

(No Model.)

I. P. HOFF.
HORSE COLLAR FASTENING.

No. 298,754.

Patented May 20, 1884.

Fig. 1

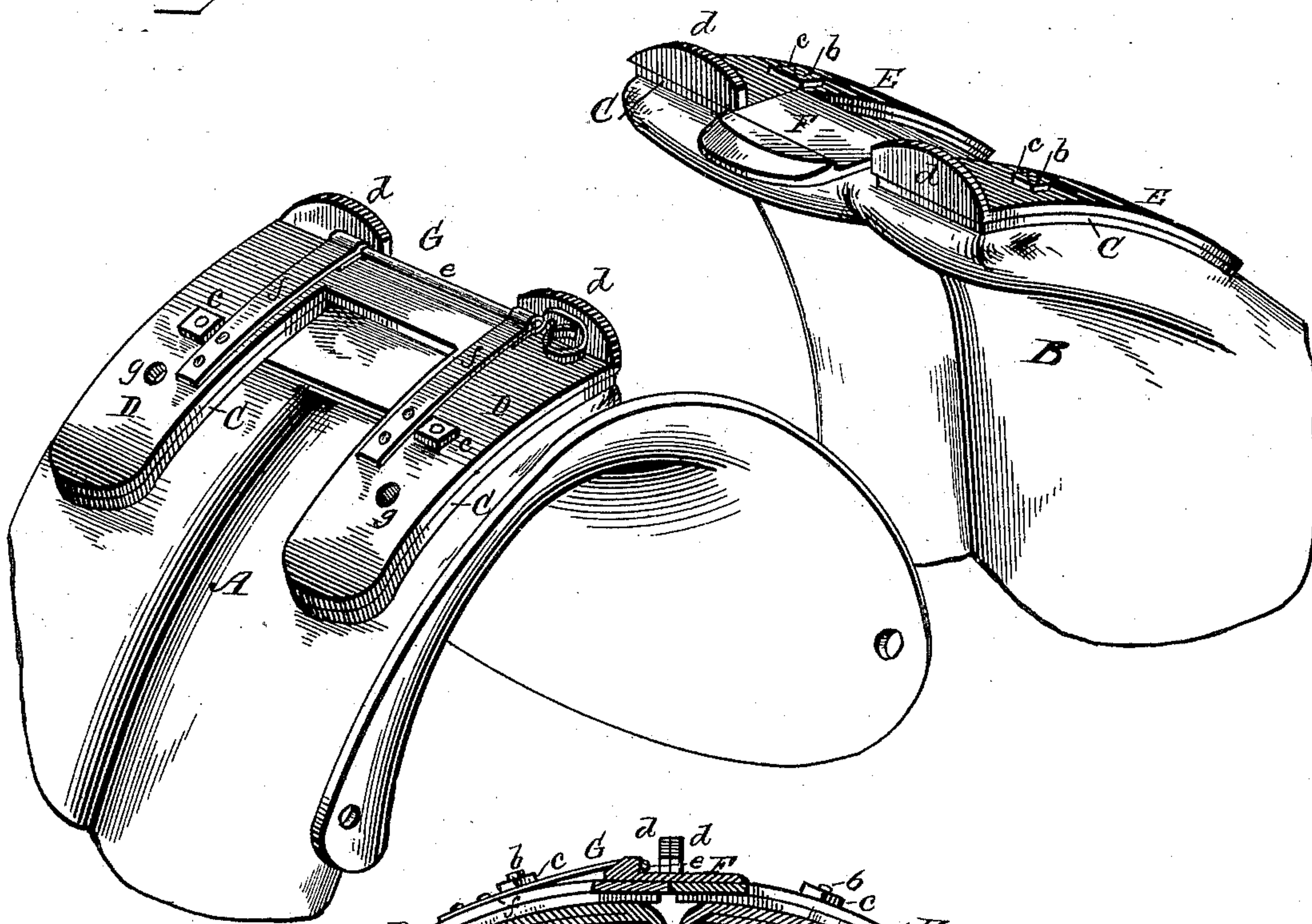


Fig. 2

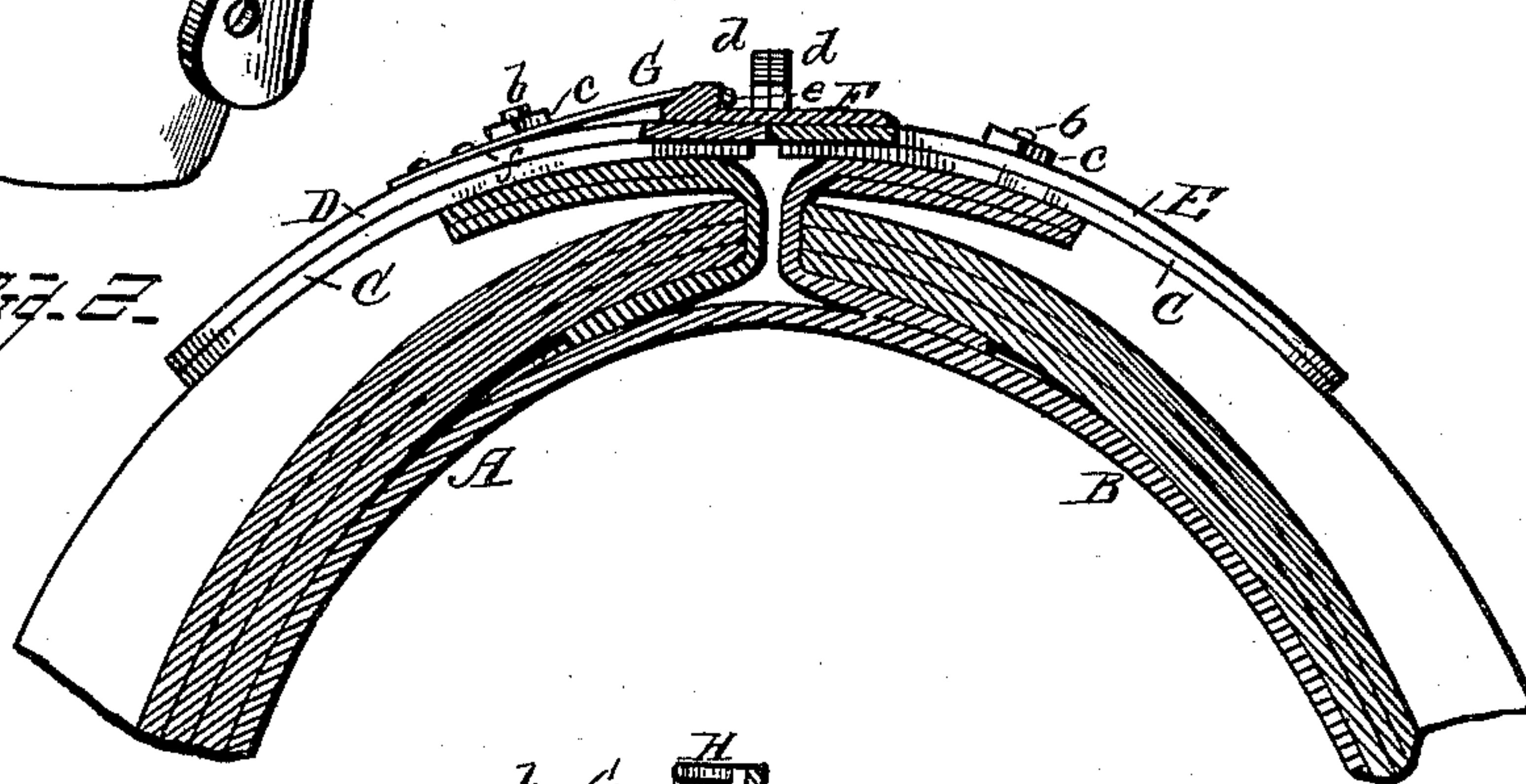


Fig. 3

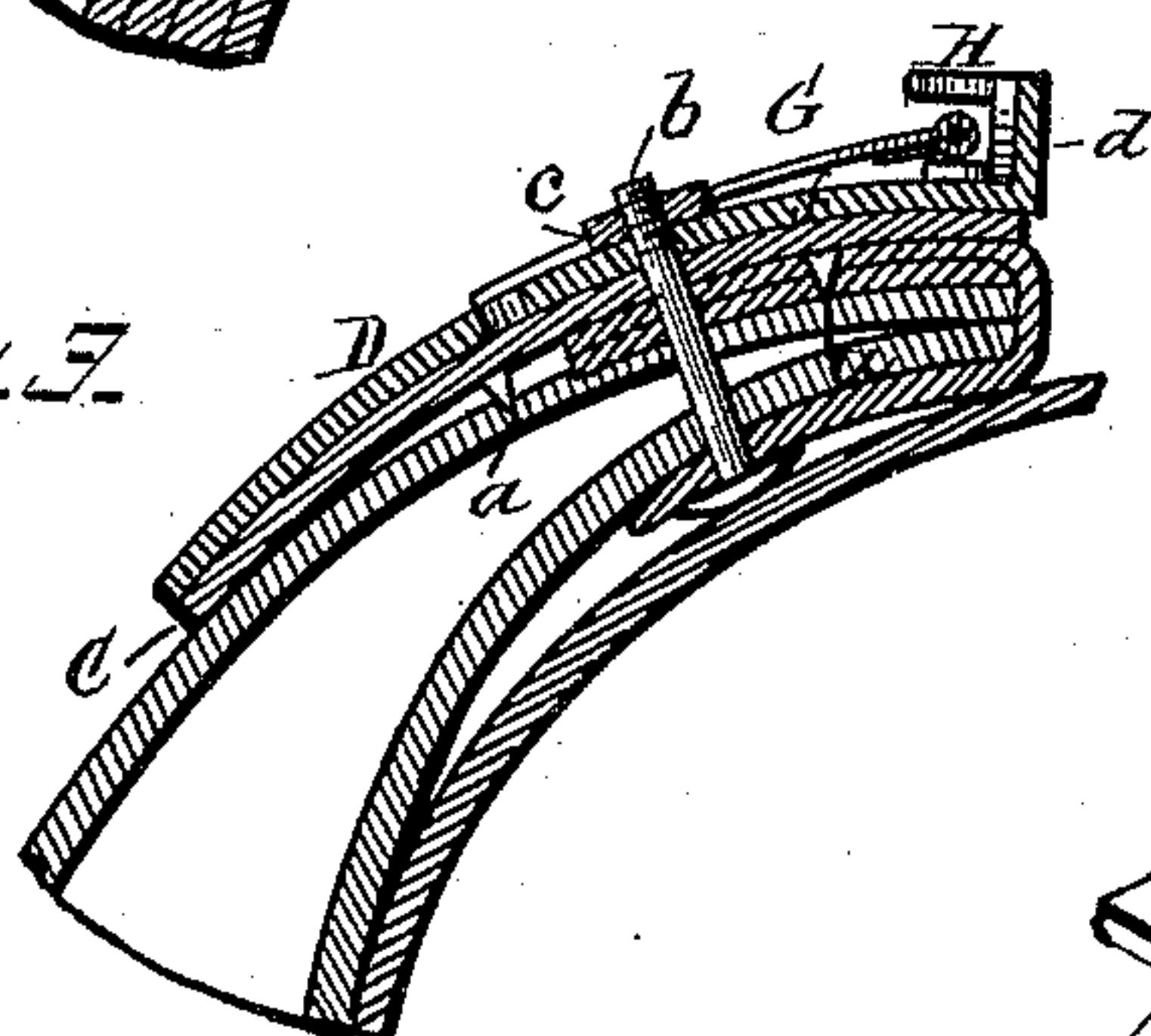
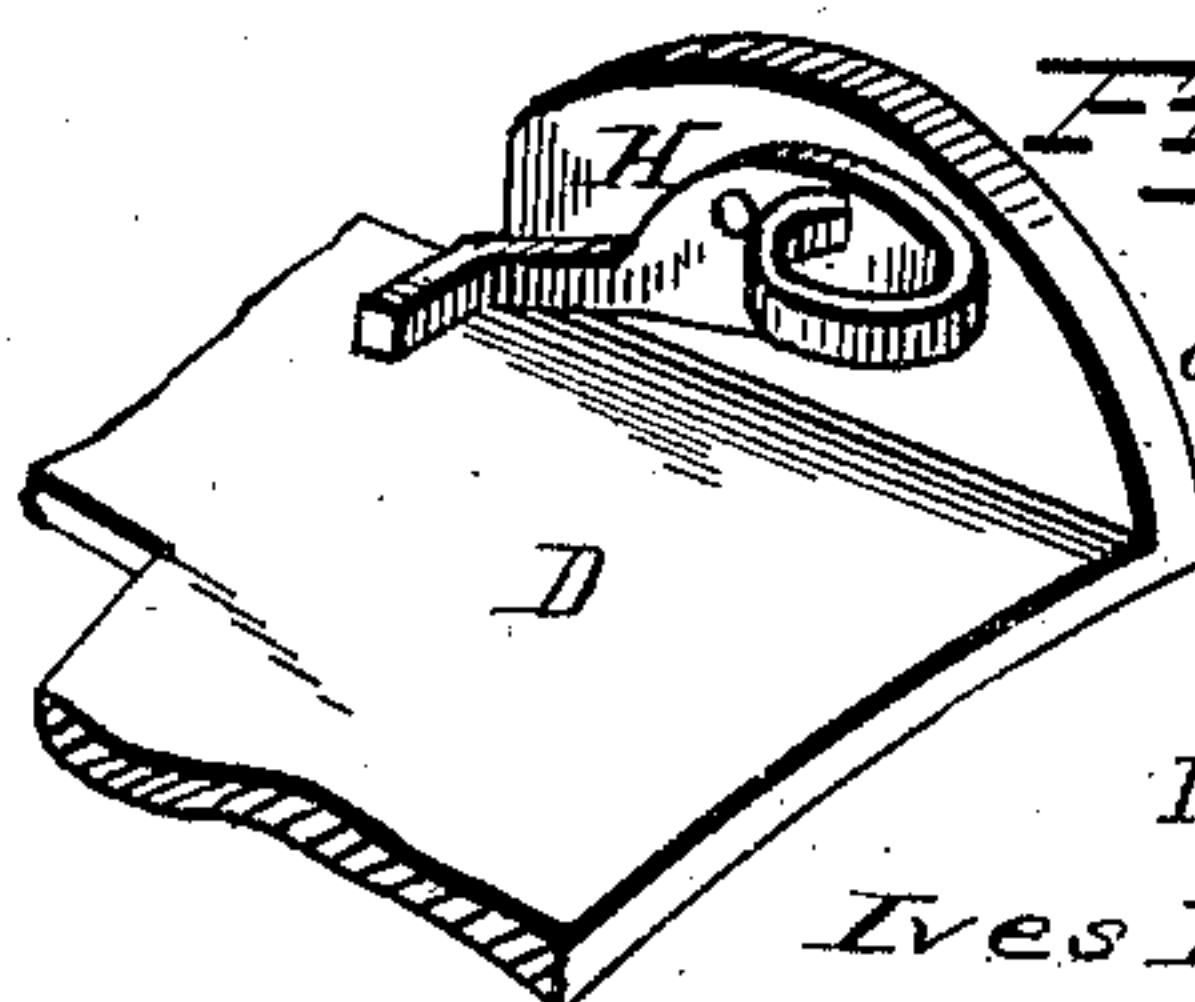


Fig. 4



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HORSE-COLLAR FASTENING.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 298,754, dated May 20, 1884.

Application filed March 15, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, IVES P. HOFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bainbridge, in the county of Chenango and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Collar Fastenings; 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 letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a perspective view showing the two ends of a horse-collar disconnected from each other and provided with my improved fastening; Fig. 2, a central section showing the two ends of the collar connected together; Fig. 3, a sectional view taken on line *xx* of Fig. 1; and Fig. 4, a detail view, in perspective, of the plate and lever connected thereto for elevating the spring-catch to disconnect the ends of the collar.

The present invention has relation to that class of horse-collar fastenings in which suitable plates are employed secured to the respective ends of the collar, one of said plates having a tongue and upright angular extensions, and the opposite plate having similar extensions and a spring-catch, with which the tongue engages for connecting the two ends of the collar together.

It is the object of the present invention to improve the construction of the above-mentioned class of devices, whereby the plates will be more effectually secured to the collar ends, and the employment of a second or re-enforce plate at each end of the collar, in connection with the several operating parts of the fastening, whereby a device is produced that will be better adapted for attachment to the collar, simple in its operation, and effective in its purpose. These objects I attain by the construction substantially as shown in the drawings, and hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, A B represent the two ends of a horse-collar of the usual form and construction. To the outer sides of the ends A B are secured base-plates C, each plate having on its under side spurs *a*, to enter the leather of the collar and prevent the plates from lateral displacement, and thus render them perfectly stationary. After the plates

C have thus been secured in place upon their respective collar ends, plates D E are placed over them, and held thereon by bolts *b*, extending up through the leather of the collar and through the plates, and fastened by nuts *c*, engaging the screw-threaded ends of the bolts. Any suitable fastenings, however, may be employed for securing the two plates together, and any form of bolts and nuts may be used in place of those shown, and, if preferred, the spurs can be on the under side of the plates D E, arranged to enter sockets or depressions in the upper side of the plates C. The plates D E are of substantially the form shown, and are each provided with upright or angular extensions *d*, to form stops for the plates when the two ends of the collar are brought together to be fastened, also greatly strengthening the joint where the collar is fastened. The plate E has a suitable tongue, F, to engage with a spring-catch, G, said catch consisting of a bar, *e*, connecting at each end with flat springs *f*, the springs at their opposite ends being riveted or otherwise connected to the plate D. The peculiar construction of this spring-catch renders it very effective in automatically engaging with the shouldered tongue on the opposite end of the collar, besides being very simple, as well as durable.

When it is required to unfasten the ends of the horse-collar, the spring-catch G is raised to a sufficient height to disengage the bar *e* with the tongue F. This I accomplish by a suitable lever, H, pivoted to one of the extensions *d* of the plate D, the inner extremity of the lever being at all times under the spring-catch G, and by pressing on the outer end of the lever it will elevate the inner end thereof, and with it the spring-catch. The lever H at its outer end is bent in such shape as to form a thumb-piece for operating it.

The expense of manufacturing a fastening device of the character described is but comparatively small, no material weight being added to the collar, and can be either made by suitable dies or constructed of malleable iron.

The plates D E have each a series of holes, *g*, either two or more, so that the bolts can enter either one of the holes, thus rendering the plates adjustable, as circumstances may require.

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

5 In a horse-collar fastening, the combination, with upper plates provided, respectively, with a suitable tongue, and a spring-catch and pivoted lever for operating it, of lower or base plates, and suitable spurs on either the upper or lower plates, and means for fastening

said plates on the collar, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

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

IVES P. HOFF.

Witnesses:

CHAS. S. HYND, S.
WILLIAM D. HOFF.