

(No Model.)

A. C. SMITH.  
HORSE TAIL HOLDER.

No. 277,431.

Patented May 8, 1883.

FIG. 1.

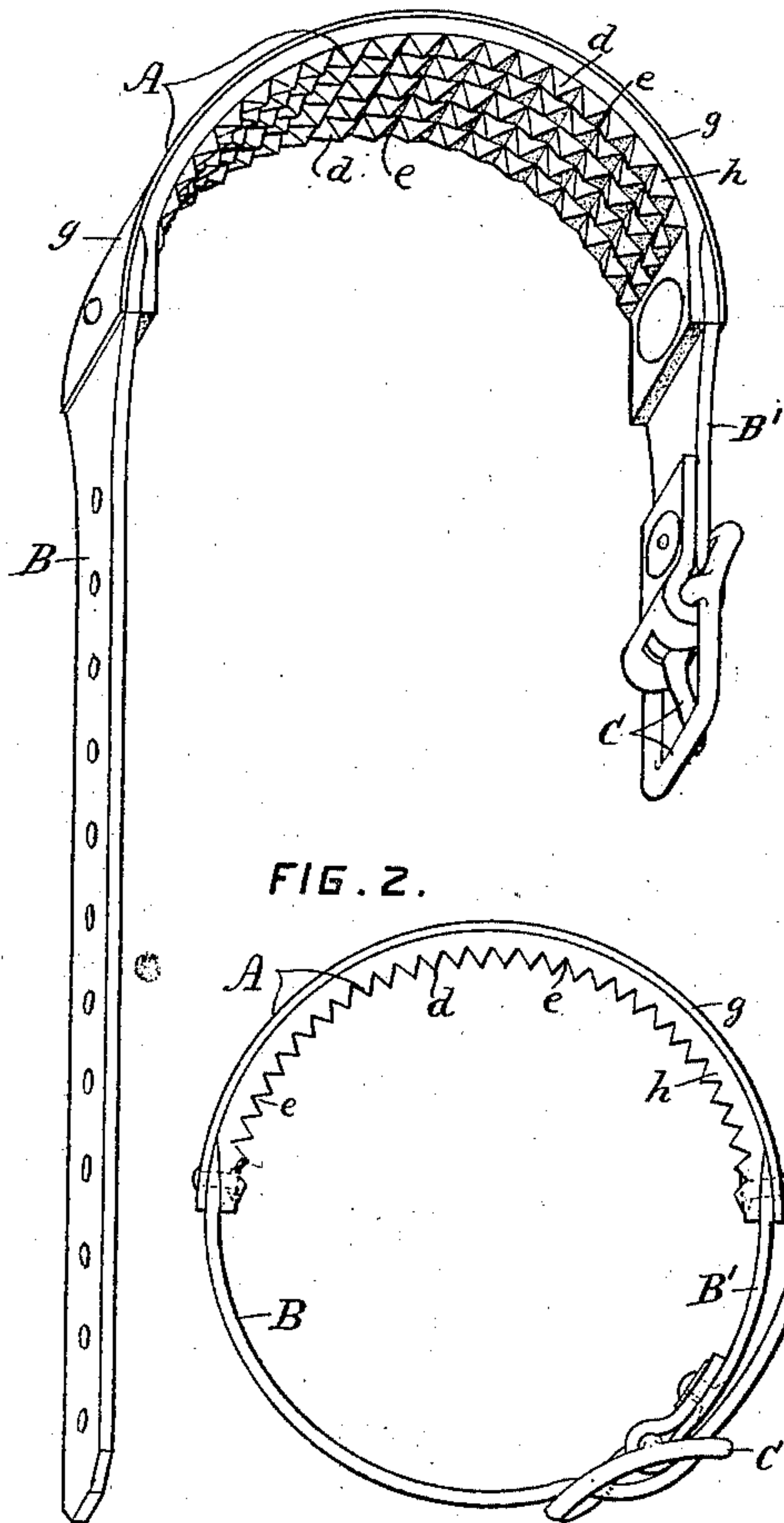


FIG. 2.

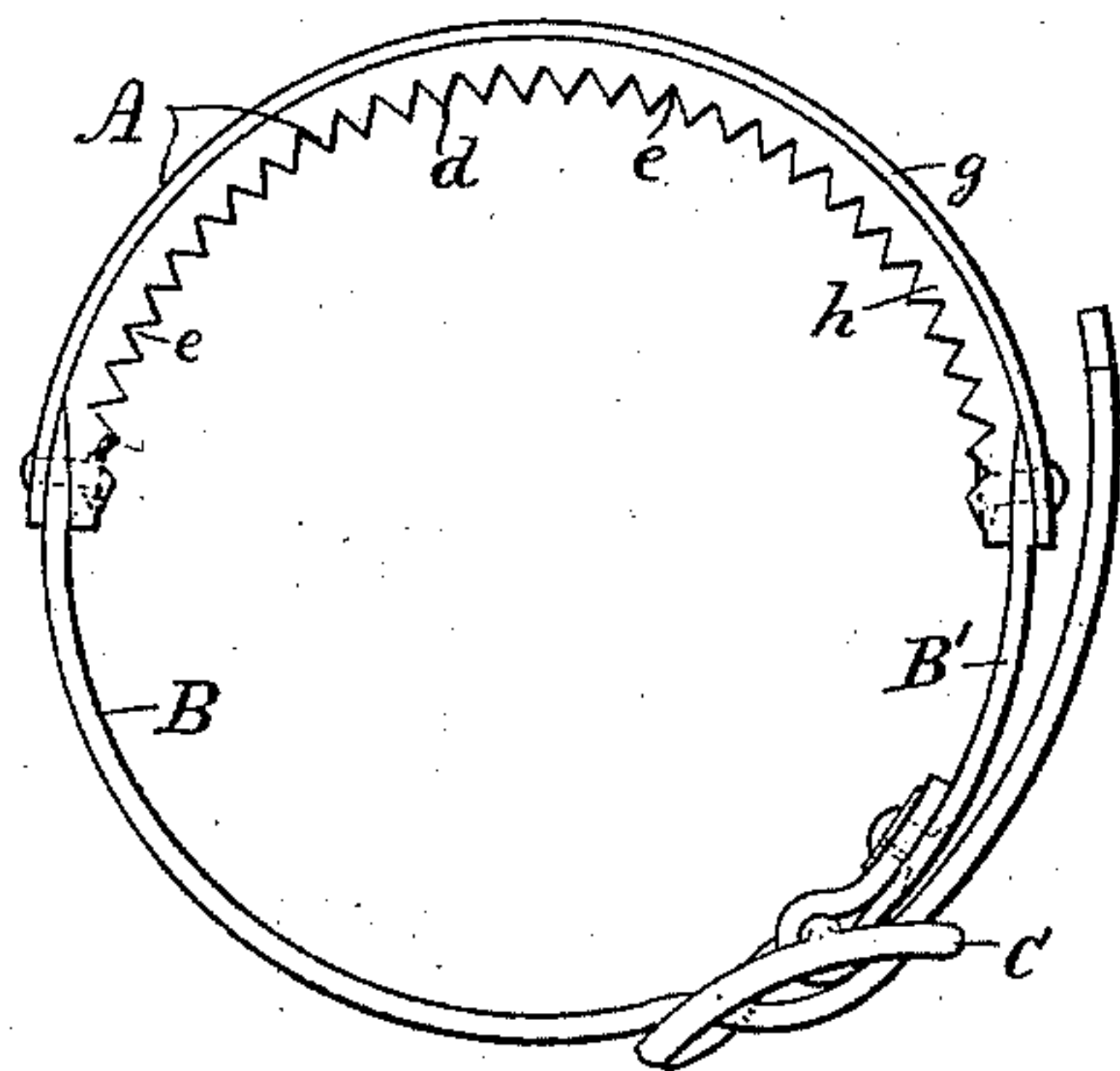


FIG. 3.

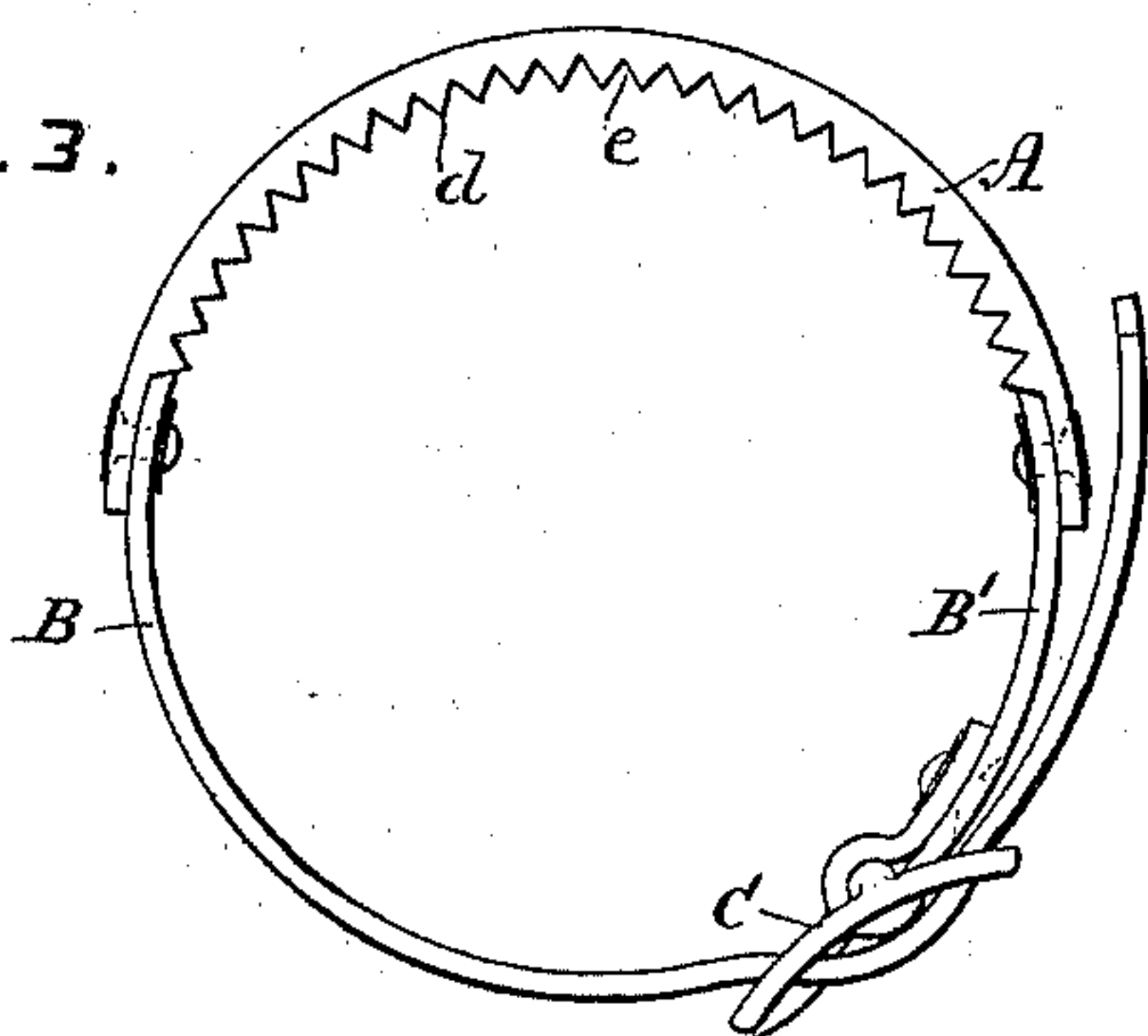


FIG. 4.

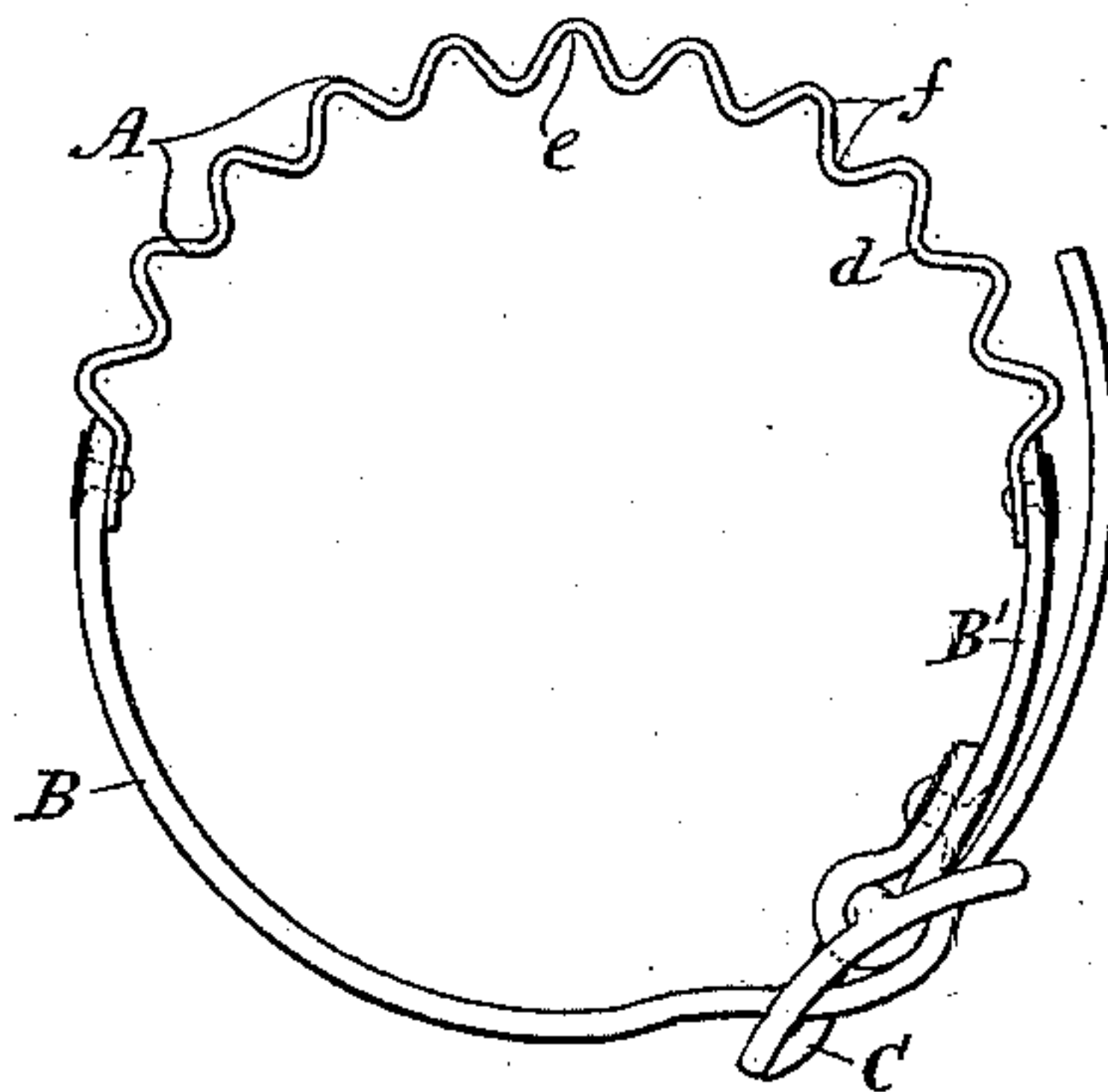


FIG. 5.

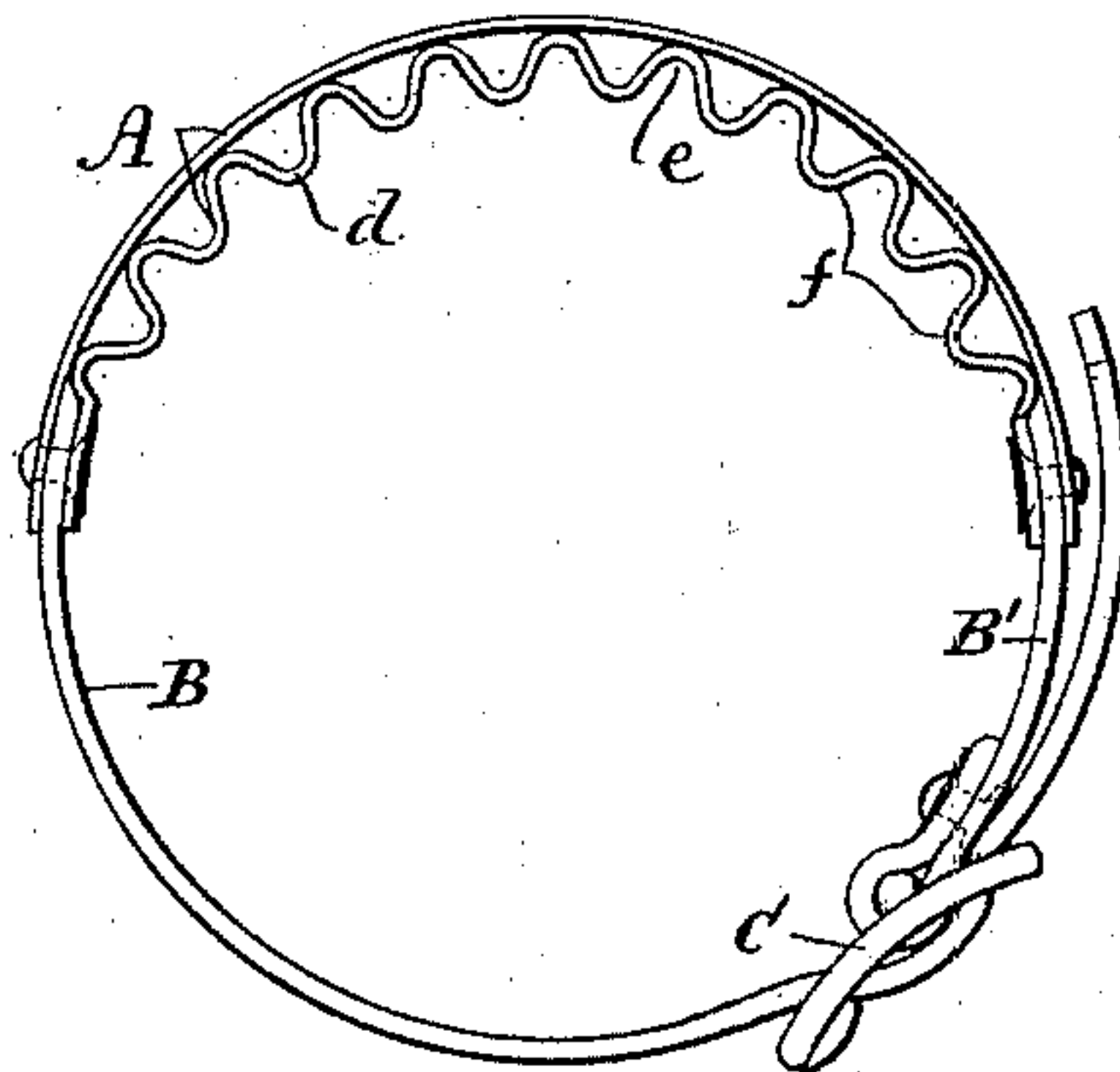
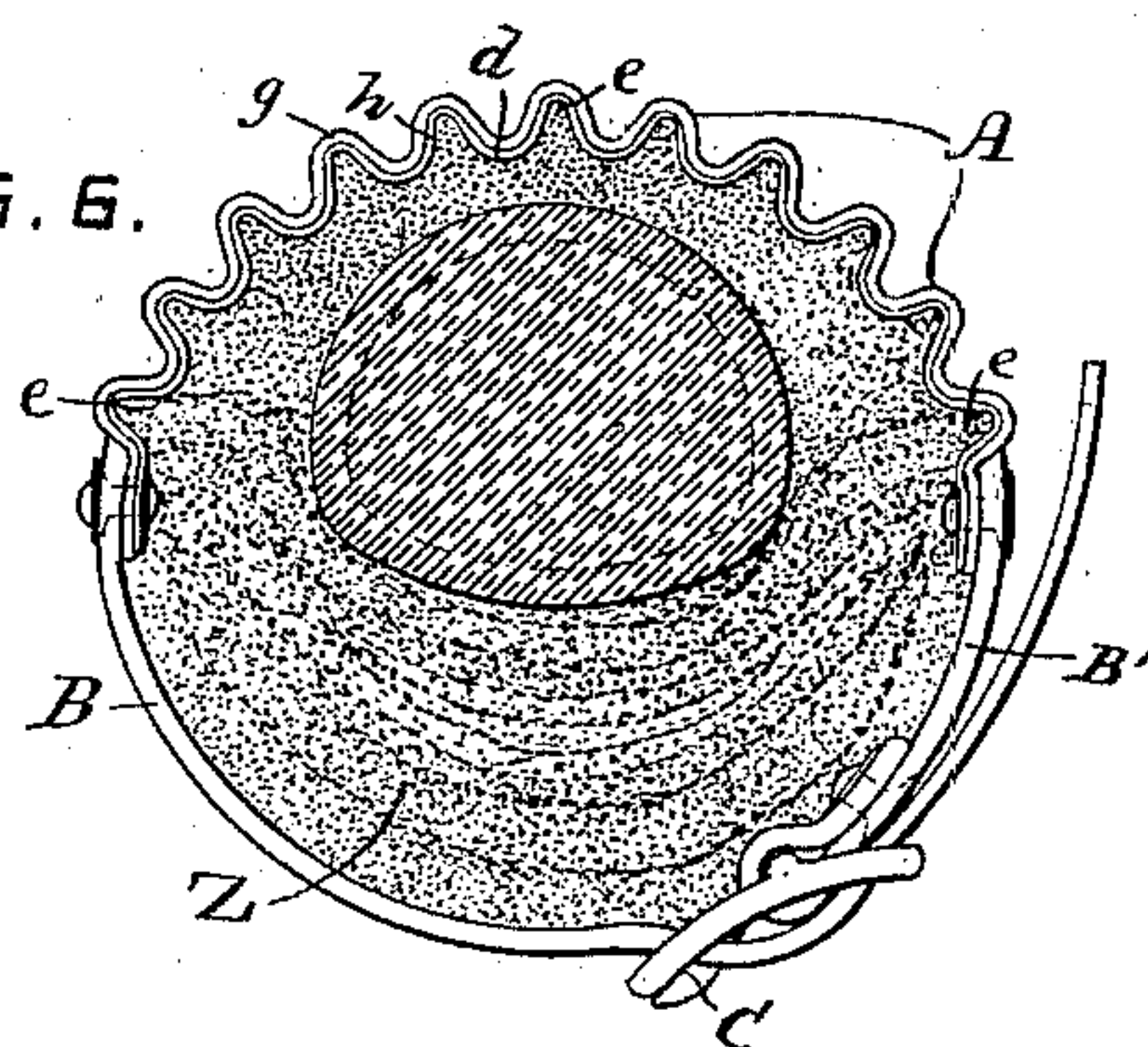


FIG. 6.



WITNESSES.

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INVENTOR.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLEN C. SMITH, OF CANAAN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO VAN RENSSELAER POWELL, OF TROY, NEW YORK.

## HORSE-TAIL HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,431, dated May 8, 1883.

Application filed February 13, 1883. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ALLEN C. SMITH, a citizen of the United States, residing in the town of Canaan, in the county of Columbia and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Tail Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

The general object of this invention is to produce a very simple, effective, and quickly-applied device in the form of a band for holding together in nice form the hair on a horse's tail when the hair is folded up out of the way of being spattered by mud.

In the accompanying drawings, Figures 1 and 2 represent two of my improved horse-tail holders, each of which embodies all the essential features and parts of my invention. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 represent three horse-tail holders, each of which embraces one or more of the parts of the same invention. Fig. 6 represents one of my improved devices around a cross-section of the folded-up hair on the tail of a horse.

In the several figures similar parts are marked by like letters.

In the devices represented, A is a part which is nearly in the form of a semicircular bow or band, and has secured to its ends straps B B', furnished with a buckle, C, whereby the device can be tightly fastened about the folded hair on the tail of a horse.

To use either of the devices shown, the hair on a horse's tail is simply folded up by commencing at its end, making the first fold about four or five inches in length, and continuing the folding up on the under side of the tail until the fold is about four or five inches on the stump, and so that the hairs growing on the top and upper side parts of the tail shall extend from their roots directly to, over, and along the upper half part of the fold. Then the concave side of the bow A of the holder is placed on the top of the middle part of the folded hair Z, Fig. 6, and the strap B is passed under the fold and buckled to the other strap, B', tightly about the fold.

To cause the holder to strongly adhere to the hairs that extend from their roots directly along the top and upper side parts of the fold,

I make the inner surface of the part A of the holder with a series of inwardly-tapering ribs or projections, *d*, and intervening tapering grooves or recesses, *e*, so that by tightening the holder upon and around the folded hair the hairs that extend from their roots directly along the top and side parts of the fold will be forced, crowded, and wedged into the series of tapering grooves or recesses *e*, as indicated in Fig. 6, so as to thereby greatly lessen the liability of the holder to become slipped down on the horse's tail. As regards this feature of my invention the part A, or its inner portion, may consist of a crimped or corrugated strip of sheet metal, *f*, as indicated in Figs. 4 or 5, or of other suitable material or materials.

To increase the adhesion to the hair of the part A, and to prevent all liability of the hair being cut or injuriously scraped by the inner surface of that part of the holder, I commonly make the part A, or its inner surface portion, of a somewhat soft and elastic material—as leather or vulcanized india-rubber—substantially as indicated in Figs. 1, 2, 3, or 6.

In Fig. 3 the part A is represented as consisting wholly of a transversely-grooved strip of moderately-stiff leather or vulcanized india-rubber.

To increase the nice appearance of the holder, facilitate its application to the fold of hair on a horse's tail, and cause the inner surface of the part A to adhere strongly to the hair without liability of injuring it, I commonly prefer to have the outer portion of the part A consist of a strip, *g*, of somewhat bendable and elastic sheet metal, in a permanent bow shape of nearly a semicircular form, and to line the same with a strip, *h*, of moderately soft and elastic material—such as leather, or, preferably, vulcanized india-rubber—substantially as indicated in Fig. 1, 2, or 6, and to rivet or otherwise secure flexible straps B B', of leather or equivalent material, to the ends of the part A, and furnish the straps with a buckle, C, or its equivalent fastening device.

A horse-tail holder has been made in the form of a concave strip, having at its ends straps furnished with a buckle, and having two long pins or thin parts extending inwardly from such concave part for insertion into or through the folded hair, but not having the

inner surface portion of such concave part formed with a series of tapering grooves or recesses, nor composed of vulcanized india-rubber.

5 What I claim as my invention is—

1. A horse-tail holder having on its inner surface a series of tapering grooves or recesses, substantially as set forth.

10 2. A horse-tail holder having a portion of its inner surface formed with a series of tapering grooves or recesses, and composed of a somewhat soft and elastic material, substantially as set forth.

3. A horse-tail holder composed of a curved strip, *g*, of metal, having a grooved or recessed 15 lining, *h*, of somewhat soft and elastic material, and at its ends straps furnished with a fastening device, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand, in the presence of two subscribing witnesses, 20 this 10th day of February, 1883.

ALLEN C. SMITH.

Witnesses:

JACOB L. ROWE,  
AUSTIN F. PARK.