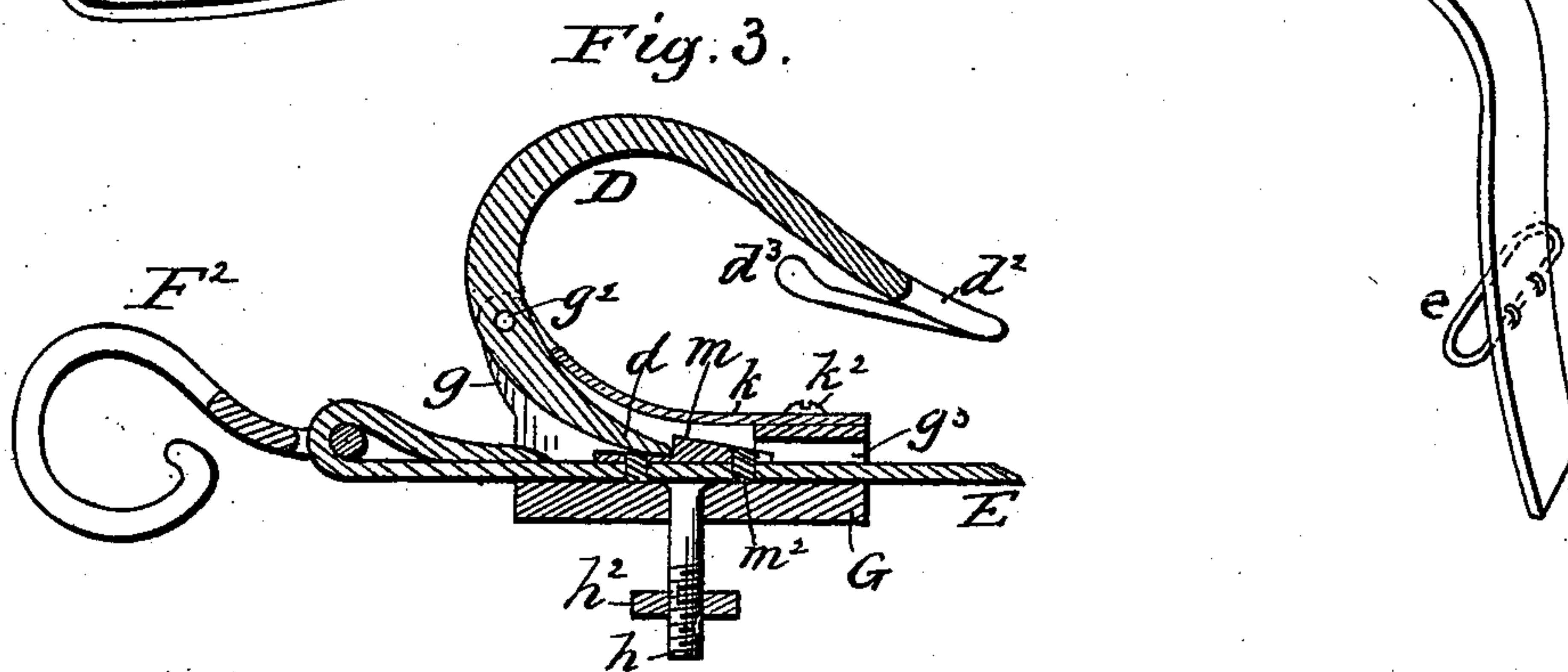
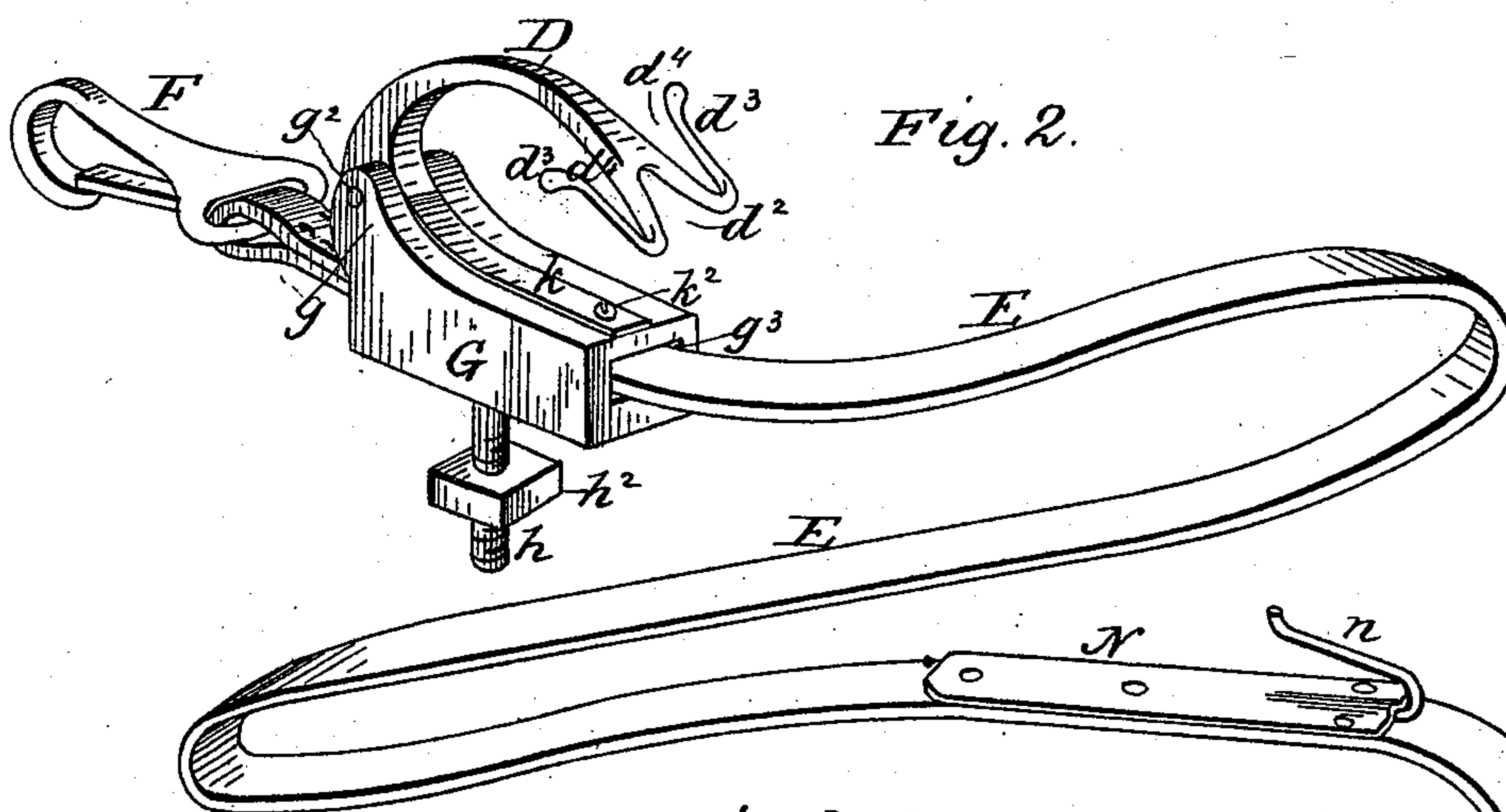
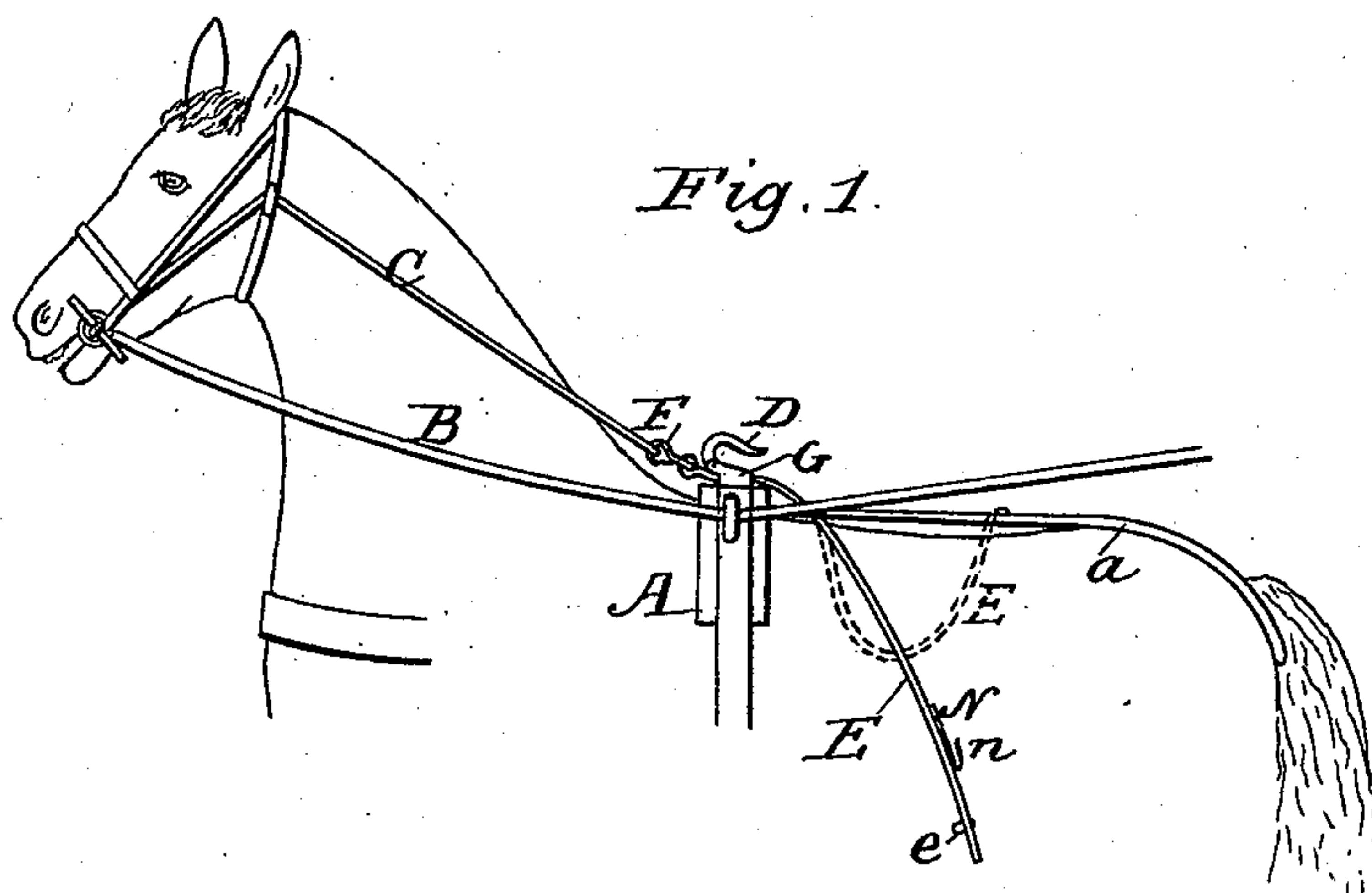


(No Model.)

C. C. WHEELER.
HORSE CHECKING OR UNCHECKING DEVICE.

No. 528,577.

Patented Nov. 6, 1894.



WITNESSES

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CLAUD C. WHEELER, OF FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA.

HORSE CHECKING OR UNCHECKING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,577, dated November 6, 1894.

Application filed September 1, 1894. Serial No. 521,887. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CLAUD C. WHEELER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fairmont, in the county of Marion, State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Checking or Unchecking Devices, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

10 The objects of this invention are to furnish simple devices by which a horse may be reined up or unreined without the necessity of his driver getting out of the vehicle; and the invention consists in the construction and arrangement of parts as will be hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims.

20 In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents in side view the upper portion of a horse partly harnessed and provided with a check rein connected with his saddle in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the check rein retaining devices detached from the saddle and from the check rein. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section of the main portion of said devices.

25 In said drawings, A represents a harness saddle of any suitable form to which is attached the crupper strap α . The driving reins B pass through the terrets of the saddle as usual.

30 When my checking and unchecking device is to be used while the horse is driven, the check rein C is not placed within the loop of the check-hook D, but is placed in engagement with one end of a small strap E, preferably by placing it within the hooked end of a snap hook F, Fig. 2, or within the hooked end of a plain hook F², Fig. 3, secured to said end of the strap E, but the lower or inner end d of the hook D is used to latch the strap E to the saddle while the horse is traveling. For this purpose the checking lever or hook D is placed between two lugs g projecting upward from the front end of a substantially rectangular hollow frame G and is pivoted to said lugs at g^2 . Within the frame G there is a rectangular opening g^3 for the passage of the strap E, the latter resting upon the bottom or floor of said opening. Projecting from the central portion of the bottom of the frame G there is a bolt h by means of which and of

the nut h^2 upon said bolt, the frame G is secured to the frame of the saddle A.

To keep the lower end d of the hook D normally pressed upon the strap E, although the weight of its upper rear end will generally accomplish the object, one end of a flat spring k is made to bear upon the top of said end d . The opposite end of said spring is secured at k^2 to the top or ceiling of the opening g^3 in the frame G. To keep the lower end d of the hook D normally in engagement with the strap E, the latter has secured upon its top by means of rivets m^2 a small plate m having across its top a vertical shoulder for engagement with the end d of the hook.

To permit the driver of the vehicle to uncheck the horse when he reaches a water trough or a pasture, by means of his whip, that generally has an enlargement or a knot at the point where the lash is attached to the end of the whip stock, the back point of the hook D is slotted at d^2 and has two branches d^3 bent forward and outwardly to form slots d^4 in which the driver can easily insert the end of his whip, and when in engagement therein, lift said back points of the hook D and release the end d from engagement with the shoulder on the plate m of the strap E. The horse promptly feeling the release of his check rein, will extend his neck forward and downward, and draw the strap E through the opening g^3 of the frame G until the front end of a plate N secured on top of the rear portion of said strap E arrests it. To the rear end of the plate N is secured a hook n that projects upward and forward to receive and enter into engagement with the whip of the driver when the latter inserts it within said hook to draw the strap E backward again to latch the check rein at the same time that he pulls steadily upon the driving reins B to elevate the head of the horse. The plate N not only forms at one end a stop against the point d of the hook D and at the opposite end retains the hook n , but it causes the strap E to be rigid; and when it has entered the opening g^3 it always presents the hook n in an upward position for the easy reception of the end of the whip of the driver.

When the horse is checked the rear end of the strap E can be left hanging down upon the back of the horse as shown in full lines in

Fig. 1, but said end of the strap is provided on the under side with a keeper that may be of wire as shown at *e* to receive loosely the crupper strap *a* and occupy a position as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1.

It is evident that the hook D can be slightly modified in appearance and ornamented on top without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim—

1. In a checking and unchecking device the combination of a harness saddle, a chambered frame G secured thereto, and a lever D pivoted to its front end and having its lower end within said frame and its upper end provided with a branch *d*³ on one side thereof, with a strap E having a shouldered plate *m* secured to the top of its front portion substantially as described.

2. In a checking and unchecking device the combination of a harness saddle, a chambered frame G secured thereto, a lever D pivoted to its front end and having its lower end within said frame, and a spring *k* having one end secured to said frame and the opposite end pressing upon said lower end of the lever D, with a strap E having a shouldered plate *m* secured

to the top of its front portion substantially as described.

3. In a checking and unchecking device the combination of a harness saddle, a chambered frame G secured thereto, a lever D pivoted to its front end and having its lower end *d* within said frame, with a strap E having a shouldered plate *m* secured to the top of its front portion, and a plate N having a hook *n* and secured to the top of the rear portion of said strap substantially as described.

4. In a checking and unchecking device the combination of a harness saddle, a chambered frame secured thereto, a lever D pivoted to its front end and having its lower end *d* within said frame, with a strap E having a shouldered plate *m* secured to the top of its front portion, a plate N having a hook *n* and secured to the top of the rear portion of said strap and a loop *e* secured to said strap in the rear of the plate N substantially as described.

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

CLAUD C. WHEELER.

Witnesses:

G. M. ALEXANDER,
J. E. MORGAN.