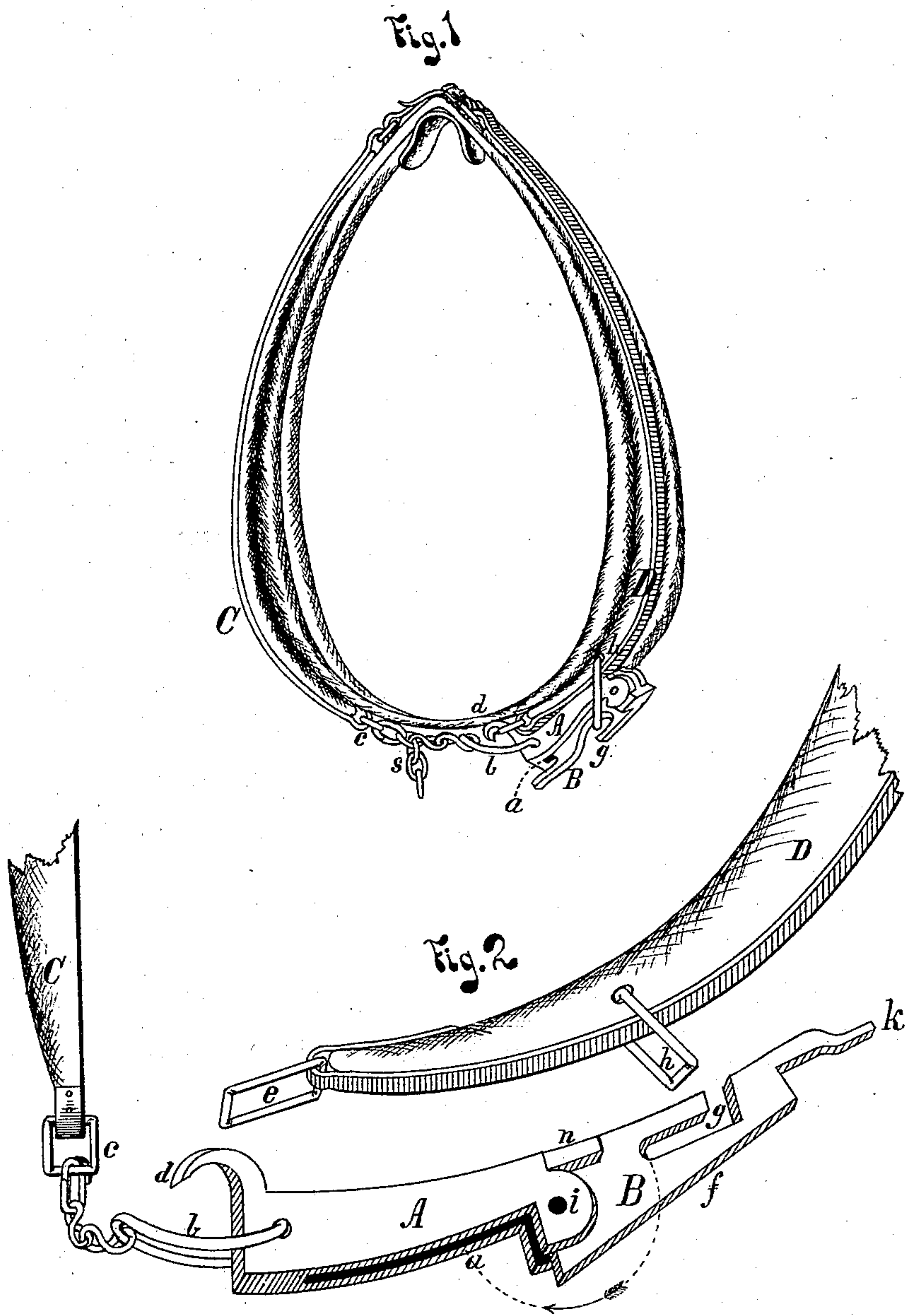


A. NICCUM.
HAME FASTENER.

No. 285,428.

Patented Sept. 25, 1883.



WITNESSES
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ANDREW NICCUM, OF TOPEKA, KANSAS; JAMES R. NICCUM ADMINISTRATOR
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HAME-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 285,428, dated September 25, 1883.

Application filed January 15, 1880.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ANDREW NICCUM, of Topeka, in the county of Shawnee and State of Kansas, have invented a new and valuable
5 Improvement in Hame-Fasteners; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the
10 letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a perspective view of my device, showing it properly locking a pair of hames upon a horse-collar. Fig. 2 represents, also, a per-
15 spective view of my device, showing the open hinged lock linked to the lower section of an off hame, and the two hooks ready to engage with their respective loops of the near hame.

My invention is an improved hame-fastener, and embraces the following peculiar features: a slotted or bifurcated bar, provided at one end with a hook to engage with the breast-loop of the hame on one side, and a curved linking-loop to connect with the breast-loop
25 of the hame on the opposite side, and having hinged upon the other end a hook-lever, which, after engaging with another loop of the first hame, returns and shuts into the said slotted bar, thereby tightening and locking
30 both hames into the crease of a horse-collar, all of which is hereinafter more fully described, and illustrated by the accompanying drawings, in which like letters designate identical parts of my device in the different figures, respectively.

The letter A represents the metallic bar, into the longitudinally-slotted recess *a* of which the hinging-lever B shuts and locks, like a knife-blade into its handle. At the
40 lower or bent end of bar A a curved linking-loop, *b*, is provided, with which to connect, by a suitable breast-chain, *s*, or otherwise, said bar with the breast-loop *c* of the hame C; also, the upper part of the bent end is extended
45 into the hook *d*, which curves upward and is made to engage with the breast-loop *e* of the hame D. The lever B is made of suitable size and shape, out of a metallic plate, so as to have its bottom edge, *f*, nicely fit into said recess *a*
50 whenever the lever is turned upon its hinges

i, and shut into its bar-case, as aforesaid. The lever B is also provided with a laterally-cut slot, forming both the recess and the hook *g*, also a thumb-piece, *k*, and, lastly, with a check lug or block, *n*.

The hame D—which would be the outside hame in the case of a span of horses—is provided not only with the usual breast-loop, *e*, but with another loop or ring, *h*, hung at such a distance above the said breast-loop as to allow the loop *h* to fall into the aforesaid lateral slot in the locking-lever B, and also the hook *g* to easily engage within it. The thumb-piece *k* is for springing and shutting the latch-plate B, and the check-block *n*, by resting against
65 the shoulder above the hinge *i*, limits the backward movement of the latch-plate whenever the latch is opened.

By the above-described means, my hame-locking device being interchangeably linked
70 to the hame on either side of the horse, and the loops *e* and *h* suitably hung at the aforesaid distances apart upon the other hame, whenever the hames are placed in the usual way upon the horse-collar, the hook *d* caught
75 into the loop *e*, the hook *g* into the loop *h*, and the latching-lever B turned into its recess *a*, then the hook *d*, acting as the first lever, will draw the two breast-loops together and the breast-chain taut, while the action of shutting
80 the second lever, B, will draw the whole latching device still farther upward along the outside edge of the hame, and the loop *h* downward, thereby firmly locking both hames in place.

It will be readily seen that the above-described actions of the two hook-levers A and B, the first separately, then both conjointly, not only draw the breast-loops very easily together, but, both the latching-lever and its corresponding or engaged loop having passed the
90 dead-point of opening pressure, said pressure instantly changes into a closing one, and thus keeps the latch firmly locked; therefore,

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by
95 Letters Patent, is—

1. The slotted or bifurcated lever-bar A, provided with the hook *d*, and the linking-loop *b*, in combination with the hinged and latching lever B, provided with the drawing
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and reversing hook *g*, the thumb-piece *k*, and the check-lug *n*, substantially as and for the purposes herein specified.

2. The hame-linking loop *h*, acting at first
5 separately with the reversing-hook *g*, and then conjointly with the latching-lever *B*, substantially as and for the purposes herein specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

ANDREW NICCUM.

Witnesses:

W. F. PARKER,

J. M. THRAPP.