(No Model.)

D. ROBERGE.

TOE WEIGHT.

No. 279,667. Patented June 19, 1883.

Fig. 1

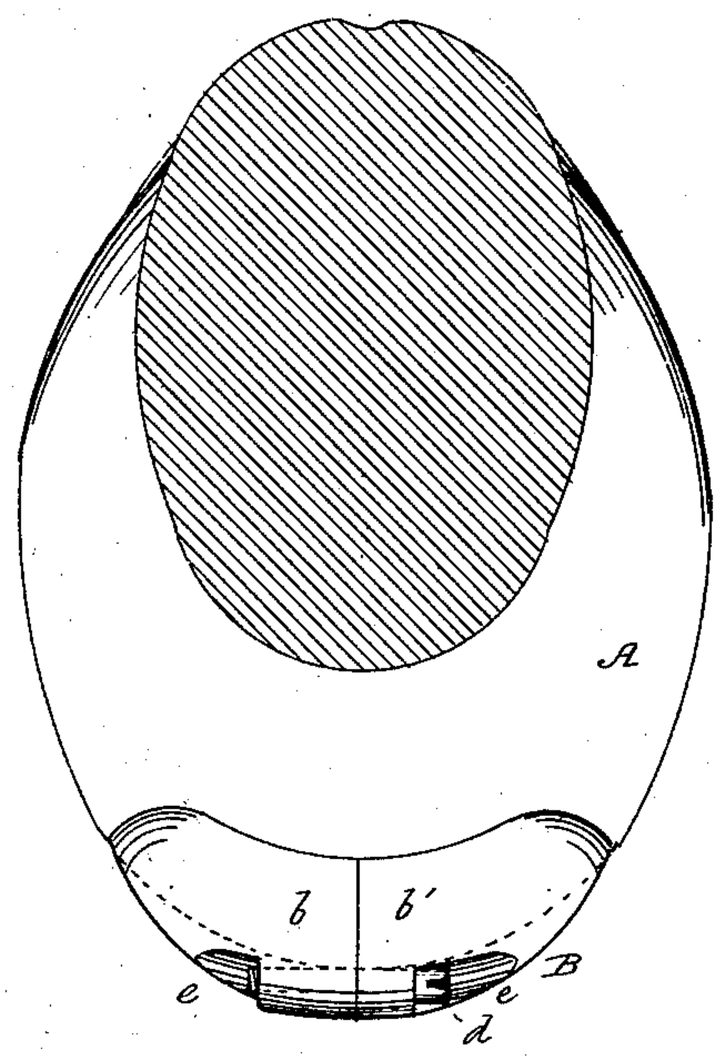


Fig. 2.

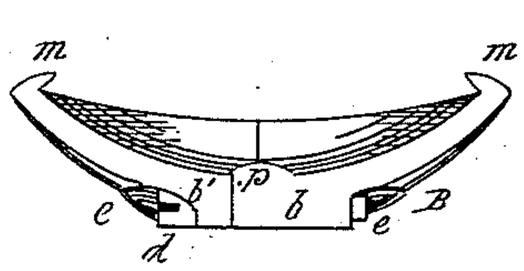


Fig. 3.

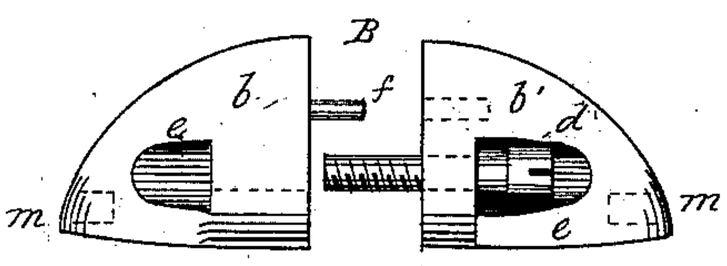


Fig. 4.

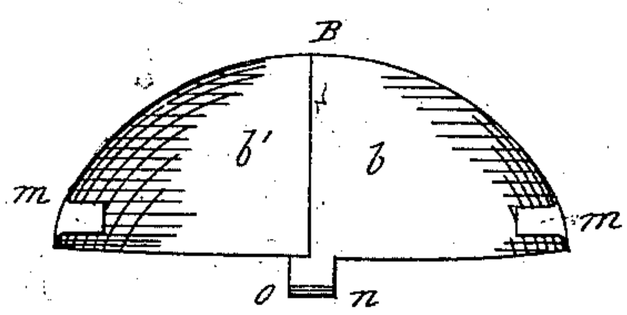
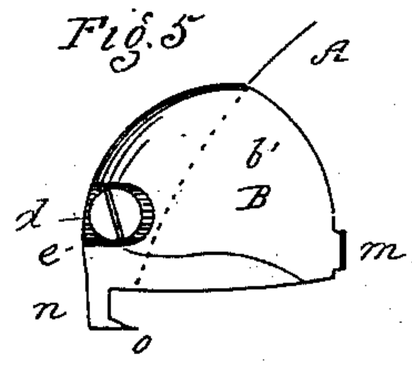


Fig. 5



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID ROBERGE, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

TOE-WEIGHT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 279,667, dated June 19, 1883.

Application filed December 7, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID ROBERGE, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented an Improvement in Toe-Weights for Horses; and I hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to an improvement in toe-weights for horses; and its object is to construct the same in such a manner that they shall be very readily and easily applied, and be retained in position without the use of straps or similar appliances. It is more especially designed to be an improvement on a certain toe-weight described in Letters Patent No. 224,955, which latter is composed of two parts or sections, which are secured to each other by means of a screw-bolt after being applied to the foot, and are provided with converging fingers that pass between the sole of the foot and the shoe. In this improvement the said fingers are dispensed with, and the toe-weight is thereby made much simpler in construction and can be applied much more easily, and will fit more snugly to the foot.

The invention consists, first, in a toe-weight composed of two separate sections adapted to be connected together by means of a screw-bolt, and provided with an angular spur or projection at each end, which said spurs fit into slots formed on the outside of the hoof, and thereby hold the toe-weight in position; and, secondly, in a toe-weight consisting of two separate sections adapted to be connected together by a screw-bolt, and provided with spurs at its ends, which fit into slots formed on the outside of the hoof, and with a downwardly-projecting finger having a spur or pin at its lower end, which pierces the surface of the hoof, for the purpose of more effectually retaining the weight in position, all of which is hereinafter particularly set forth and described.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a top view of my improved toe-weight; Fig. 2, a view of the under side; Fig. 3, a front elevation, showing the two sections detached; Fig. 4, an elevation of the rear or inner side, and Fig. 5 a side view.

Similar letters of reference indicate the same parts in all the several figures.

A may represent the foot of a horse.

B is my improved toe-weight, composed of two parts or sections, *b b'*, and made of metal or other suitable material, its inner surface being concaved to fit to the contour of the hoof. These sections are connected by means of a screw-bolt, *d*, as shown, recesses *e* being formed in the same to receive said screw-bolt, so that it shall not project beyond the outer line of the metal; and a pin or projection, *f*, may be provided on one face of the joint to fit into a slot on the opposite face, so as to keep the surfaces flush with each other.

m m are angular spurs or projections formed one on each outer end of the sections *b b'*, which enter into corresponding slots burned or cut on the exterior surface of the hoof, and which hold the toe-weight firmly to the foot when the two sections are drawn together by means of the screw-bolt without the aid of any other appliance. Ordinarily, no other support than these spurs *m m* is necessary; but in the case of very heavy toe-weights I provide an additional support, as shown in Figs. 4 and 5, consisting of a downwardly-projecting finger, *n*, provided at its lower end with a spur or pin, *o*, which enters the surface of the hoof, and thus provides additional support or means of attachment; or, as a modification of this, a projecting piece, *p*, may be struck up from the inner surface of the toe-weight, as shown in Fig. 2, and arranged to penetrate the surface of the hoof.

It will readily be seen that (the sections being detached) when the spurs *m* are inserted into their respective slots in the hoof and the sections then drawn together by means of the screw-bolt, the toe-weight will be secured immovably in position.

The inner surface of the toe-weight is hollowed out, so that the contact between the same and the hoof will be chiefly around the edges of the former, and consequently, should the hoof slightly change its form by natural

growth, after the toe-weight has been applied, the latter will still fit snugly thereto.

When the hoof to which my improved toe-weight is applied is tender or brittle, it may be desirable to affix thereto a metal plate by means of screw-nails or similar means, said plate being slotted to receive the spurs *m m*. This, however, will be seldom found necessary, and it is not shown in the drawings.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A toe-weight composed of two separate sections, *b b'*, adapted to be connected together, as described, by means of a screw-bolt, *d*, and provided with angular spurs *m m*, which fit into slots formed on the outside of the hoof, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a toe-weight composed of two separate sections, *b b'*, adapted to be connected together, as described, by means of a screw-bolt, *d*, the combination of the spurs *m m*, formed at the outer end of each section with the downwardly-projecting finger *n*, provided with the spur or pin, *o*, as and for the purpose set forth.

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