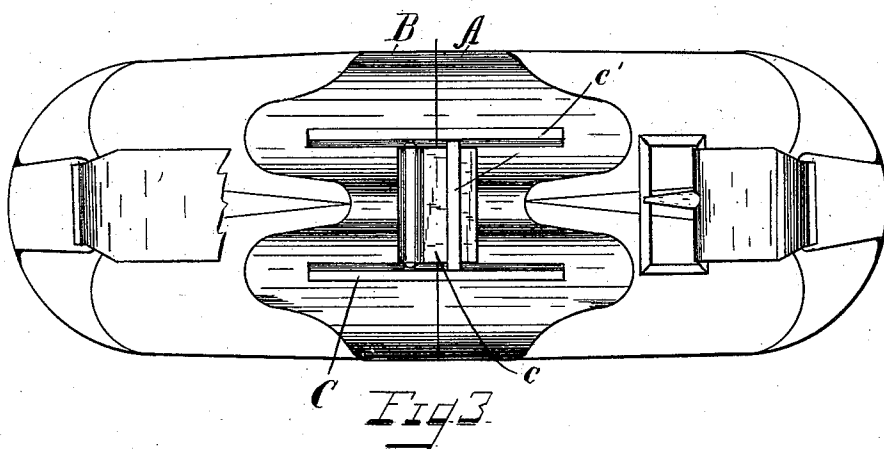
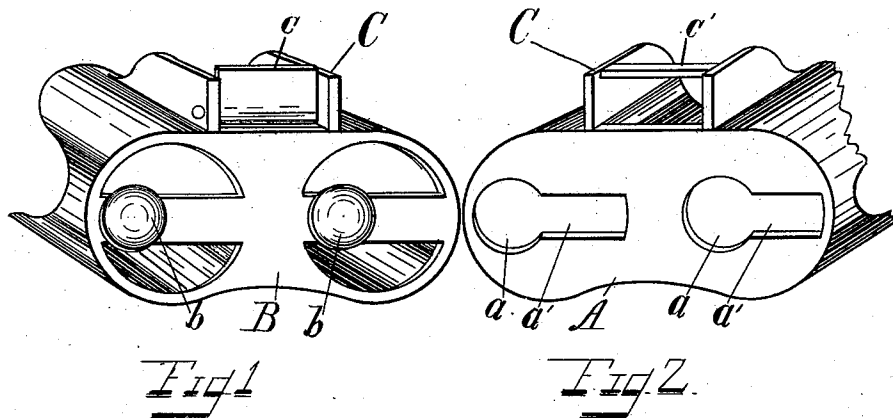


(No Model.)

A. SMITH.
HORSE COLLAR FASTENER.

No. 543,430.

Patented July 23, 1895.



Witnesses
Ernest H. Lord
Arthur E. George

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALVIN SMITH, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

HORSE-COLLAR FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 543,430, dated July 23, 1895.

Application filed August 20, 1894. Serial No. 520,804. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALVIN SMITH, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Horse-Collar Fastenings, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide simple, efficient, and positive means for locking the two parts of a horse-collar fastening against lateral displacement; and the invention consists in the parts and combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a preferred form of collar-fastening embodying my improvement. Fig. 2 is a like view of the other section of the fastening; Fig. 3, a bottom view of the two sections locked together.

A represents a socket provided with apertures *a* and slots *a'*, leading into the apertures. B represents a similar socket provided with heads *b*, adapted to take into the apertures and over the slots. The heads are carried by a shank of a diameter adapted to take into the slots *a'*. By slipping the heads into the apertures and then moving one of the sockets transversely the shanks will travel in the slots. The heads being larger than the slots, it is impossible to disengage one socket from the other until the heads of the lugs register with the apertures *a*.

To prevent movement of the parts laterally, I provide the sockets with pairs of downwardly-extending ribs C, so placed as to be in line when the ends of the collar are brought together. Pivotally mounted between one pair of the ribs C is a clip or tongue *c*, adapted to swing into a position between the ribs of the other socket, which are connected by a bar *c'*, so placed as to be just clear of the path in which the tongue *c* swings. After the sockets have been put together the tongue *c* is swung into position. (Shown in Fig. 3.) Any lateral movement relatively to each other will thus be prevented until the tongue is swung from between the ribs of the opposing socket.

The hame-strap passes between the flanges C, over the tongue *c* and under the bar *c'*, and holds the tongue in its locking position. The sockets are thus locked against lateral movement until the hame-strap is withdrawn. The bar *c'* prevents the passage of the tongue when the strap is in the position, however loosely it may be buckled, as the space between the path of travel of the tongue and the bar is less than the thickness of the strap. The inner faces of the ribs C preferably taper inwardly from their lower edges upward, as shown in Fig. 3, so that the slight inaccuracies in fitting the parts will not prevent the tongue from swinging between the flanges. The tongue will serve as a wedge to bring the sockets in line as it is swinging into position.

I claim as my invention—

1. The combination, in a horse collar fastening, of a socket, A, embracing one end of the collar; a socket, B, embracing the other end, downwardly projecting ribs, C, and a tongue, *c*, pivotally attached to one socket and adapted to take between the ribs on the other, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The combination, in a horse collar fastening of sockets embracing the ends of the collar, a downwardly projecting pair of ribs on one of the sockets, a bar connecting the ribs, and a tongue pivoted to the other socket and adapted to swing between the ribs and lock them against lateral displacement, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. The combination, in a horse collar fastening, of sockets embracing the ends of the collar, a downwardly projecting pair of ribs, on one of the sockets, tapering inwardly from their lower edges upward, and a tongue pivoted on the other socket and adapted to swing between the ribs and lock them against lateral displacement, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

ALVIN SMITH.

Witnesses:

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