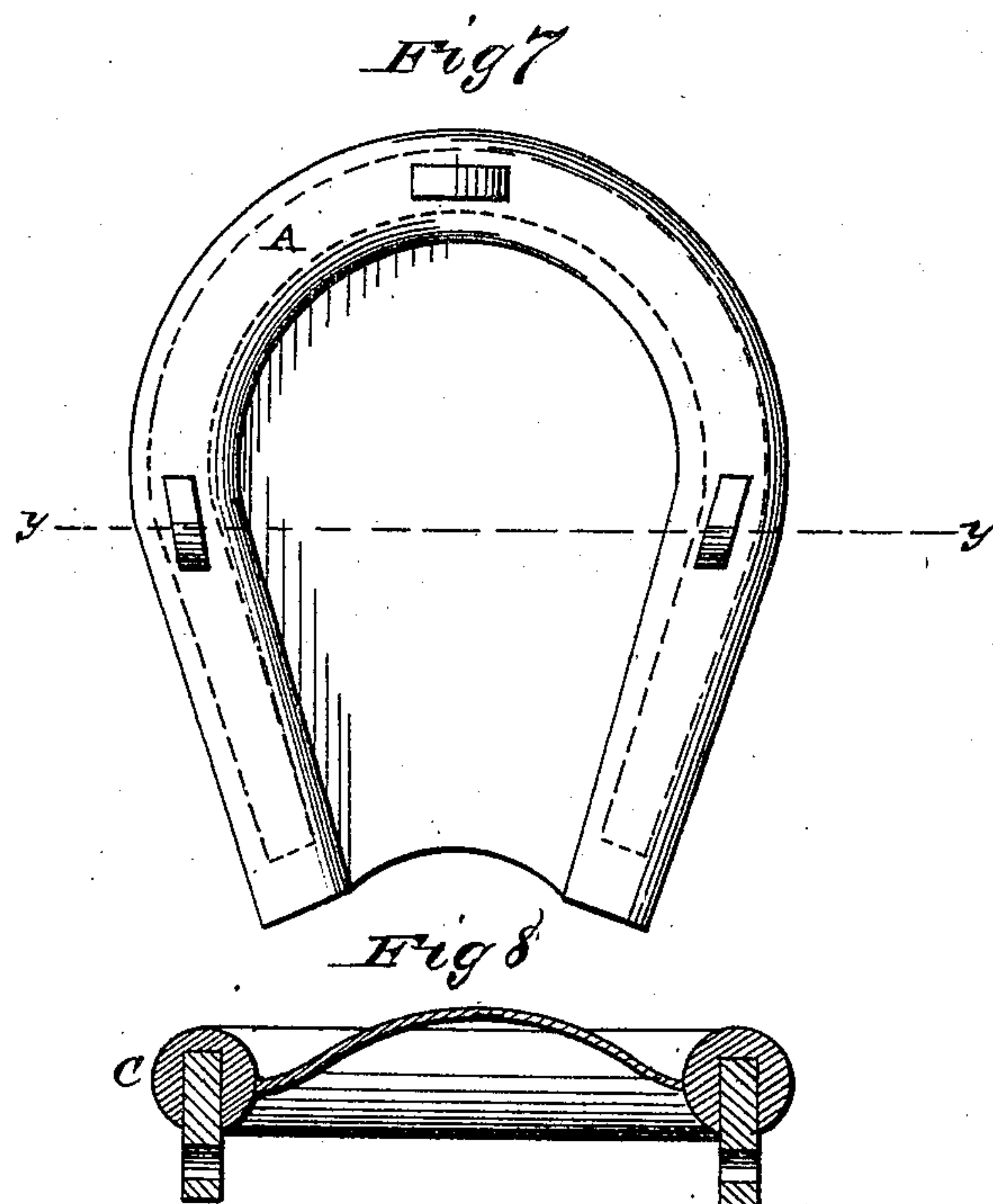
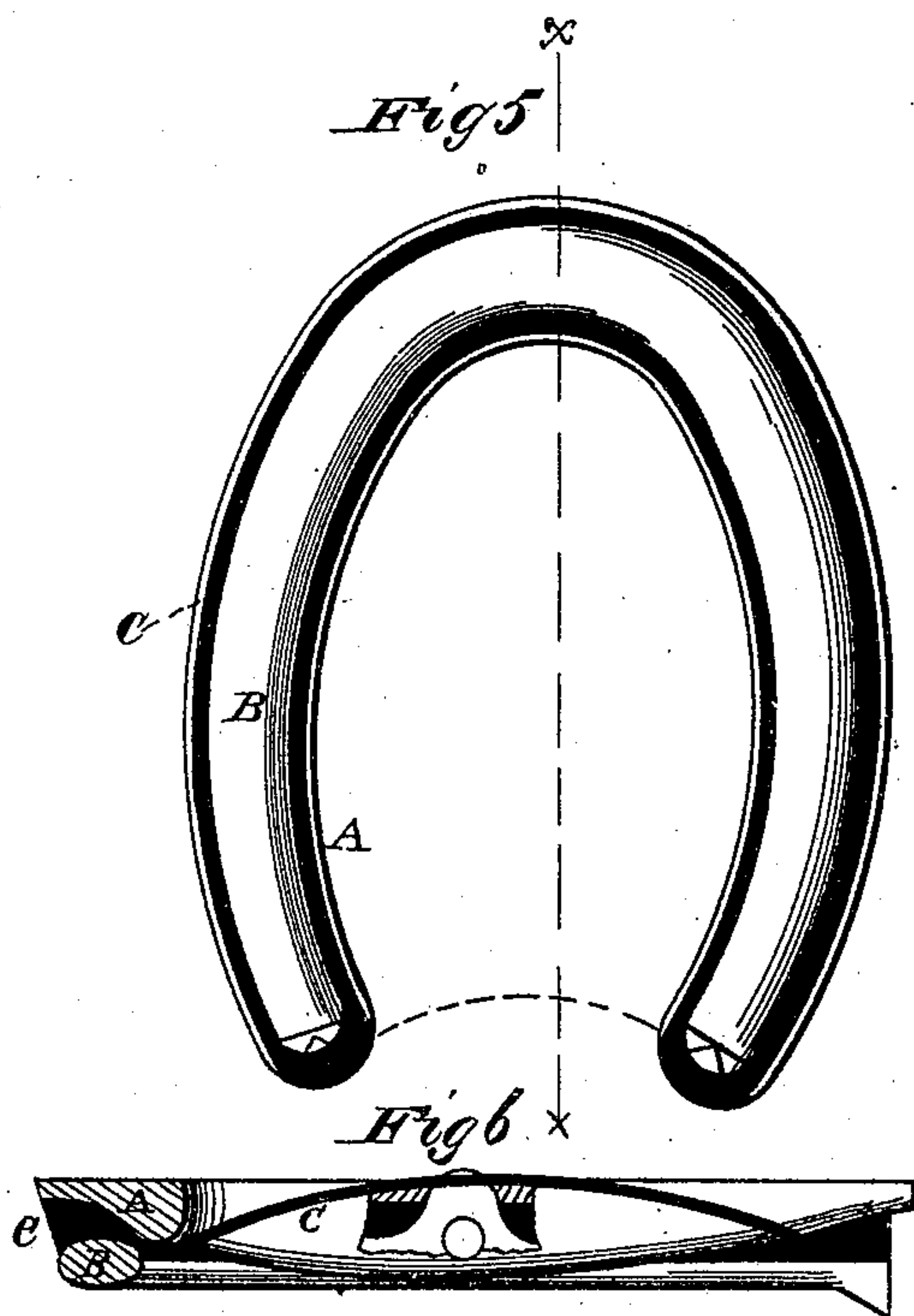
WITNESSES  
Frank L. Durand  
Henry N. Miller By

Alex. Moffitt INVENTOR  
Alexander Mason Attorneys

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WITNESSES  
*Frank L. Curand*  
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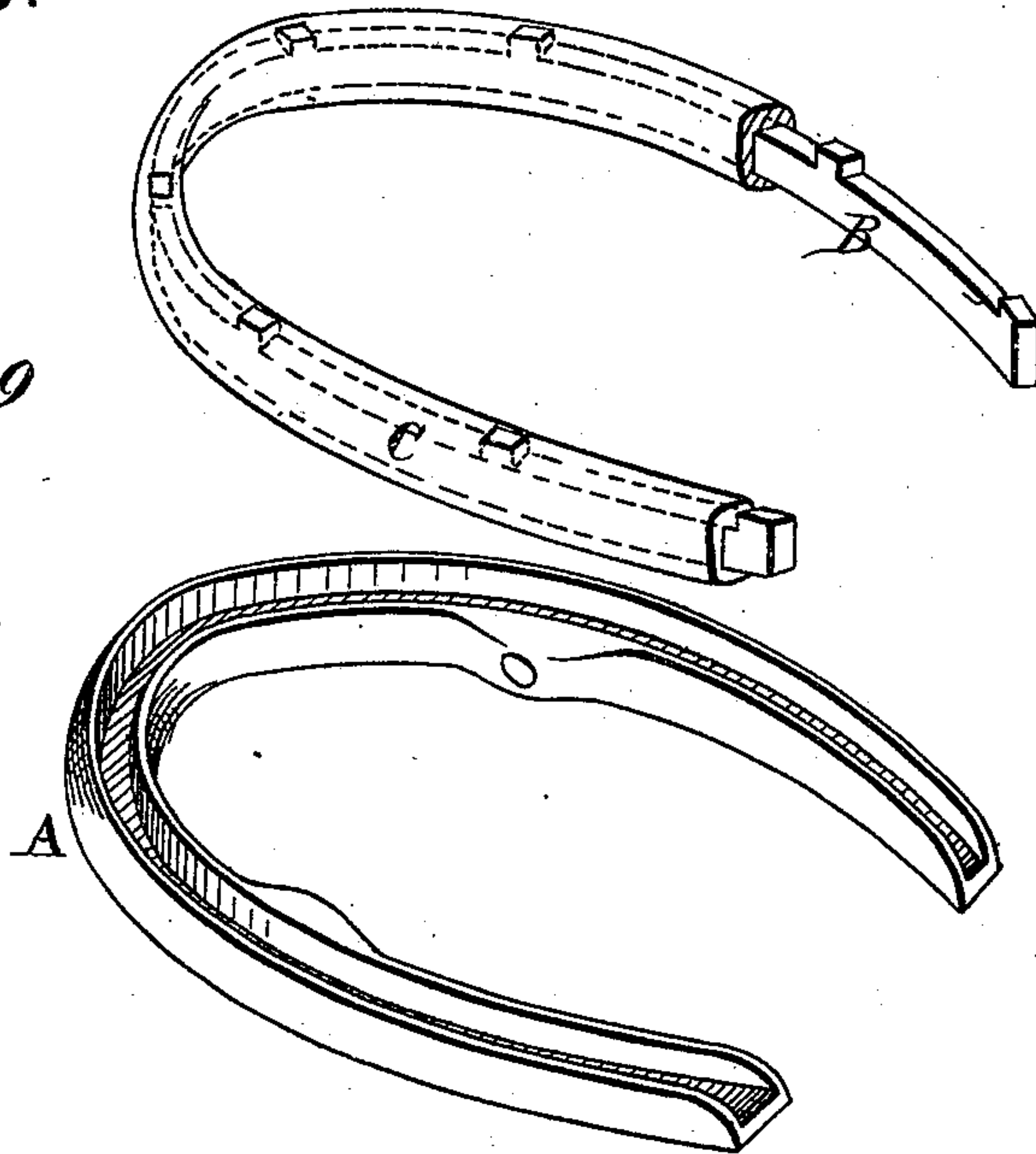
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HORSESHOE.

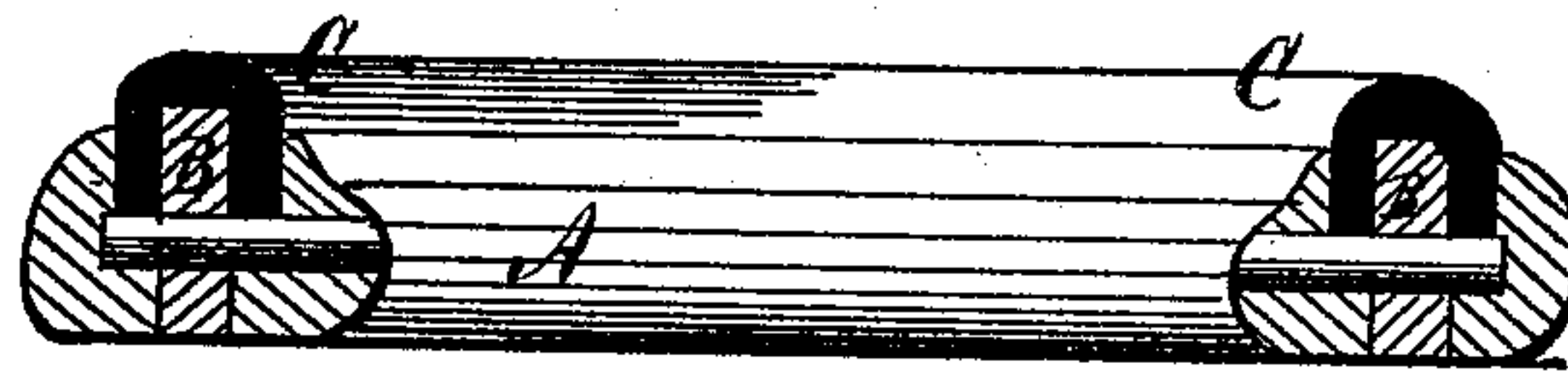
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*Fig 9*



*Fig 10*



WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

*Alex. Moffitt*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER MOFFITT, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HORSESHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **171,626**, dated December 28, 1875; application filed December 13, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER MOFFITT, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horseshoes; and do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, making a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in a horseshoe, made in two parts, an upper part fastened to the hoof of the horse, and the bottom part pivoted to the upper part, so as to form a rocking shoe. It also consists in providing such rocking shoe with rubber or other springs, and in the construction and combination of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, which represent various forms of my invention.

My horseshoe is made in two parts, A and B. The top part A is fastened to the hoof in the usual manner, and has a continuous groove on its under side. The bottom part B of the shoe is pivoted in the groove of the top part A, at or near the center of its sides.

This pivoting of the part B to the part A may be done in any suitable manner, and by any suitable means, according to the peculiar form or construction of the shoe, and the rocking part B may be formed with toe and heel calks of any ordinary construction. In some cases I also have additional points between the toe and heel calks. Between the two parts A and B of the shoe is inserted rubber C, which forms springs on both sides of the central pivots.

With a rocking shoe having rubber or other springs thus inserted the concussion of the horse's hoof upon hard pavements is entirely relieved, thereby preventing soreness. It does not matter whether the horse strikes with the heel or toe first; the vibration or rocking of the inner shoe upon its center

pivots with the springs forms what is known as a "spring-heel" as well as a "spring-toe."

When rubber is used it may be molded to fit in the groove on the upper shoe, or it may be molded around the inner shoe, so as to entirely surround the same. In this case the calks and points project through the rubber, so as to support the weight of the horse on said calks, while the rubber between the calks prevents the horse from slipping on icy and concrete pavements.

This invention may be applied to rough as well as smooth shoes, and also to weight-shoes, and it is simply necessary to have two sets of inner plates—one for rough, and the other for smooth.

The upper or outer shoe A, that is fastened to the hoof, remains thereon, and the inner shoe or plate can be removed and another substituted in a few minutes, thus enabling any one to rough-shoe the horse without taking him to the blacksmith; and also, if a horse requires weight to square his gait it can be done in the same manner by inserting an inner shoe or plate of any desired weight. This also prevents any collection of soil in muddy weather, so that the weight will always remain the same.

For sore-footed horses the rubber may be made to cover or inclose the calks also, if desired.

This invention may be more or less modified in the details without changing the principle of my invention, and I do therefore not confine myself to the particular construction and form of the details.

The rubber C may be made to extend beyond and over the toe of the shoe, so as to prevent clicking, and also the grabbing of the quarter, which is a very common occurrence, especially in trotting horses.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A horseshoe made in two parts, A and B, the former fastened to the hoof and the latter pivoted to the stationary part, so as to form a rocking shoe, for the purposes herein set forth.

2. In a rocking horseshoe, made in two parts, as described, rubber or other springs inserted between the two parts, for the purposes herein set forth.

3. In a rocking horseshoe, made in two parts, as described, the inner or yielding part incased in rubber, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 2d day of December, 1875.

ALEX. MOFFITT.

Witnesses:

H. A. HALL,

C. L. EVERT.