

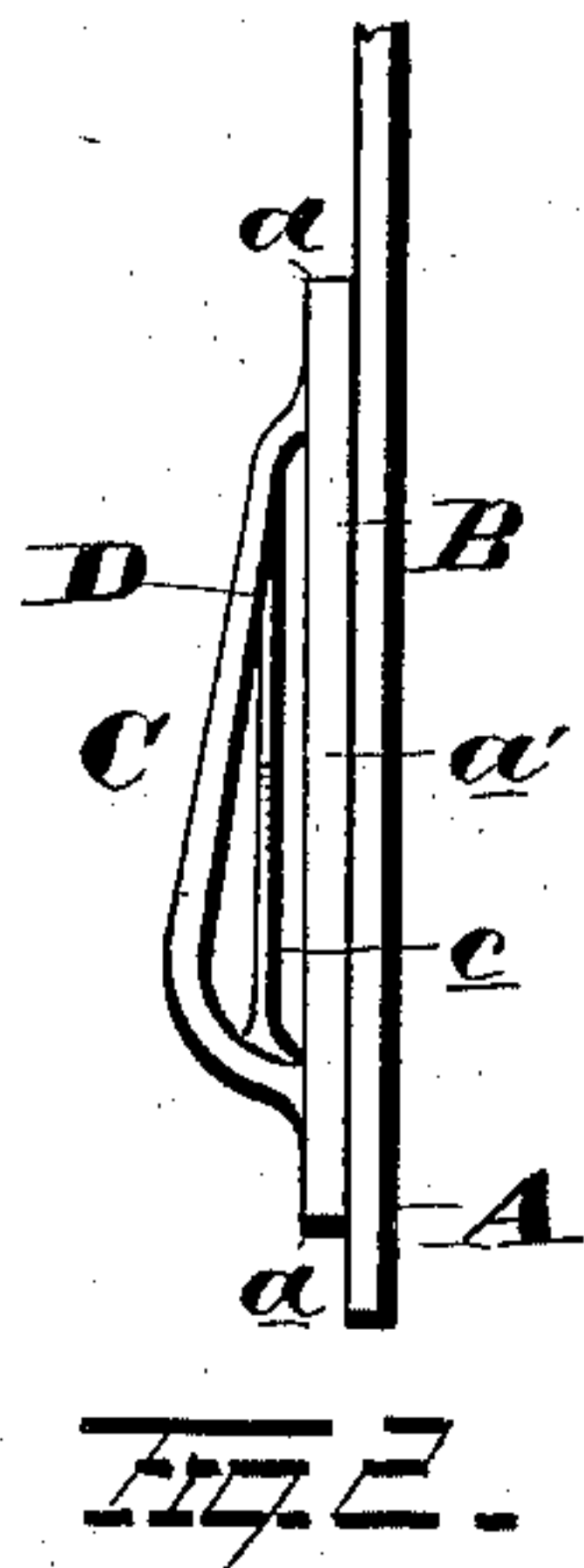
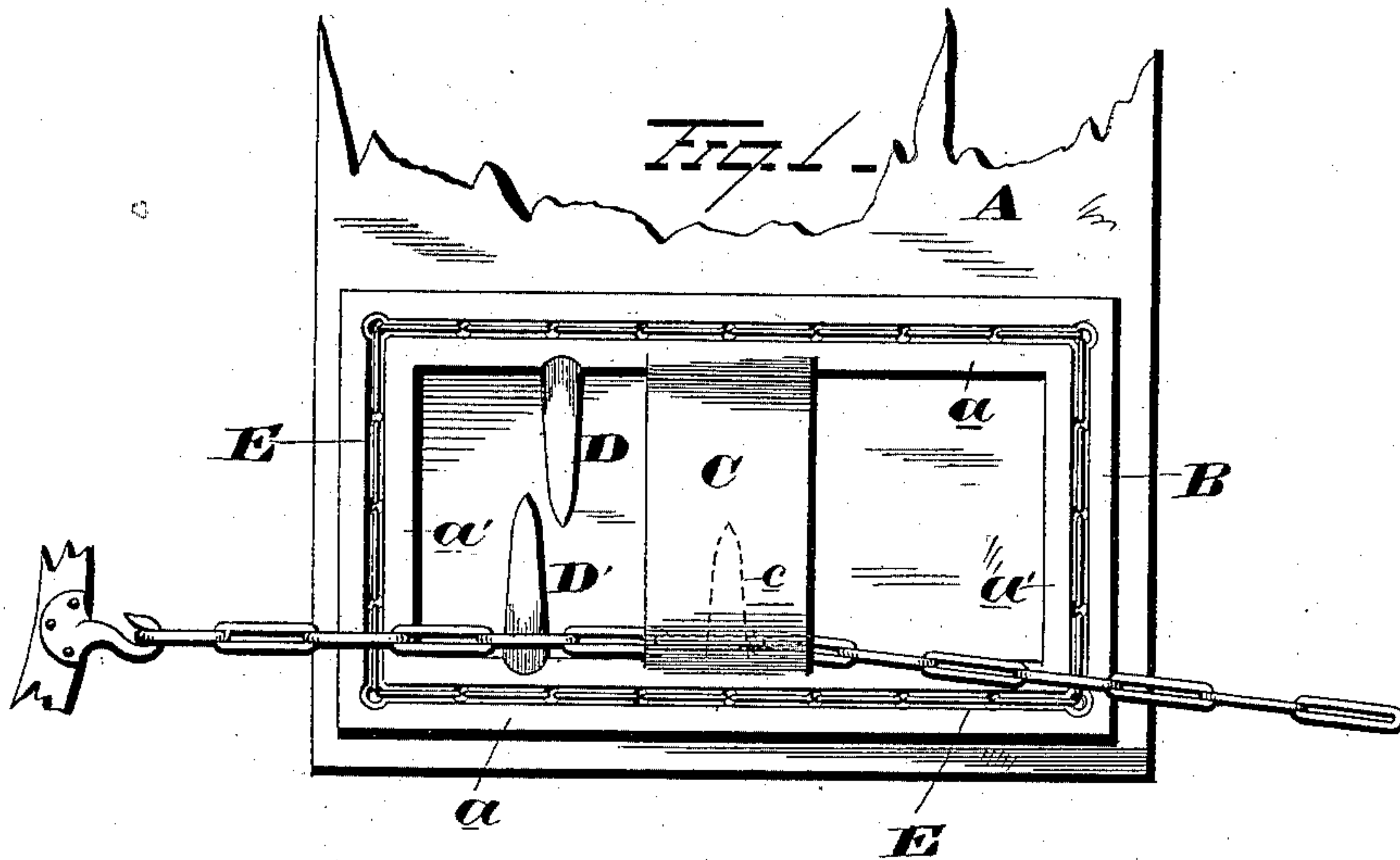
(No Model.)

G. M. BOWEN.

ATTACHMENT FOR BACK STRAPS.

No. 277,669.

Patented May 15, 1883.



*WITNESSES*

*S. G. Nottingham*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE M. BOWEN, OF TALBOT, TENNESSEE.

## ATTACHMENT FOR BACK-STRAPS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 277,669, dated May 15, 1883.

Application filed October 2, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE M. BOWEN, of Talbot, in the county of Jefferson and State of Tennessee, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Attachments for Back-Straps; 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 appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in attachments for the back-straps of plow-harness, the object of the same being to provide an improved device that will be of small initial cost and durable and effective in use, and one that is adapted to be secured to any suitable back-strap and form a guide and holder for the trace-chains.

With these ends in view my invention consists in the parts and combinations of parts, as will be more fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a portion of a back-strap with one of my improved devices secured thereto, and Fig. 2 is an end view of the same.

A represents the back-strap, made of canvas, leather, or any suitable material, to the opposite ends of which are riveted or secured by stitching, or in any other suitable manner, the metallic attachments B. These attachments are preferably rectangular in shape, and consist of the horizontal bars *a*, end bars, *a'*, loop or stirrup C, the stud *c*, and the spurs D D'. The frame-work of the attachment B can be of any convenient size, and the parts before enumerated are preferably cast in a single piece, although, if desired, the structure can be made of wrought metal and answer all the necessary purposes.

The stirrup or loop is formed integral with the horizontal bars *a*, and curves outwardly for the passage of the trace-chain. This stirrup or loop C can be provided on its inner concave face with an inwardly-projecting stud adapted to enter one link of the chain and hold the trace up in position; or a vertical stud similar to the one shown in the drawings can be employed for the same purpose. If this

vertical stud is used, it can be secured directly to the lower bar of the frame B, or to the loop C a little outside or beyond the said bar.

The spurs D D' are situated preferably in front of the loop C, and are cast integral with the upper and lower bars, respectively, with their points passing each other in the middle, and with sufficient space between their points to admit a link of the trace-chain to pass between them and onto the lower spur, D'. The upper spur, D, prevents the accidental displacement of the trace-chain on the lower spur. The two combined make fast the trace, and at the same time hold the back-strap to its required place on the animal's back.

To secure the back-strap in position it is simply necessary to pass either end of the trace-chain through the loop or stirrup C. The back-strap is then adjusted or moved in proper position on the animal's back, and the parts are secured in proper position by securing a link of the chain to the spurs D D' on the opposite sides of the horse. When the parts are thus secured the back-strap is prevented from moving forward or backward, and the trace-chains from sliding through the holding devices. It is not absolutely necessary to provide the holder with a stud back of the loop, as described; but if it is employed a link of the chain can be placed thereon either before or after the chains are secured to the spurs.

In Fig. 1 I have represented the attachment secured to the back-strap by stitching, which latter is accomplished by sewing through holes or perforations formed in the side and end pieces, *a a'*, as shown. To enable the thread or cord by which the attachments are secured to the back-strap from being exposed to wear by the constant rubbing of the trace-chains thereon, I have formed a continuous groove, E, around the frame B, and provided perforations therein equidistant apart for the passage of the thread or cord. Thus it will be seen that when the attachments are secured by stitching the thread lies in the groove below the outer surface of the attachments and is completely protected thereby. I have also provided rivet-holes at the four corners of the frame for the passage of rivets, by which the attachments can be secured to the back-strap, if desired.

My improved device is so constructed that



any one can secure it on the back-strap, and it not liable to break or become inoperative.

It is evident that slight changes in the construction of parts might be resorted to without  
5 departing from the spirit of my invention; and hence I would have it understood that I do not limit myself to the exact construction of parts shown and described, but consider myself at liberty to make such changes and alterations as come within the spirit and scope  
10 of my invention.

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

15 1. As an improved article of manufacture, a back-strap attachment for harness, consisting of a suitable metallic frame, a stirrup or loop for the passage of the trace-chain, and the vertical spurs, arranged as shown, and adapted  
20 to operate as described.

2. The combination, with a back-strap, of a combined trace guide and holder made of cast metal, and provided with a loop for the passage of the trace-chain, and two vertical spurs, arranged and constructed as shown. 25

3. The combination, with a back-strap, of the combined trace guide and holder, the frame of which is provided with a perforated channel for the purpose of protecting the thread or cord from wear, substantially as set forth. 30

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 24th day of August, 1882.

GEORGE M. BOWEN.

Witnesses:

W. W. SUNDERLAND,  
E. R. COLE.