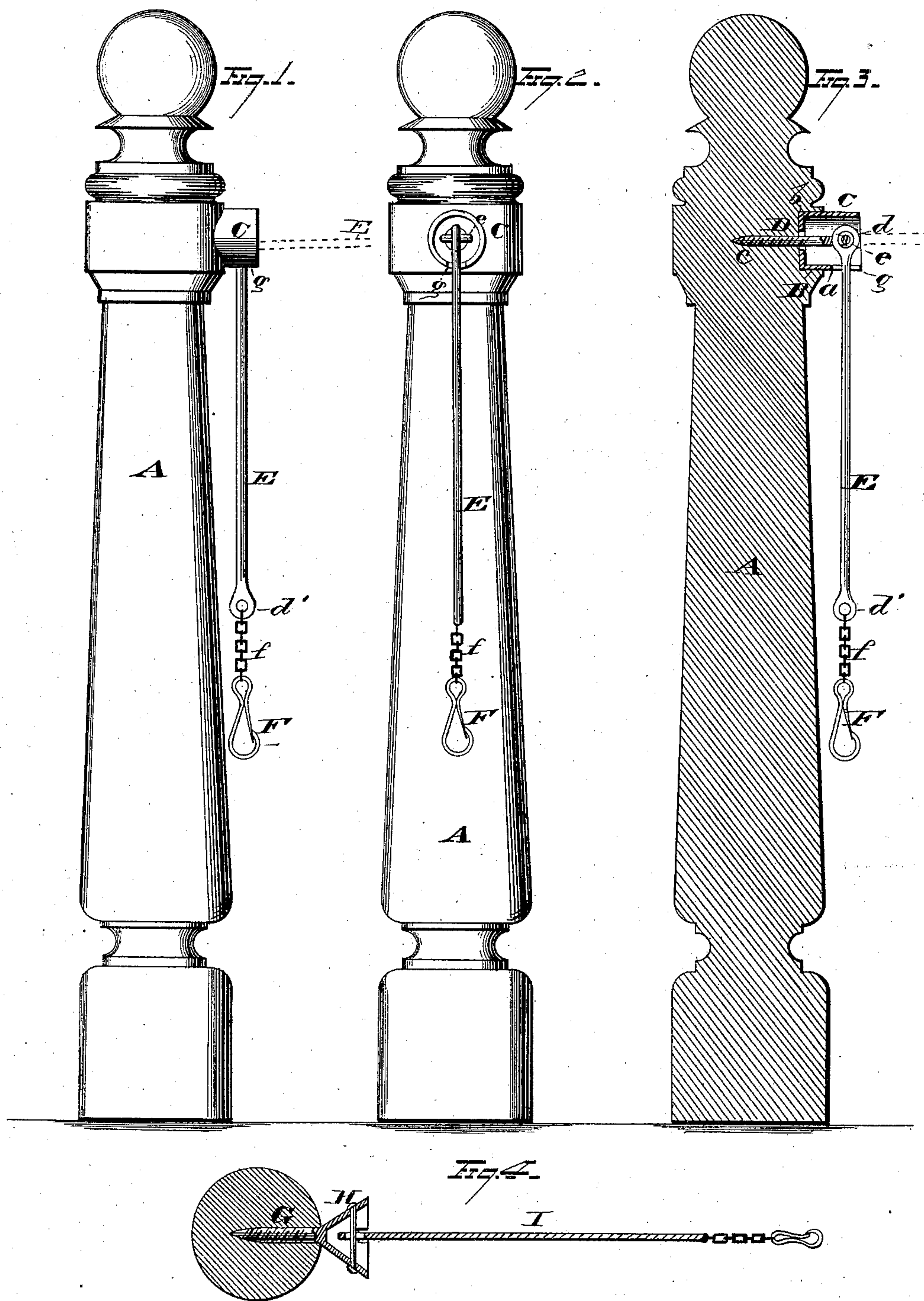


A. L. ANDREWS.
Hitching-Bar.

No. 198,832.

Patented Jan. 1, 1878.



WITNESSES
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT L. ANDREWS, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

IMPROVEMENT IN HITCHING-BARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **198,832**, dated January 1, 1878; application filed September 6, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT L. ANDREWS, of Providence, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Bars; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improved hitching-guard for horses, the object being to provide an attachment adapted to be secured to any ordinary hitching-post, shed, tree, or other fixed object, the said device constructed in such a manner that the horse may be firmly secured by the same, and while sufficient freedom and movement of the horse's head are allowed, he will be prevented from gnawing or rubbing his head against the object to which he may be secured.

My invention consists in the combination, with a socket projecting slightly from the surface of a hitching-post, of a hitching-bar, one end of which is pivoted within said socket, while the opposite end of said bar is provided with a snap-hook for attachment to the bit, whereby the horse will be prevented from gnawing the post or other fixed object to which he may be secured, and also be prevented from displacing or breaking his bridle.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation, and Fig. 2 a front elevation, of a hitching-post provided with my improved hitching-guard. Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the post, showing the means employed for securing the hitching-guard thereto. Fig. 4 is a modification.

A represents an ordinary hitching-post, the upper end having a recess, B, formed therein on the side of the post facing the street. C is a socket, the body *a* of which is of greater length than the wall *b* of recess B, whereby the body of the socket projects slightly from the surface of the post when the socket is secured therein. Socket C is secured to the post A by means of an eyebolt, D, the shank *e* of which is screw-threaded for its attachment to the post or other object.

E represents a bar, of any desired length, but preferably of about half the length of an ordinary hitching-post. Bar E is provided with eyes *d d'* on opposite ends thereof. One end of the bar is attached to the eye *e* of bolt D. To the opposite end of bar E is secured the snap-hook F by means of the short chain *f*. If desired, the snap-hook may be directly secured to the end of the bar; but I prefer to use the short chain *f* for its attachment, as it allows the horse to move his head in a more free and easy manner than would be the case were the end of the bar connected with the bit solely by means of a snap-hook.

In order that the bar E, when not in use, may hang as closely against the post as possible, the lower portion of the body of socket C is constructed with an open slot, *g*, within which slot the upper end of the bar enters when the device is not in use.

It will be observed that the socket serves to limit the movement of the bar, and prevent the horse from gnawing the post or any object to which the hitching-guard may be secured.

In Fig. 4 the bolt G is provided with a bell-mouth, H, within which the bar I is secured by a pin extending transversely through the mouth H and the end of the bar. The bell-mouth H in this instance serves to limit the movement of the bar, the same as the socket heretofore referred to.

The several parts of my improved hitching-guard may be made of cast malleable iron, or, in fact, of any desired material found most expedient in practice.

The socket, when secured to a post, shed, or tree, slightly projects therefrom, and as the hitching-bar is pivoted within the socket, the radial movement of the hitching-bar is limited to such an extent that it is impossible for the horse to either step onto the pavement when he is secured to a post located near the curbing, or to gnaw said post. Also, when the socket is secured to the side of a shed, it operates to prevent the horse from gnawing the shed or displacing his bridle by rubbing his head against the shed.

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

A hitching device consisting of a socket

adapted to be secured to a post or other fixed object by means of a screw-threaded shank or bolt and a rigid hitching-bar, one end of which is pivoted within said socket, while the opposite end of said bar is provided with means for its attachment to the bit, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand and seal this 4th day of September, 1877.

ALBERT L. ANDREWS. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

ISAAC L. GOFF,
WM. R. RANDALL.