

J. VANDEGRIFT.
Horseshoe.

No. 220,194.

Patented Sept. 30, 1879.

Fig. 1.

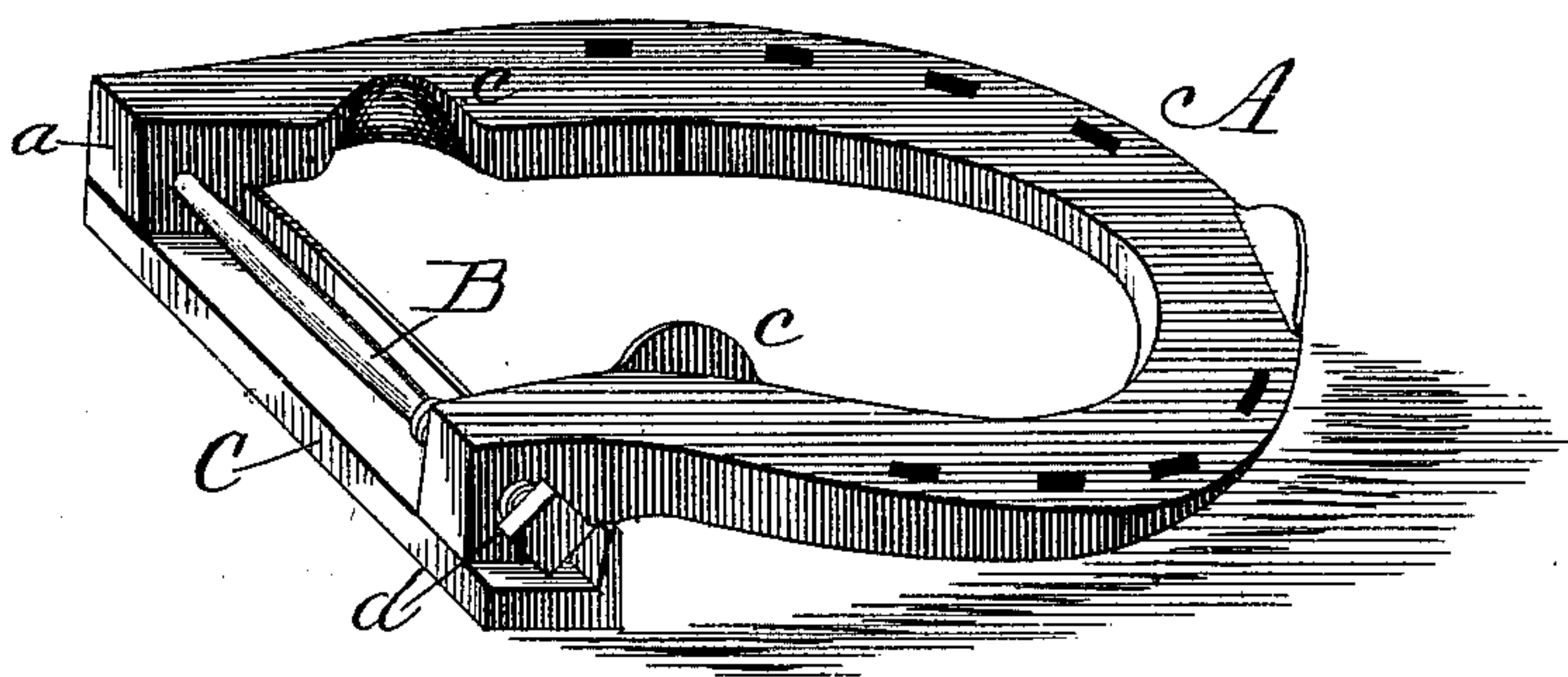
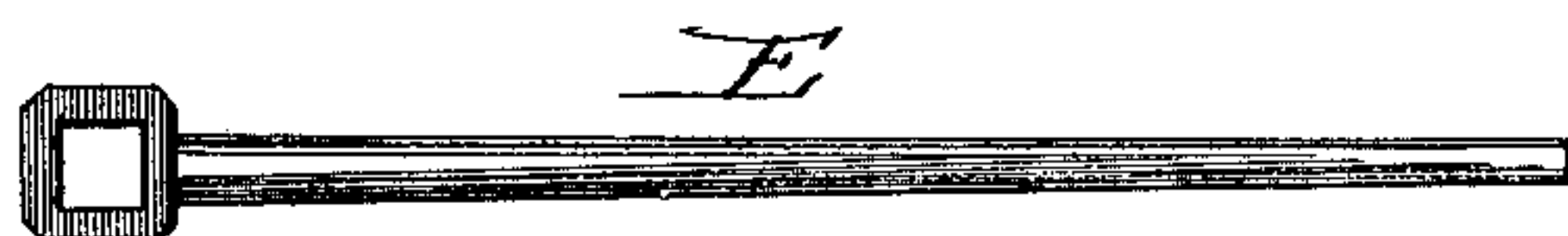


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:

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JOHN VANDEGRIFT, OF LANGHORNE, PENNSYLVANIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSESHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **220,194**, dated September 30, 1879; application filed December 26, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN VANDEGRIFT, of Langhorne, in the county of Bucks and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Horseshoes; and I hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof.

The object of my invention is to provide a shoe especially for the cure of contracted feet in horses, which shoe is simple in construction, easily operated, and very effective for the purpose above mentioned; and my invention consists in combining with a shoe a screw passing through the heel thereof, for the purpose of expanding it, and a guide and protecting-plate welded or otherwise secured to one side of the heel of the shoe beneath such screw, all of which will now be fully explained and set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my device, and Fig. 2 a view of the wrench.

A represents a horseshoe, made from a single piece of steel, provided with heel-calks *a a'*, and which I can use with a toe-calk, if desired; or the heel-calks may be made very low, so that toe-calks are unnecessary. A hole is made entirely through the heel-calk *a'*, while a small opening is formed on the inner side of the opposite calk, *a*, in which a screw-bar, B, bears, said bar also passing through the opening in the calk *a'*, which is correspondingly screw-threaded.

C is a plate or bar of angular form in cross-section, which is welded to the heel-calk *a* in such a manner that the upper surface bears against the under surface of the calk *a'*, while the ledge formed by its angular shape serves as a guide in the movement of the calk when the shoe is expanded.

E, Fig. 2, is a wrench which fits the nut on the end of the bar B.

Upon each inner side of the shoe is formed a projection, *c*, which, when the shoe is fitted to the foot, will catch and hold the rear portion firmly. The shoe with this exception is applied in the usual manner.

The operation of the device will be readily understood. The shoe is fitted to the hoof, as above stated, and expanded by its own elasticity a little from day to day by applying the wrench to the screw-bar. The hoof is gradually enlarged, and a new growth of hoof commences to form. This operation is continued until a cure is effected.

It may be desirable in some instances to lighten the front portion of the shoe a little, in order to make it more elastic.

The advantages of my device have been repeatedly demonstrated by its use upon horses suffering with contracted feet. It has never failed to cure such disease, and, while it is so efficient in operation, its simplicity of construction makes it cheap to manufacture.

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

1. In combination with a horseshoe having the screw-bar B, the guide and protecting plate C, welded to one of the heel-calks, and having the other heel-calk bearing thereon, substantially as described and shown.

2. The horseshoe described, made in one piece, and having the calks *a a'*, screw-bar B, plate C, and projection *c c*, all substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

JOHN VANDEGRIFT.

Witnesses:

LOUIS H. DICKERSON,
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