

(No Model.)

D. KALTENBACHER.

TRACE EYE GUARD.

No. 281,079.

Patented July 10, 1883.

Fig: 1.

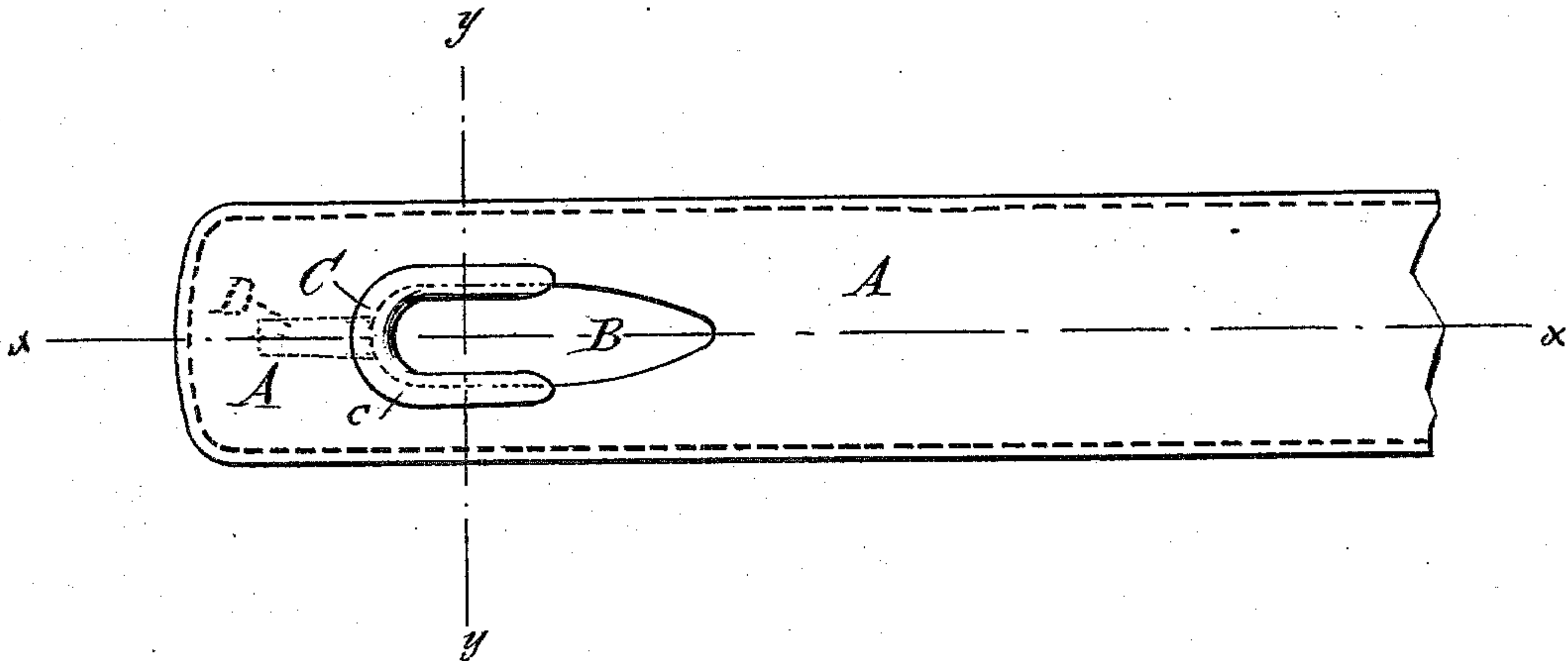


Fig: 2.

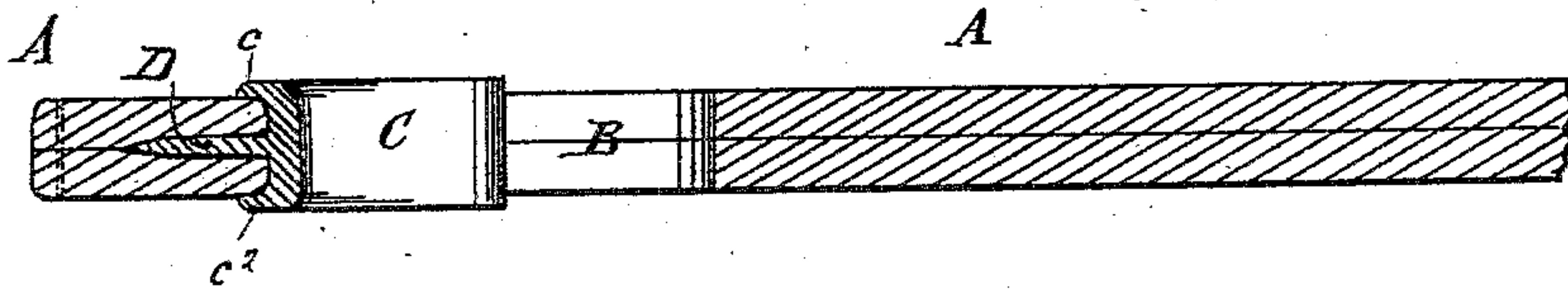
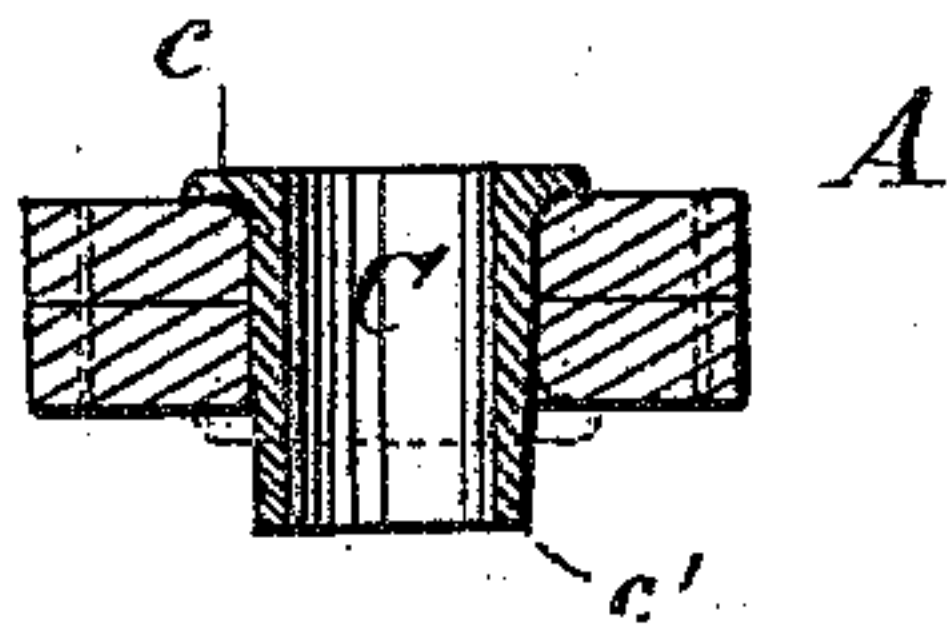


Fig: 3.



WITNESSES:

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DOMINICK KALTENBACHER, OF SHELBYVILLE, KENTUCKY.

TRACE-EYE GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 281,079, dated July 10, 1883.

Application filed January 19, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DOMINICK KALTENBACHER, of Shelbyville, in the county of Shelby and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and Improved Trace-Eye Guard, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to the leather traces or tug-straps of harness, and has for its object to increase the durability of the traces at the eye, where they receive the full draft-strain on a small edge surface, rendering the trace-eyes liable to tear out or break away in moving the load.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side view of the back end of a trace with my invention applied. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section on line *x x* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a cross-section on line *y y* of Fig. 1, showing the guard as inserted in the trace-eye preparatory to upsetting or clinching it over on the back of the trace for securing it therein.

The trace *A*, constructed, as usual, with two or more layers of leather, *a*, strongly stitched or otherwise secured to each other flatwise, is provided with the eye *B* for the entrance of the whiffletree end-irons, draft-hook, or other connection to a vehicle or agricultural implement.

C represents the trace-eye guard, formed with the flange *c*, projecting outward from one edge, which flange rests upon the face of the trace, partly around eye *B*, so that when the edge *c'* of the guard, which protrudes from the eye at the other side of the trace a suitable distance for the purpose, is upset, turned down, or clinched upon the opposite face of the trace, about the eye thereof, forming the under or opposite flange, *c''*, of Fig. 2, the guard will be securely fastened in the eye *B*, at the end thereof next the back end of the trace, so that when the draft-connecting whiffletree or hook is ad-

justed in the eye within the guard the latter will effectually prevent the splitting or tearing out of the trace behind the eye, which, moreover, is contracted in form from the ends of the guard *C* toward the front, so that when the guard is secured at the back of the eye the form of the latter shall prevent forward displacement of the guard, as will be understood from Fig. 1; and for greater security of the guard in the eye, I form upon or attach to the guard the prong *D*, which is socketed in the material of the trace or between the stitched layers thereof, and the prong being at the bend of the eye, where the draft-strain is received, the guard is materially strengthened by the prong.

By making the guard in *U* form, as shown, I secure its easy application, and provide for molding and casting it with its attached prong of any suitable malleable metal, permitting the clinching of the flange *c* over the trace, as above described.

My improved trace-eye guard may be applied to traces for light or heavy draft without marring their appearance, and will be found especially useful when hauling heavy loads on uneven roads, where the draft-strain is such as to subject the traces to sudden shocks and strains.

I am aware that it is not new to insert a cast bar having an eye with an outer horizontal flange in the end of trace, or to attach a cast plate with an eye to the rear end of trace; but

What I do claim as new and of my invention is—

The *U*-shaped trace-eye guard *C*, having the prong *D*, and made of malleable metal, horizontally flanged at *c*, and provided with an edge, *c'*, adapted to be upset, as and for the purpose specified.

DOMINICK KALTENBACHER.

Witnesses:

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JAMES D. MIDDLETON.