

(No Model.)

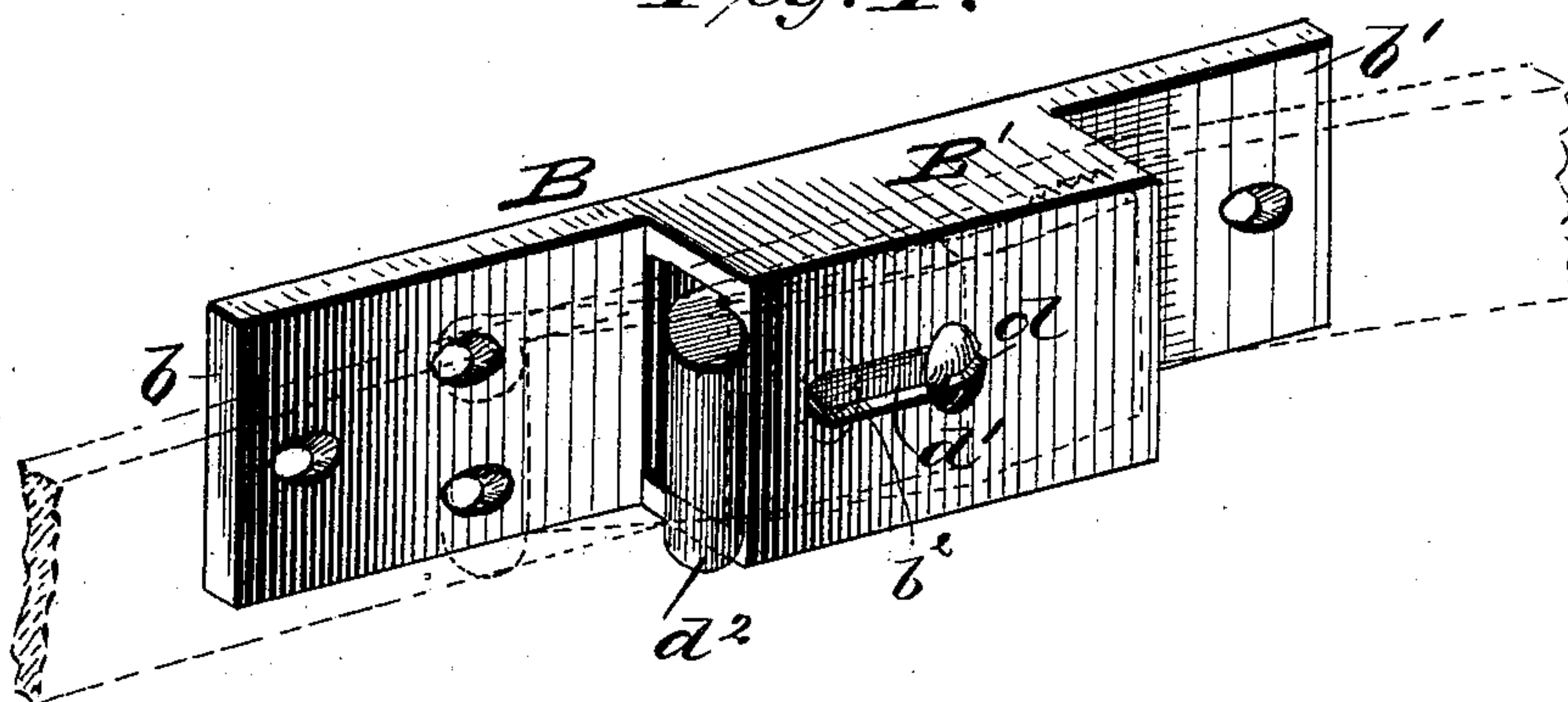
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HOLDBACK.

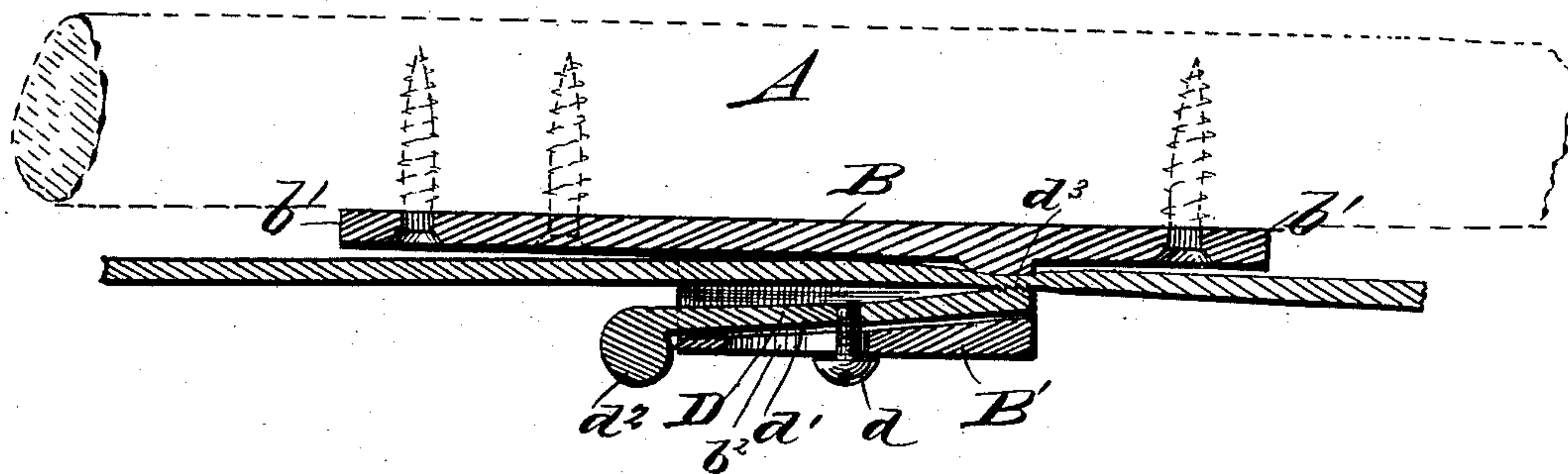
No. 387,398.

Patented Aug. 7, 1888.

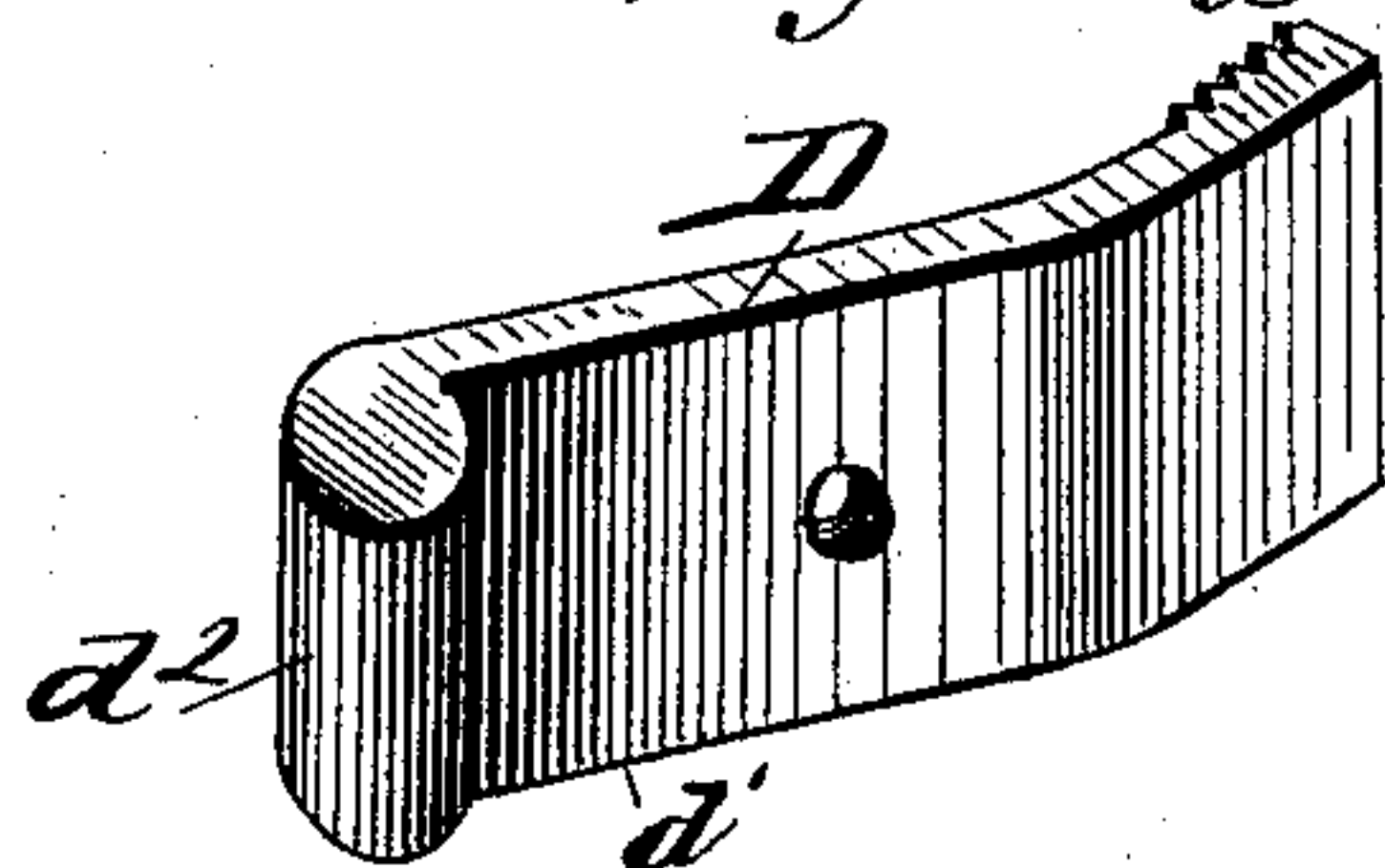
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3. a3*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM CORCORAN, OF COPENHAGEN, NEW YORK.

## HOLDBACK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 387,398, dated August 7, 1888.

Application filed February 7, 1888. Serial No. 263,287. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM CORCORAN, of Copenhagen, in the county of Lewis and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Holdback-Strap Fastener, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to an improvement in a safety-fastener for holdback-straps, and has for its object to provide a means of detachably securing the holdback-strap in connection with the shafts, whereby, should the traces become loose or the whiffletree break, the shafts will not become entangled with the harness.

The invention consists in the construction and combination of the several parts, as will be herein fully set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section thereof, and Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of the clamping-tongue.

In carrying out the invention, A represents one member of the shafts, to the inner side of which the fastener is secured. The said fastener consists of a rectangular plate, B, the forward end,  $b$ , of which is represented as pierced for three screws, and the rear end,  $b'$ , for a single screw, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

About centrally the outer face a rectangular inclosure or housing,  $B'$ , is produced, open at both ends, and provided upon the inner side with a longitudinal slot,  $b^2$ .

Within the housing an angular tongue, D, is held to slide by means of a screw,  $d$ , passing through the slot  $b^2$  and into the tongue, as shown in Fig. 2. That portion of the tongue  $d'$  which is essentially horizontal projects from the front or forward end of the housing, and at its extremity is provided with a transverse semi-cylindrical projection,  $d^2$ , which, together with the screw and slot, limits the rearward throw of the tongue.

The outwardly-inclined member of the tongue, which is designed to bear against the surface of the plate, is provided upon said bearing-surface with a series of transversely-arranged teeth,  $d^3$ , adapted to engage and hold the strap.

In order to permit play of the tongue in the housing to clamp and unclamp a strap, the inner face of the inner side is inclined from front to rear, as illustrated in Fig. 2.

The strap E is entered from the front or widest end of the device, and as it is drawn upon from the opposite end it is clamped and securely held by engagement with the teeth, and the more strain that is brought upon said strap serves only to draw the tongue down the incline of the housing and cause the tongue to hold the strap firmer.

To release the strap it is only necessary to draw the tongue outward at the front end.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a holdback-iron comprising the attaching-plate provided with the housing  $B'$ , open at both ends, and having a longitudinal slot,  $b^2$ , the tongue D, sliding freely in said housing, and formed with teeth  $d^3$  at its inner end and with the projection  $d^2$  at its outer end, and the screw  $d$ , passed through the housing-slot into the said tongue, substantially as set forth.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, the holdback-iron comprising the attaching-plate B, having a slotted housing,  $B'$ , open at both ends, the inner surface of one wall of the housing being gradually inclined to contract the opening at its rear end, the angular tongue D, sliding in said housing and having the teeth  $d^3$  on the inner face of its inner end, and the screw  $d$ , passed through the housing into the tongue, substantially as set forth.

WILLIAM CORCORAN.

Witnesses:

JOHN CORCORAN,  
W. O. MENDER.