

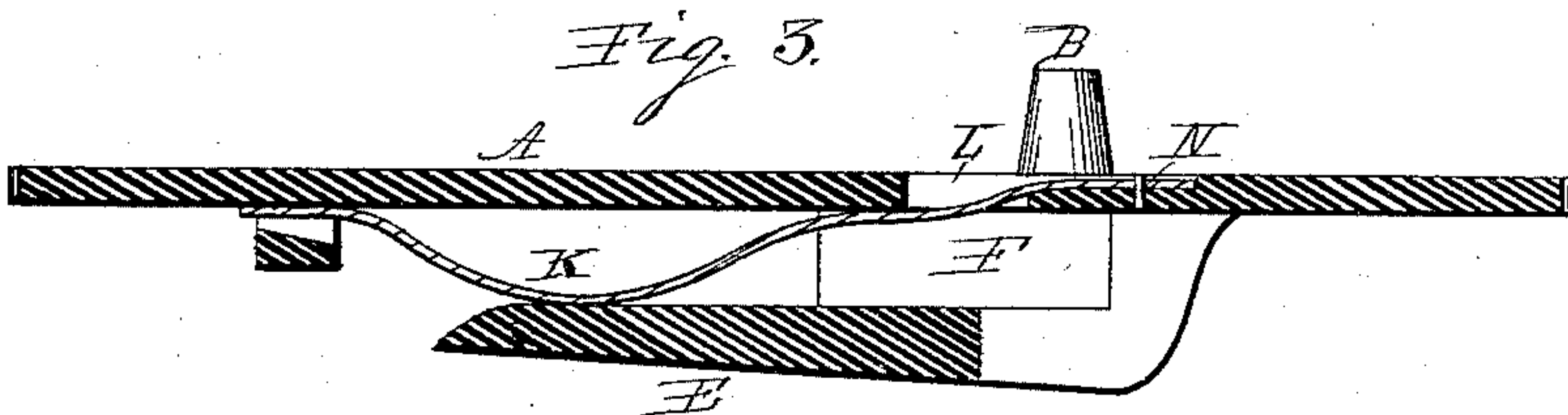
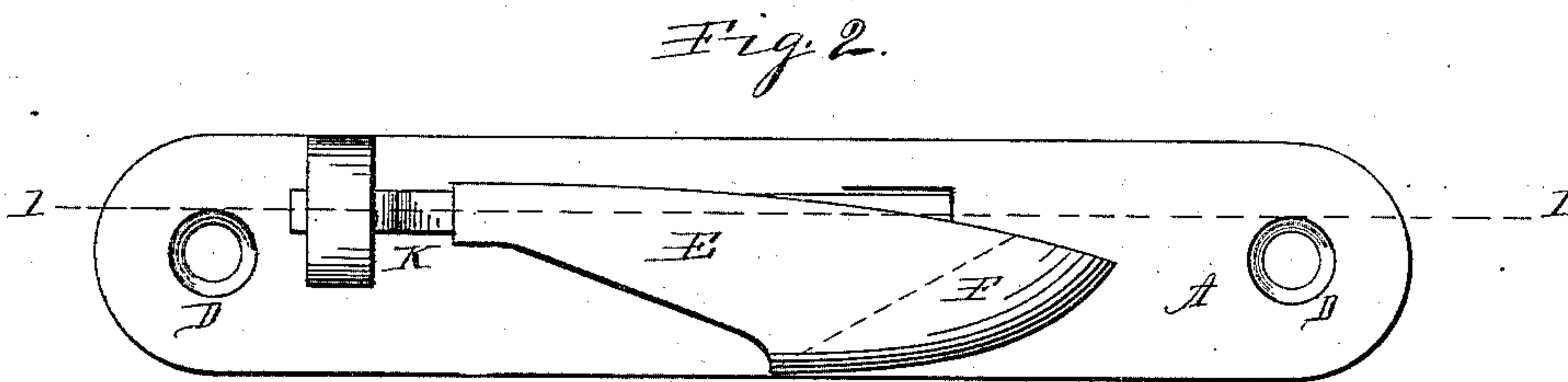
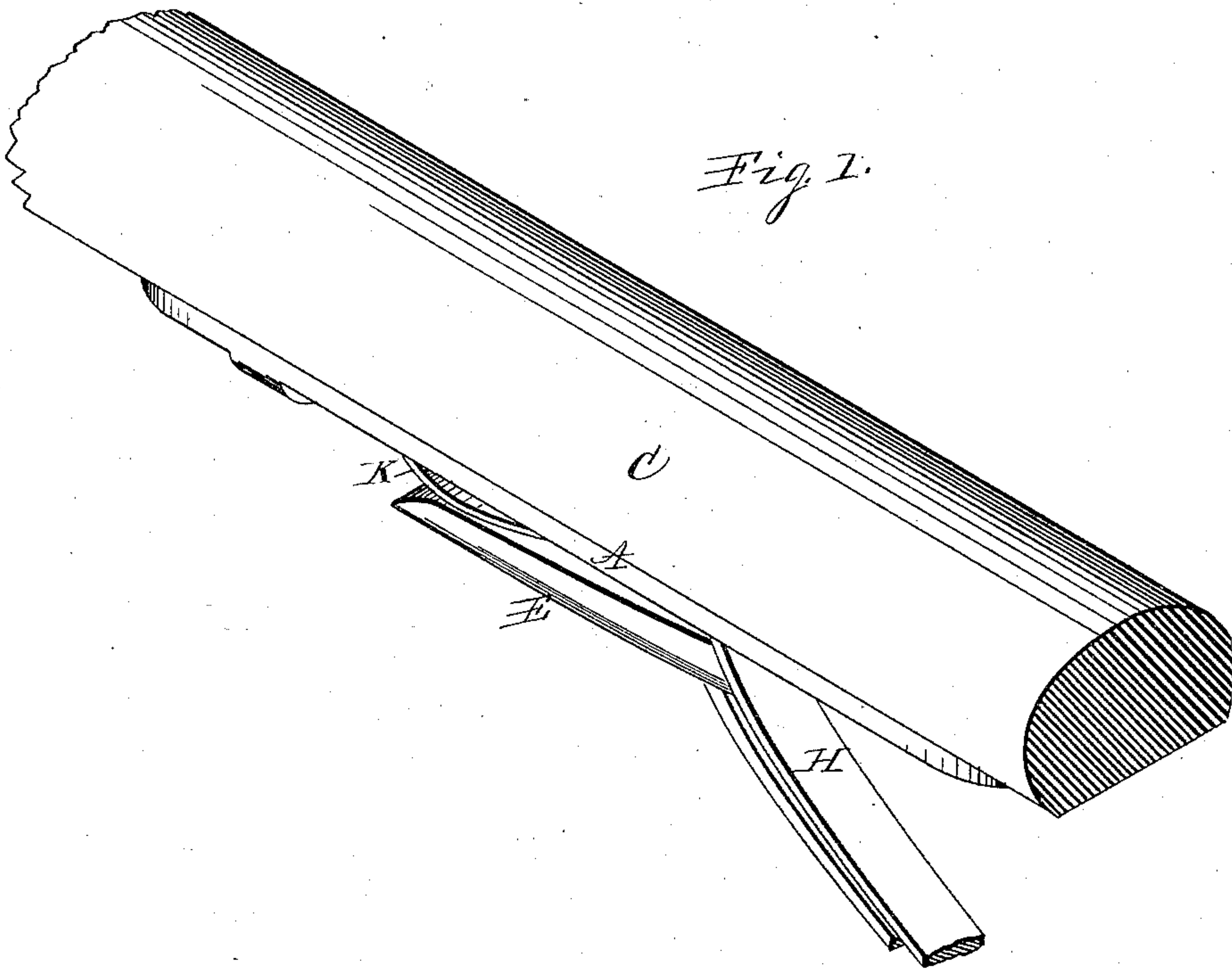
(No Model.)

G. R. SKINNER.

HOLDBACK IRON.

No. 319,334.

Patented June 2, 1885.



Witnesses,
C. F. Briggs
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE R. SKINNER, OF ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS.

HOLDBACK-IRON.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 319,334, dated June 2, 1885.

Application filed February 10, 1885. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE R. SKINNER, a citizen of the United States, residing in the city of Rockford, in the county of Winnebago and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Holdback-Iron, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to holdback-irons employed in connection with the thills of vehicles to receive the holdback-strap of the harness.

The object of this invention is to provide a holdback-iron to connect with the thills of a vehicle, and of a construction to readily receive and hold the holdback-strap of the harness securely, but in a manner to permit the horse to run from the thills when from any cause he becomes detached from the single-tree. To this end I have designed and constructed the holdback-iron represented in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is an isometrical representation of a portion of a thill with my improved holdback-iron in place thereon. Fig. 2 is an under face view of my improved holdback-iron, and Fig. 3 is a lengthwise section on dotted line 1 on Fig. 2.

My improved holdback-iron, the subject-matter of this specification, is preferably produced from cast-iron made malleable, and its base A is of plate form, fitted on its inner face with a stud, B, to enter a hole prepared for its reception in the under face of the thill of a vehicle, a portion of which is represented at C. Holes D are formed in the end portions of the base-plate to receive screws to fix it in place on the thills. On the outer face of plate A is formed a holdback-hook, consisting of a hook-arm, E, substantially parallel with the base-plate, but suitably separated therefrom to receive the back-strap by means of a base-support, F, connecting the rear end portion of the hook E with the base-plate. The base portion F in its connection with the base-plate is oblique thereto, inclined inward and rearward in the direction of the strain on the back-strap H, a portion of which is shown in position in the hook. The outer edge of the hook

E is oblique to the plate, to more nearly coincide with the angle of the fold in the loop of the back-strap of the harness. A plate-spring, K, is placed between the hook-arm E and base-plate A, and its rear end is passed through an opening, L, formed in the base-plate, and a rivet, N, passed through the parts serves to fix the spring in place, and its forward end is supported to slide endwise in a keeper formed on or in the base-plate. The central portion of the spring is curved outward to engage the forward end portion of the hook-arm E in a yielding manner, to permit the passage of the back-strap onto the hook-arm.

My improved holdback-irons are produced in pairs, to be fixed to the under face of the opposite thills, and in use the holdback-strap of the harness in its looped form is passed onto the hook-arm over its forward end, under the curved spring, and back of its contact-point with the hook, in which position the spring serves to prevent its accidental displacement, but permits its withdrawal from the hook-arm when the horse is disconnected from the single-tree.

My improved holdback-irons will be found convenient in harnessing and unharnessing animals to vehicles, and when from accident the animal becomes disconnected from the single-tree will be found an article of safety in permitting the animal to run from the thills.

I claim as my invention—

1. The herein-described holdback-iron, consisting, essentially, of a base-plate and a taper hook having an oblique base-connection with the base-plate, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A holdback-iron consisting of a base-plate and a hook connected obliquely to said base-plate to afford an inclined seat for the holdback-strap, said base-plate being provided with a spring-opening and a depending keeper, and a spring whose free end is adapted to slide in said keeper, substantially as set forth.

GEORGE R. SKINNER.

Witnesses:

JACOB BEHEL,
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