

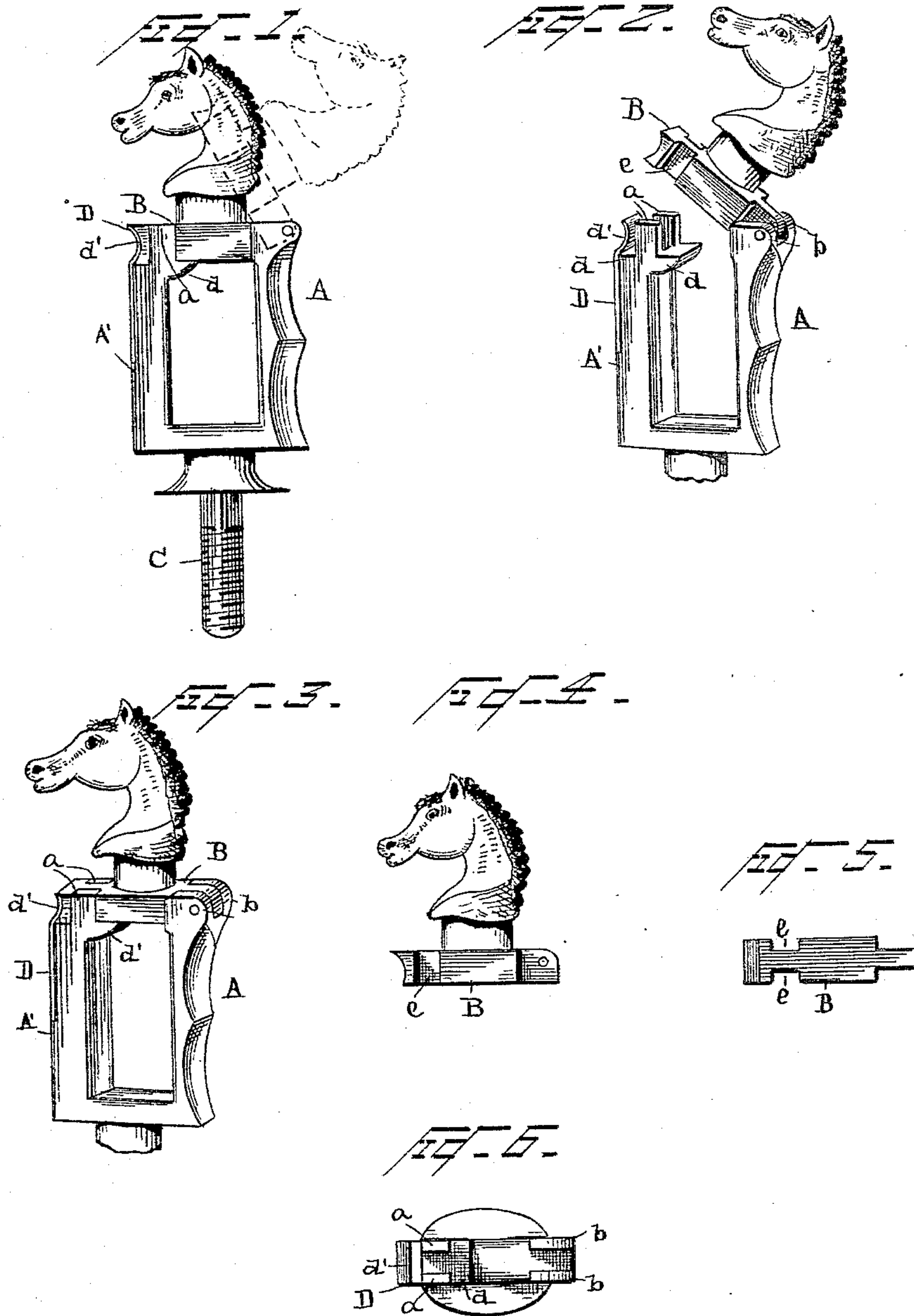
(No Model.)

J. S. MATCHETTE.

CHECK HOOK.

No. 387,983.

Patented Aug. 14, 1888.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CHECK-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 387,983, dated August 14, 1888.

Application filed March 22, 1888. Serial No. 268,153. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES S. MATCHETTE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sherman, in the county of Grayson and State of Texas, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Check-Hooks; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to a check-hook for harness, and has for its object the construction of a check-hook that will be ornamental, and which will have a movable cross-bar at the top of the frame to permit the ready attachment and detachment of the checkrein, and which will hold said cross-bar against lateral displacement when the said cross-bar is closed.

The improvement consists, chiefly, of the novel means for fastening the cross bar, whereby it also serves as a brace and prevents any spreading of the frame in the event of any abnormal strain on the checkrein.

The improvement also consists in the novel features hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and shown in the drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of the check-hook, showing by dotted lines the cross-bar thrown back; Fig. 2, a perspective view of the upper portion of the check-hook, showing the cross-bar opened or thrown up a short distance; Fig. 3, a perspective view similar to Fig. 2, but showing the cross-bar closed; Fig. 4, a side view of the cross-bar detached from the frame; Fig. 5, a bottom plan view of the cross-bar, and Fig. 6 a top view of the frame.

The check-hook, properly speaking, is composed of the frame A and the cross-bar B. The frame is U-shaped, and is provided at its lower end with the threaded shank C, by which it is secured to the saddle in the usual manner. The vertical branches of the frame have lugs *a a* and *b b*. The lugs *a a* are not in line with the vertical branch A', and have a ledge, *d*, in the front and in the rear thereof for the cross-bar B to rest on when it is closed. The spring D, fitted in a recess in the front of the

branch A', and fastened at its lower end to the said branch A', has its upper end, which extends above the ledge *d*, curved inwardly at *d'*, to engage with and lock the cross-bar.

The cross-bar B is pivoted at one end between the lugs *b b*, and is provided with depression *e* near its other end. These depressions *e* are in the sides of the cross-bar and receive the lugs *a*. The outer end of the cross-bar is depressed or curved inwardly to receive the end of the spring D, which locks it down. By having the lugs *a* fitting in the depressions *e* of the cross-bar and the cross-bar secured by a pivotal connection at its opposite end the frame cannot possibly spread under abnormal strain, because the cross-bar spans the two branches and is securely fastened at its end to each.

The check-rein can be adjusted or removed from the check-hook by the throwing up of the cross-bar, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1 and full lines in Fig. 2. To facilitate the operation of moving the cross-bar, a thumb-piece, E, is provided, which is integral therewith, and which, for the sake of ornamentation, is fashioned after the pattern of a horse's head.

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

1. In a check-hook, the combination, with the frame having the lugs *a a* and the spring, of the cross-bar pivoted at one end and having side depressions near its other end to receive the said lugs, and having its end adapted to be engaged by the said spring, substantially as described.

2. The herein shown and described check-hook, composed of the U-shaped frame having a threaded stem projecting from its lower end, and having the lugs *a a* and *b b* extending from its vertical branches, the spring D, and the cross-bar pivoted at one end between the lugs *b b*, and having side depressions near its other end to receive the lugs *a a*, and having its end adapted to be engaged by the spring D, and provided with the thumb-piece or horse-head E, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES S. MATCHETTE.

Witnesses:

WM. SMITH,  
C. S. SMITH.