

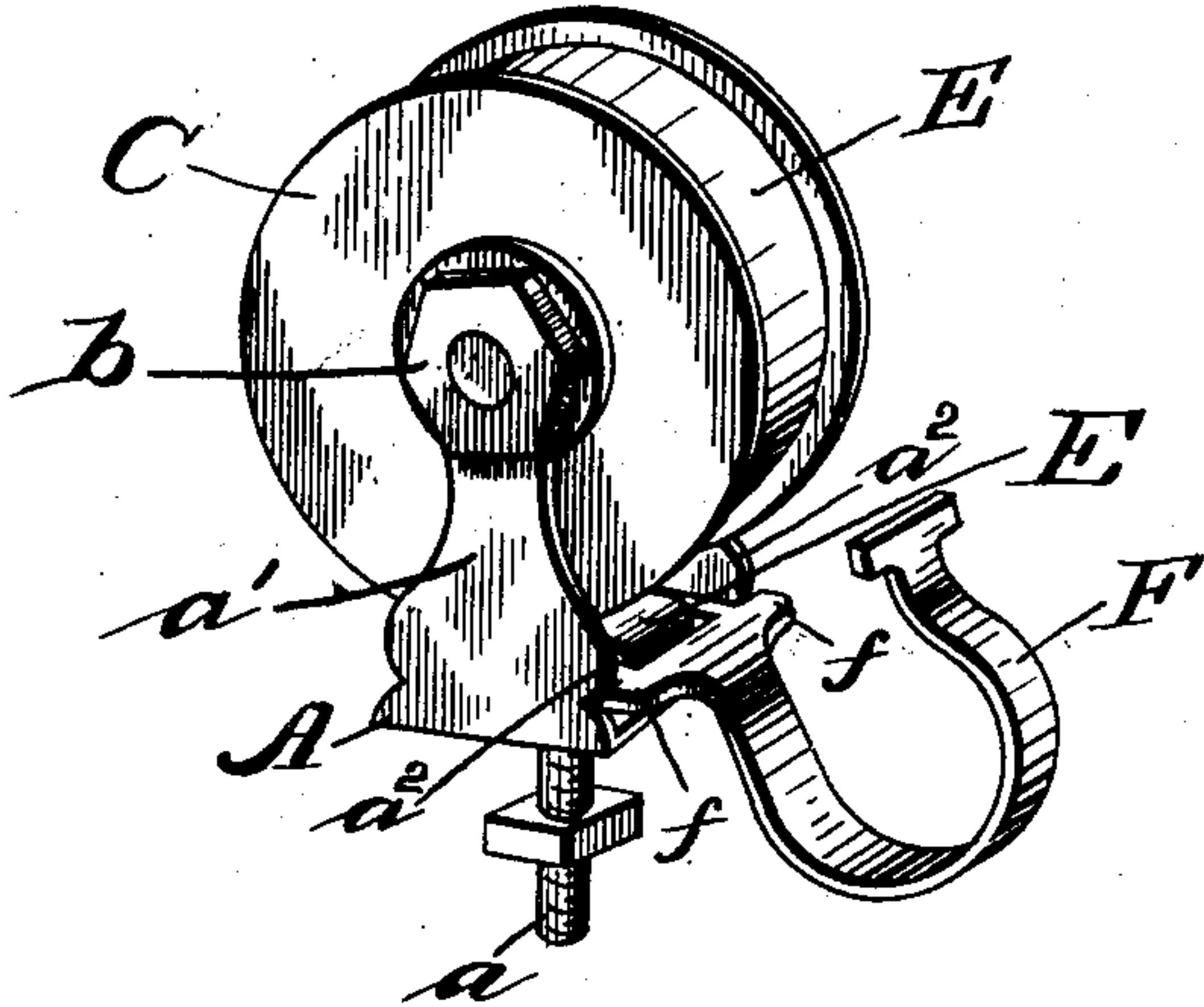
No. 733,903.

PATENTED JULY 14, 1903.

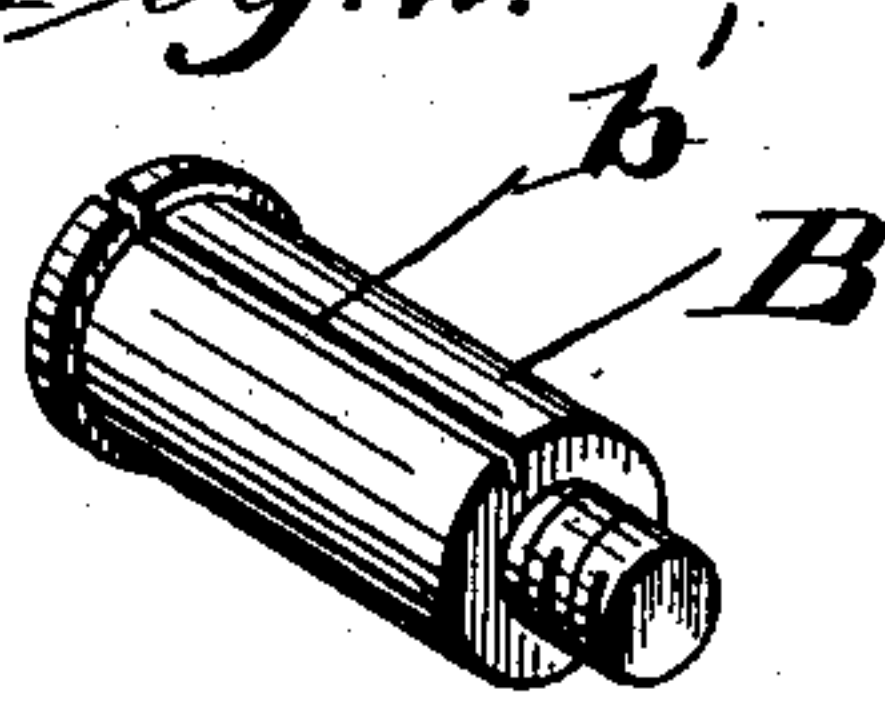
F. CLARK.  
SPRING CHECK HOOK.  
APPLICATION FILED NOV. 10, 1902.

NO MODEL.

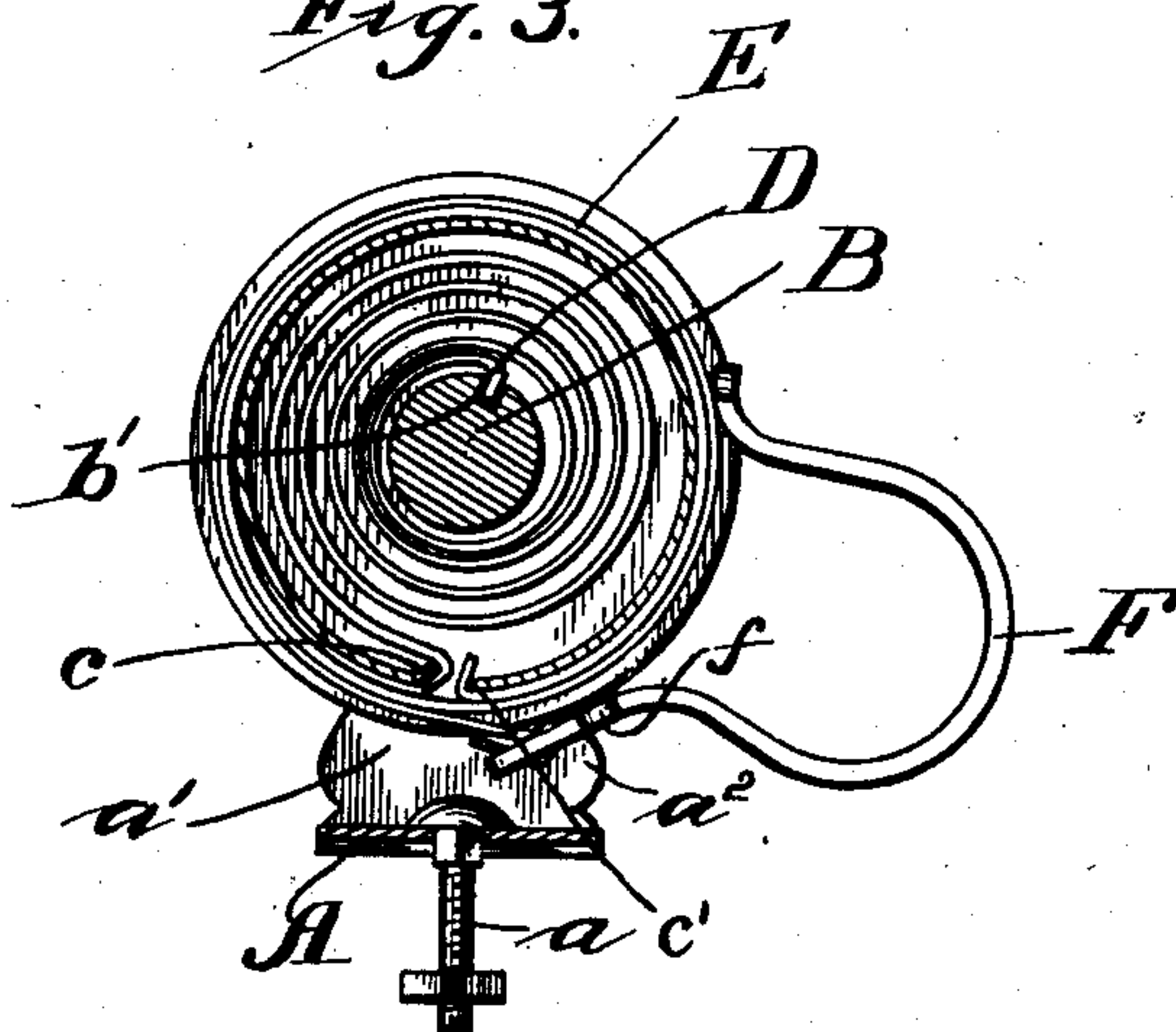
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



Inventor

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By

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Witnesses

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## SPRING CHECK-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 733,903, dated July 14, 1903.

Application filed November 10, 1902. Serial No. 130,767. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, FREDERICK CLARK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Minneapolis, in the county of Hennepin and State of Minnesota, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Spring Check-Hooks, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to checking devices for horses; and the principal object had in view is to provide a device of this character which will avoid any liability of the breaking of the checkrein or cutting of the animal's mouth that otherwise might arise in case of stumbling or the like.

A further object is to provide the check with a hook which will remain open or closed, as may be desired. The improved check comprises a barrel or casing provided with a central coil-spring of considerable power or tension, with a second spring or band of less tension encircling the outside periphery of the barrel or casing and attached at one end thereto, the other end of said second spring or band having a hook hinged or otherwise movably connected with it, and said barrel or casing being revolubly mounted in standards or supports which have offsets that cooperate with the hook to maintain the same open or closed, as may be desired.

The nature, characteristic features, and scope of the invention will be readily understood from the following description, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof, wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a checking device made in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the bolt or axle which carries the spring barrel or casing, and Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional view of the spring-barrel.

Referring to the drawings, A indicates a yoke or support having a bolt or stud *a* for convenience in attaching it to a harness-saddle. The uprights or standards *a'* of the support are notched near their point of union with the base to provide them with offsets *a<sup>2</sup>*, the purpose of which will presently be discussed, and the upper ends of said standards are apertured to receive a headed bolt B, that is retained by a nut *b*. The bolt B constitutes an axle for the spring barrel or casing

C, which is arranged to turn thereon. Said axle B is provided with a slot *b'*, ranging longitudinally thereof and into which takes one end of a powerful coil-spring D, arranged interior of the barrel or casing, the other end of said spring engaging with a lip *c*, that is provided in the act of slotting the periphery of the barrel or casing, as at *c'*. Externally of the barrel or casing there is provided a coil-spring E, of less tension than the first spring, and having its inner end bent inside the slot *c'* or otherwise connected with the spring-barrel. The other end of the spring E has hinged or otherwise movably connected therewith a hook F, the function of which is to receive the checkrein and which is served with lateral lugs or projections *f*, and these lugs cooperate with the offsets *a<sup>2</sup>* to hold the hook either in the position shown in Fig. 1 or closed, as shown in Fig. 3.

It will be manifest that by the arrangement shown the check will permit the rein to follow the head of the animal sufficiently when the animal stumbles to avoid cutting the mouth of the latter or the breaking of the checkrein.

It will be obvious to those skilled in the art to which the invention relates that modifications may be made in details without departing from the spirit and scope of same. Hence I do not limit myself to the precise construction and arrangement of parts hereinbefore described, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings; but,

Having described the nature and objects of the invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with the support having uprights or standards, a bolt extending transversely of said standards to constitute an axle, a barrel or casing arranged to turn on said bolt or axle, a coil-spring encircling said bolt and having one of its ends secured to said bolt and the other end secured to the periphery of the barrel or casing, a band encircling and having one of its ends secured to the periphery of the barrel, a hook having a hinge connection with the other end of said band, and means for maintaining said hook either open or closed, substantially as described.

2. The combination with the support having uprights or standards with offsets, of a bolt extending transversely of said standards to constitute an axle, a barrel or casing arranged to turn on said bolt or axle, a coil-spring encircling said bolt and having one of its ends secured to said bolt and the other end secured to the periphery of the barrel or casing, a band encircling and having one of its  
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10 ends secured to the periphery of the barrel,

and a hook having a hinge connection with the other end of said band and cooperating with said offsets, substantially as described.

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

FREDERICK CLARK.

Witnesses:

E. D. BROWN,  
SADIE MULVIHILL.