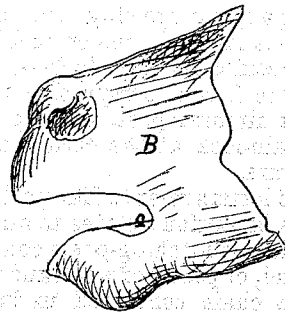
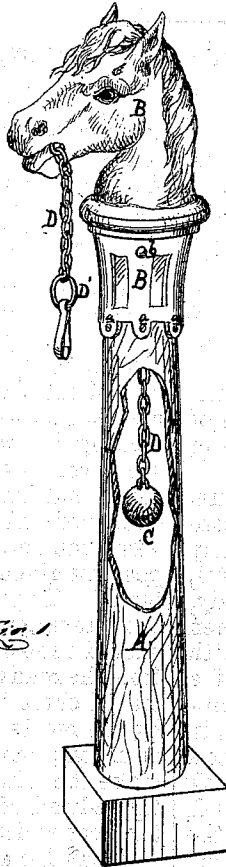


JULIUS MELCHERS.

Hitching-Posts.

No. 127,085.

Patented May 21, 1872.



ATTEST :

H. S. Sprague

H. F. Church

INVENTOR :

J. Melchers

Per Atty -

Thos S Sprague

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JULIUS MELCHERS, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN HITCHING-POSTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 127,085, dated May 21, 1872.

To whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JULIUS MELCHERS, of Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hitching-Posts; and I do declare that the following is a true and accurate description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing and to the letters of reference marked thereon and being a part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved hitching-post, and Fig. 2 is a detail of the chain-lock at the corner of the mouth of the figure.

Like letters refer to like parts in each figure.

This invention relates to an improved construction of hitching-posts constructed wholly of metal, or partly of wood and partly of metal, with a chain contained in its hollow body, weighted at the inner end to draw it in when not in use, the outer end being provided with a snap-hook to attach to the bit-ring of a horse. The invention consists in a hollow post surmounted by the head of an animal, in cast metal, in which and in the hollow post a hitching-chain is contained, with a snap-hook at the outer end and a weight at the inner end. The outer end of the chain issues from the mouth of the figure, the peculiarity of which is that the corners of the mouth have an angular recess in which to receive a link of the chain, and thus lock it so that the weight cannot draw it in nor the horse draw it further out.

In the drawing, A represents a hollow wooden post, to be set in the ground. B is a cast-metal representation of a horse's head, with the mouth open. The neck of the figure rises from a hollow capital, B', which, like a collar, slips over the top of the wooden post, being secured thereto by screws *d* or a trans-

verse bolt, *b*, or both, said bolt also serving as a stop for the weight C within the body of the post, to which is secured one end of a chain, D, the other end passing out at the mouth of the figure, terminating in a ring, D', which prevents it from passing back into the post, and to which ring a snap-hook is also attached. The corners of the mouth are not symmetrically formed, as an angular recess, *c*, is made in each, into which any horizontal link of the chain may be drawn into either recess, which will lock the chain fast, thus preventing the weight from drawing or pulling the horse toward the post, which causes him to fret and draw out the chain, the frequent repetition of which wears the chain. It also prevents the horse from moving further from the position given him when the chain is so adjusted. To prevent the horse from detaching or removing the chain from its recess the post should be so set that the figure will head away from the roadway, so that the greater the strain on the chain is the more firmly will it be held by the recess. The entire post may be made of metal; but it is found much cheaper to make the column of wood and the ornamental figure-head of metal, as it is the only part of the post which a horse would attempt to bite.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The chain D, having weight C and ring D', in combination with the metallic head B, having angular recessed open mouth, and arranged upon the hollow post A, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

JULIUS MELCHERS.

Witnesses:

H. S. SPRAGUE,
H. F. EBERTS.