

(No Model.)

N. C. MOODY.

REIN GUARD FOR WHIFFLETREES.

No. 286,145.

Patented Oct. 2, 1883.

Fig. 1.

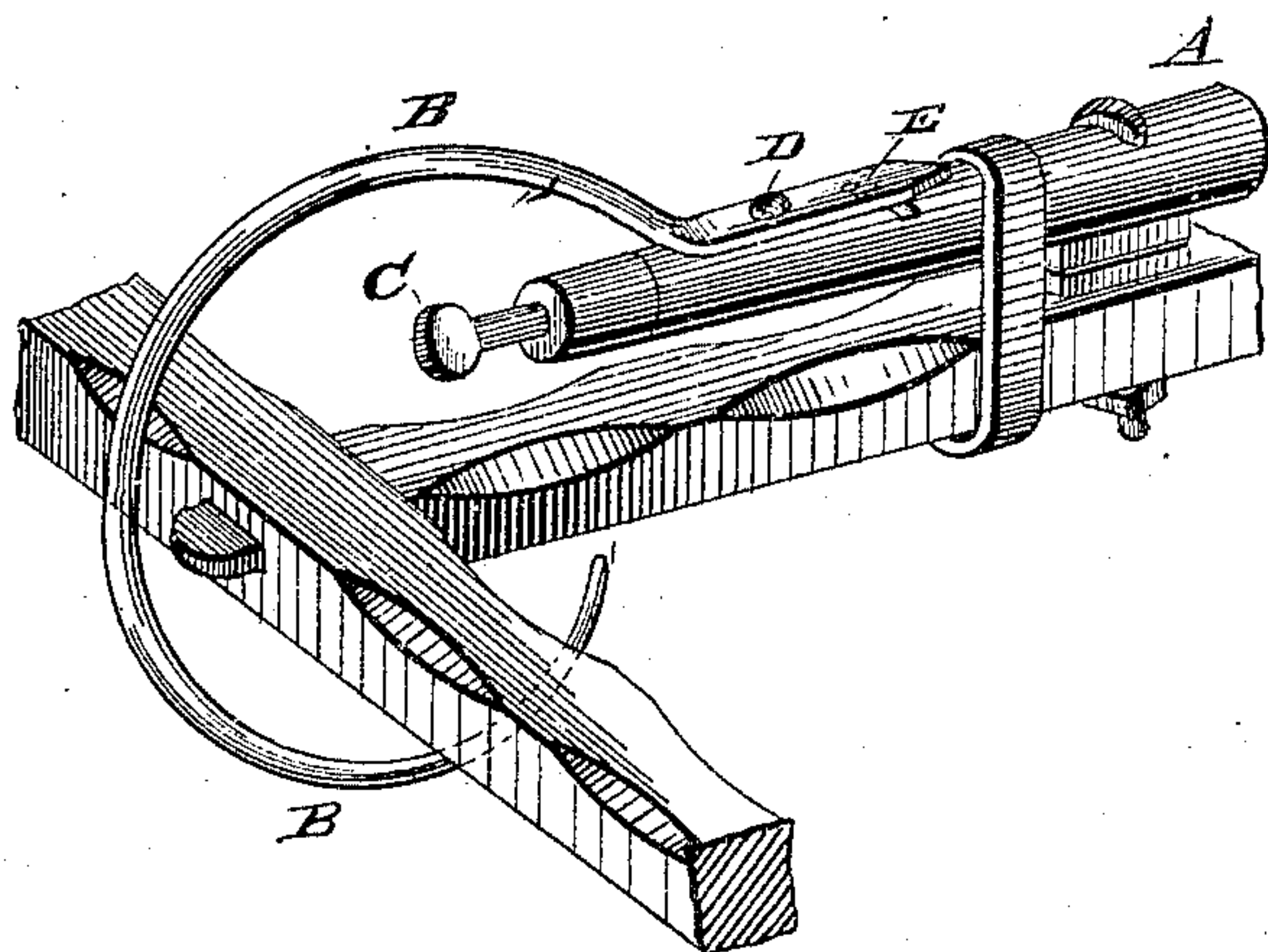


Fig. 2.

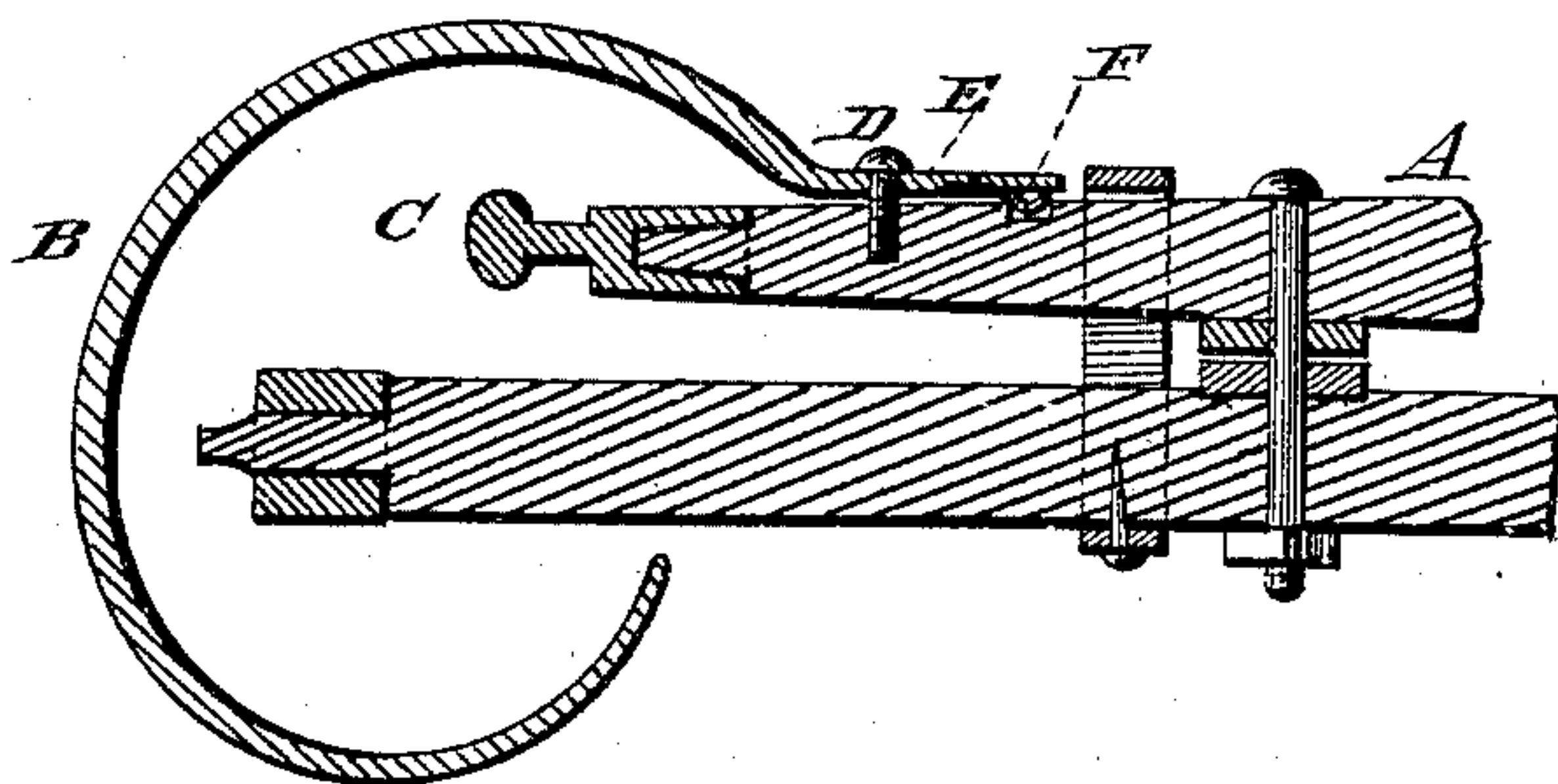
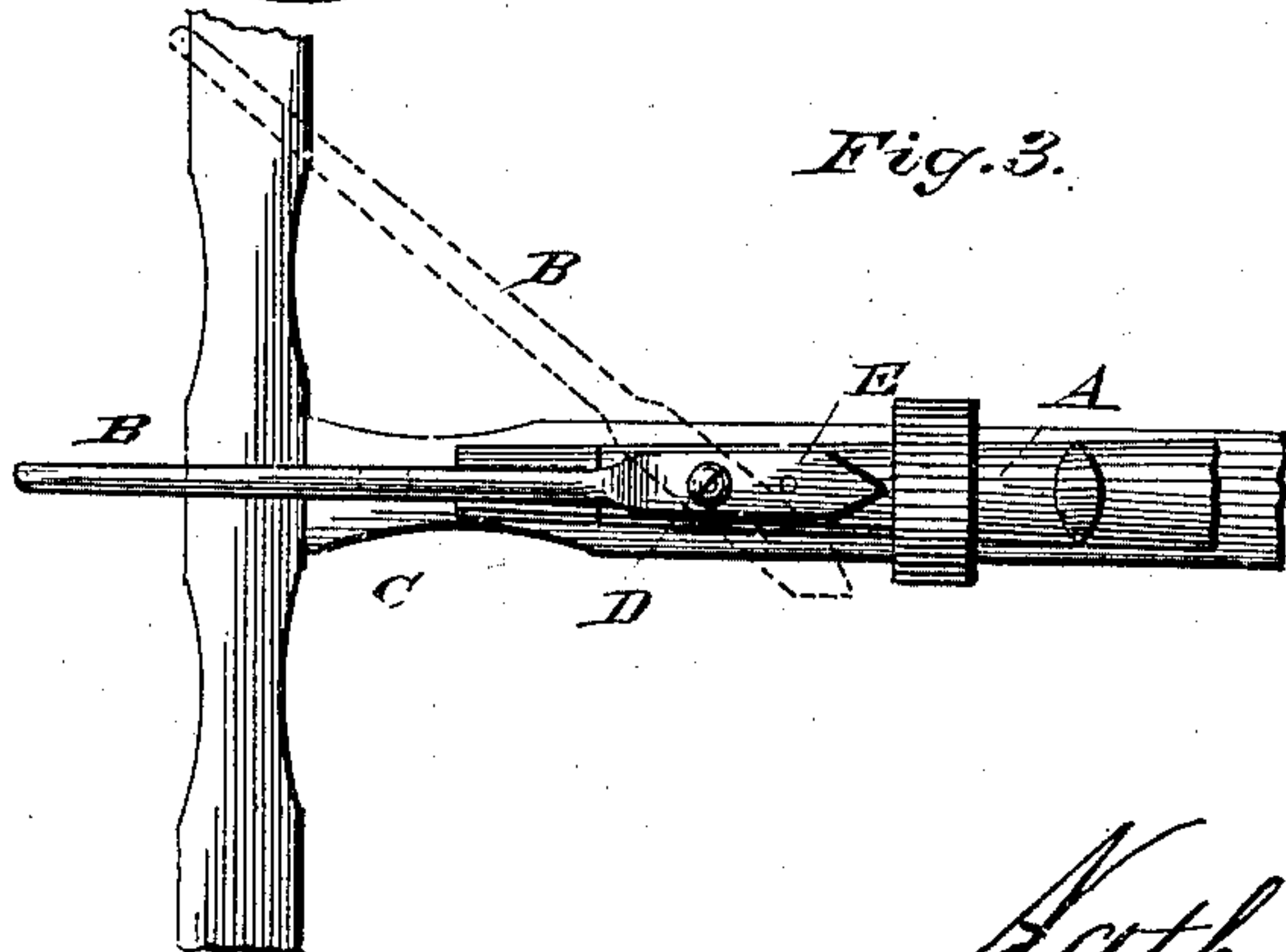


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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NATHAN C. MOODY, OF NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES H. RICHARDSON, OF SAME PLACE.

REIN-GUARD FOR WHIFFLETREES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 286,145, dated October 2, 1883.

Application filed July 25, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NATHAN C. MOODY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Newburyport, in the county of Essex and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rein-Guards; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one end of a whiffletree provided with my improved rein-guard. Fig. 2 is a sectional view of the same, showing the spring-catch for holding the guard in its position; and Fig. 3 is a plan or top view.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My invention has relation to guards adapted to be fastened upon the ends of a whiffletree for the purpose of preventing the reins or lines from becoming entangled between the whiffletrees and cross-bar, where they are apt to get caught, so that the driver will lose control over his team; and it consists in the improved construction of a guard of that class, as hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A represents one end of a whiffletree provided with my improved guard. The latter consists of a rod, B, of iron or other suitable material, bent into the shape shown, so as to extend out over the whiffletree hook or cockeye, (shown at C,) upon which the traces are fastened.

It will be seen that this guard effectually prevents the reins from falling down under the traces and getting caught between the whiffletree and cross-bar.

If desired, and in order to facilitate hitching or unhitching of the traces, I may pivot the guard B upon the bolt D, and provide its flattened end E, which rests upon the top of

the whiffletree, with a spring-catch, F, adapted to interlock with a notch in the whiffletree, as will appear more clearly by reference to Fig. 2 of the drawings. Thus, when it is desired to hitch or unhitch the traces, the guard may be swung to one side upon its pivot-bolt D, and after the hitching or unhitching has been effected it may be sprung back again over the traces to its former position, when the spring-catch F, by interlocking with the notch in the whiffletree, will hold the guard firmly in this position until it is desired to unhitch, when it may be sprung out of the way, as indicated in the dotted lines in Fig. 3.

I am aware that a rein-guard has been made consisting of a bent rod extending from the pivotal bolts of two single-trees upon a double-tree, preventing the reins from being caught under the inner ends of the said single-trees; and I am consequently aware that the principle of a rein-guard is not broadly new, nor do I wish to claim such construction, broadly; but

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. A rein-guard consisting of curved or hooked rods fastened to the outer ends of a whiffletree and overlapping the cockeyes and shafts, as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

2. The combination, with the whiffletree A, of the curved rein-guard B, pivoted upon the bolt D, and provided with a spring-catch, F, adapted to lock the guard in its operative position, in a vertical plane with and overlapping the whiffletree hook or cockeye, substantially as and for the purpose shown and set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

NATHAN CARTER MOODY.

Witnesses:

HORACE I. BARTLETT,
STEPHEN COLLINS.