





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## HORSE-COLLAR FASTENER.

No. 837,062.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, FREDERIC HILLEGASS and LEWIS F. KLUGH, citizens of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Greene and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Collar Fasteners, of which the following is a specification.

Our invention relates to improved fastening means for horse-collars, the details and advantages of which will be pointed out in the following specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a front perspective view of the upper portion of a horse-collar with my improvements attached, the ends of the horse-collar being shown separated. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the ends of the collar fastened together, and Fig. 3 is a longitudinal central section through the hasp portion of the fastener.

Referring to the drawings, A and A' indicate the ends of a horse-collar which opens at the top, the front or face roll of the collar being indicated by the numeral 1 and the pad of the collar being indicated by the numeral 2. Upon the end A of the collar is permanently secured a metal hasp B, consisting of a convexly-curved plate 3, adapted to fit over the pad portions of both ends of the collar, and a hollow cap 4, projecting in front of the forward edge of the plate and extending upwardly above said plate in the form of a hollow cone or peak, as shown. Holes 5 are made near one lateral edge of the plate for securing the plate to the body portion of the end A of the collar, and one or more slots 6 are cut in the plate near its opposite lateral edge, these slots extending in a direction from front to rear or transversely of the collar. Upon the pad portion 2 of the end A' of the collar is arranged a keeper C, consisting of a head 7, having a shank 8, which is swiveled in a base-plate 9, the latter being secured to the collar by rivets 10. The head 7 of the keeper, as shown in the drawings, is in the form of a loop which is comparatively flat on the sides and of such length that it will pass freely through one of the openings 6 when turned lengthwise thereof, but when turned crosswise of the opening, as shown in Fig. 2, will project over the lat-

eral edges of the opening or slot and interlock with the plate 3.

In order to fasten the two ends of the collar together, the keeper C is turned in the direction shown in Fig. 1, and the end A' of the collar is pressed downward slightly relatively to the end A. The two ends are then brought together, the keeper passing through one of the slots 6 and the end of the face-roll 1 on the part A' of the collar passing under the cap or hood 4. The keeper is then turned crosswise of the slot and the hame-strap D is passed between the keeper and the cap 4. The hame-strap, resting against the flat side of the keeper, prevents the latter from turning, so that the keeper and hasp cannot become disengaged until the hame-strap is removed.

The keeper may be of any suitable form having a flat side which will be engaged by the hame-strap when the latter is in place. In order to let out or take up the collar to suit different horses, several slots 6 are formed in the hasp portion of the device, as shown in Fig. 1. The hollow cone or cap 4 serves to hold the ends of the face-roll together and also protects the ends of the roll. The plate 3 and cap 4 are preferably made in one piece, as shown, from sheet-steel or other suitable metal. The slot 6 and keeper C are located at a sufficient distance in the rear of the front roll of the collar to permit the hame-strap to pass between the keeper when the latter is turned crosswise of the slots and the front roll and cap 4. The fastening means shown and described obviates the necessity of using straps and buckles for connecting the two ends of the collar. Without materially changing the form of the hasp and swiveled keeper the fastening device may be applied to collars which open at the bottom instead of at the top.

What we claim is—

1. The combination with a horse-collar of a fastening device comprising a plate fixed to one end of the collar and adapted to overlap the opposing end of the collar, said overlapping portion having a slot extending transversely of the collar, and a swiveled keeper on said latter end of the collar having an elongated head adapted to pass through the slot when turned lengthwise thereof, but to interlock with the plate when turned crosswise of



the slot, said keeper being connected to the collar at a sufficient distance in the rear of the front roll of the collar to permit the hame-strap to pass between the roll and the keeper  
5 when the latter is turned crosswise of the slot.

2. The combination with a horse-collar of a fastening device comprising a plate fixed to one end of the collar in the rear of the front  
10 roll thereof and adapted to overlap the opposing end portion of the collar, said plate having a hollow cap projecting upwardly at its forward edge and adapted to cover the ends of the front roll, and said overlapping  
15 portion having a slot extending transversely of the collar, and a swiveled keeper on said opposing end of the collar having an elon-

gated head adapted to pass through the slot when turned lengthwise thereof, but to interlock with the plate when turned crosswise of  
20 the slot, said keeper being connected to the collar at a sufficient distance in the rear of said cap and said front roll to permit the hame-strap to pass between the keeper and the cap and roll when the keeper is turned  
25 crosswise of the slot.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

FREDERIC HILLENGASS.  
LEWIS F. KLUGH.

Witnesses:

R. E. BALL,  
F. F. HEFFERNAN.