(No Model.)

H. SHANK & W. E. MEEK.

DEVICE FOR WEANING CALVES.

No. 332,293. Patented Dec. 15, 1885.

Fig. 1.

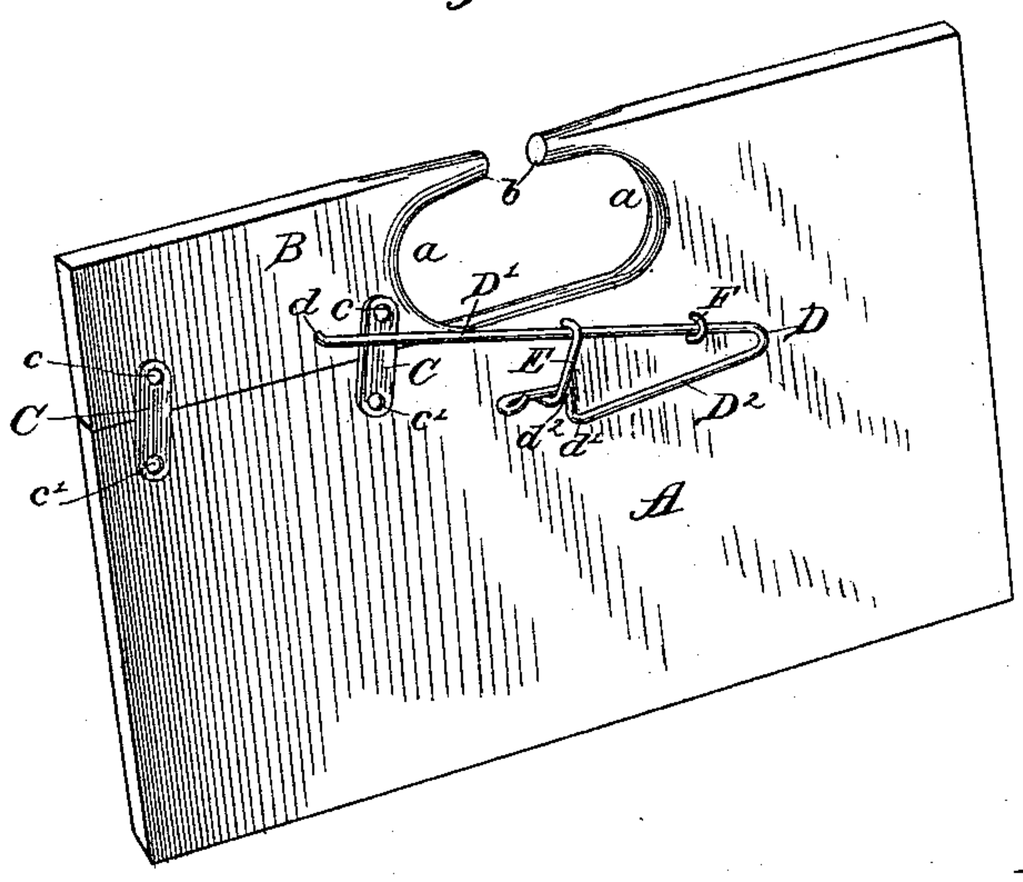


Fig. 2.

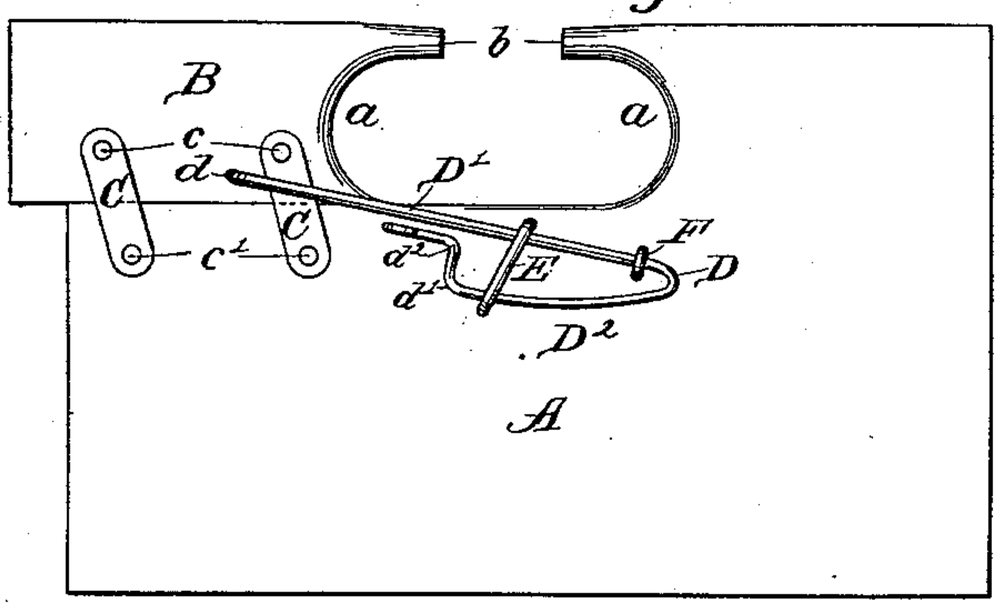


Fig. 4.

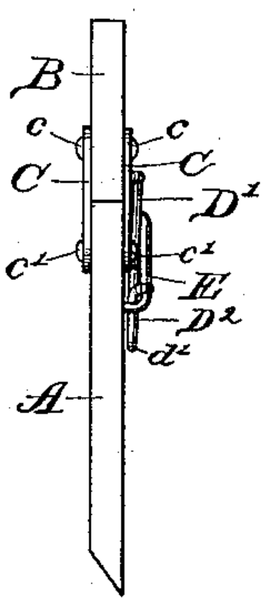
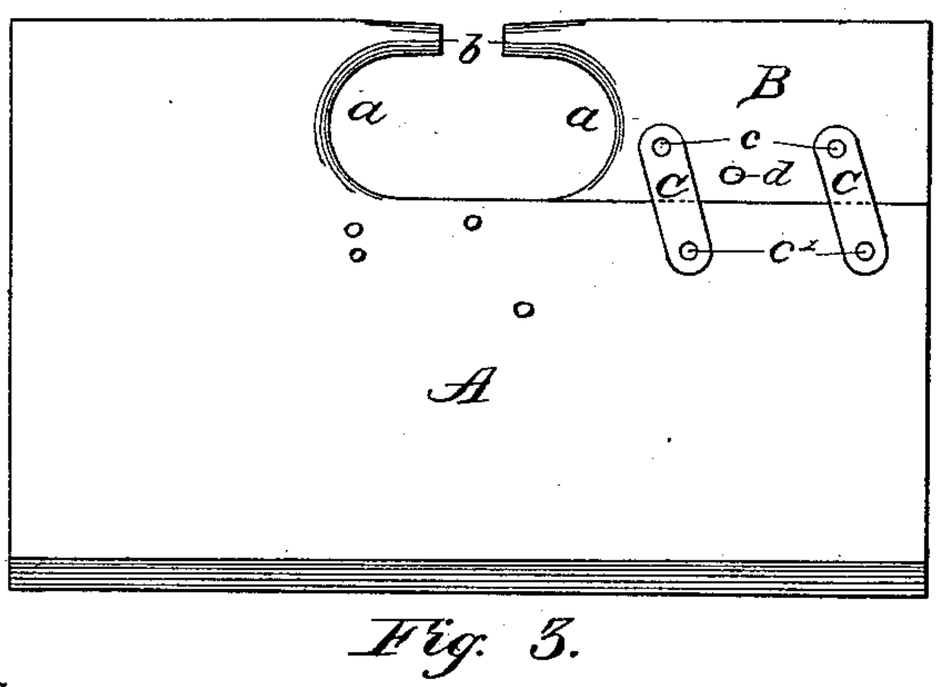


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR WEANING CALVES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 332,293, dated December 15, 1885.

Application filed August 13, 1885. Serial No. 174,330. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY SHANK and WILLIAM E. MEEK, citizens of the United States, residing at Colorado Springs, in the county of El Paso and State of Colorado, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Devices for Weaning Calves, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

Our invention has relation to improvements in devices for weaning calves and the like; and the novelty consists in the peculiar construction, combination, and arrangement of the various parts for service, substantially as hereinafter fully set forth, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

The object of our invention is to provide a calf-weaner which shall be simple, strong, and durable in construction, effective in operation, capable of quick and ready attachment to and removable from the nose of an animal or calf, and cheap of manufacture.

In the drawings hereto annexed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved device for weaning animals or calves. Fig. 2 is an elevation showing the jaws of the device extended in position for clamping the device upon the animal's nose. Fig. 3 is an opposite side view, and Fig. 4 is an end view.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring to the drawings, A designates the body-piece, and B the sliding block or plate, each of which is cut away, as at *a a*, to provide two jaws, *b b*, which are separated a short distance, and are adapted to clasp the device upon the nose of the animal or calf in a plane above the mouth, to permit the animal to drink and eat without hinderance from the device. The cut-away portion of the body-piece extends from the jaw to one side thereof, and provides a bearing for the block, which slides back and forth thereon, and is pivoted to the body-piece by means of links C C, two being arranged on each side and at each end thereof, each of said links being pivoted at its upper end to the sliding jaw, as at *c*, and at its lower end to the body-piece, as at *c'*, thus securely connecting the block B to the body piece or plate A against displacement, while permitting it to have a limited back-and-forth movement. The links or plates C are preferably made flat, as shown, and are adapted to lie snugly against the faces of the sliding block B and plate A.

D designates a spring for normally holding the sliding block B in its closed position for retaining the device upon the animal's nose, said spring comprising two arms, D' D^2, preferably made of springy wire, and bent as shown, to provide or form said arms. The longer arm, D', of the spring is connected at its front end to the sliding block by being bent to form a nib or spur, *d*, fitting in an aperture in said block near its lower end, and passing therethrough, on the opposite side of which it is clinched or headed down. The opposite or rear end of the arm passes under a guide, E, and a little beyond said guide it passes through a staple, F, which holds the device from displacement. The arm extends transversely across the faces of the block and body-piece from one to the other in an inclined position, and the rear end thereof, where it is bent, is arranged below and beyond the inner edge of the cut-away portion of the body piece or plate A. The shorter arm, D^2, is arranged or bent at an acute angle to the arm D', and at its front end it is bent abruptly or at right angles, as at *d'*, to form a vertical arm, and then bent again, as at d^2, to form a horizontal arm, the extreme outer end of which is bent to provide a shoulder or nib, by means of which the arm of the spring is elevated by hand to clear the guide E and allow the block to slide forward to separate the jaws of the device to clamp it upon the nose of an animal or calf. The staple F embraces the arm D' of the spring to keep it in position, and is secured at its lower ends in the body piece or plate, while the guide E embraces both arms of the spring, as shown, and preferably consists of a wire rod bent at right angles at both ends and secured within the body-piece, as shown. The upper end of the guide E fits within the bent portion of the free end of the arm D^2, and serves to retain that arm of the spring in position when the two jaws of the device are closed, the bent portion or arm *d'* of said spring abutting against the guide and preventing the block from sliding or locking it in position.

When it is desired to open the jaws of the device to secure or clamp it in position on the nose and above the plane of the mouth of the animal, to permit it to drink and eat freely without hinderance from the plate A, and yet prevent it from suckling, the bent end of the free arm D^2 of the spring D is elevated by hand out of contact with the staple or guide E, and the block B pushed forward, thus drawing the spring bodily with it and causing the lower arm, D^2, to rest upon the guide E, as shown in Fig. 2, when the jaws are fitted over the nose and the block B moved to its closed position, which forces the arm *d'* of the spring D into engagement with the guide E.

A device constructed in accordance with our invention just described is extremely simple, strong, and durable in construction, efficient in operation, cheap of manufacture, and accommodates itself to noses of different sizes.

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

1. In a device for weaning calves, the combination of a body-piece having a rigid jaw formed therewith, a block pivotally connected to the body-piece and adapted to slide thereon, and a spring having two arms, one connected to the sliding block and the other free to slide upon the body-piece and exerting pressure on said block to hold it normally in its closed position, substantially as described.

2. In a device for weaning calves, the combination of a body-piece having a cut-away portion to form a jaw, *b*, a block, B, adapted to slide on the body-piece A, and carrying a jaw, *b'*, links C, pivotally connected to the block and body-piece, a spring, D, having two arms, D' D^2, and a guide, E, substantially as and for the purpose described.

3. In a device for weaning calves, the combination of a body-piece having a rigid jaw, a block, B, provided with a similar jaw mounted on the said body-piece and pivotally connected thereto, a spring having two arms, the longer, D', thereof being connected at its forward end to the block B and held to slide in an inclined position upon the body-piece by the staple F, the shorter arm, D^2, thereof being bent to provide a catch, *d'*, and a finger-piece, d^2, and a guide, E, attached to the body-piece and embracing the arms of the said spring, substantially as described.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY SHANK.
WILLIAM EDGAR MEEK.

Witnesses:
DAVID WEBSTER,
JOHN PIXLEY.