No. 835,688. PATENTED NOV. 13, 1906.

G. W. READ.

VETERINARY INSTRUMENT.

APPLICATION FILED AUG. 7, 1905.

Fig. 1.

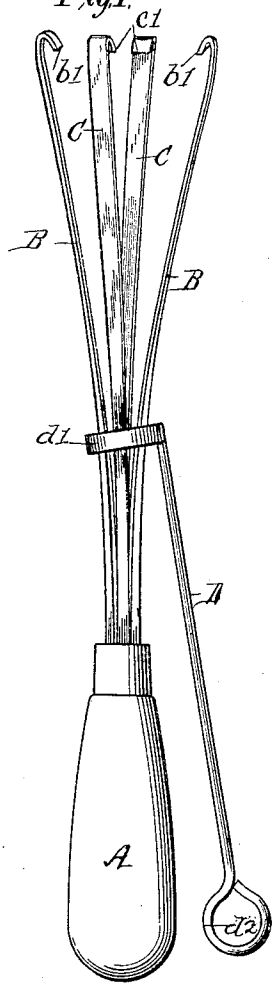



Fig. 2.

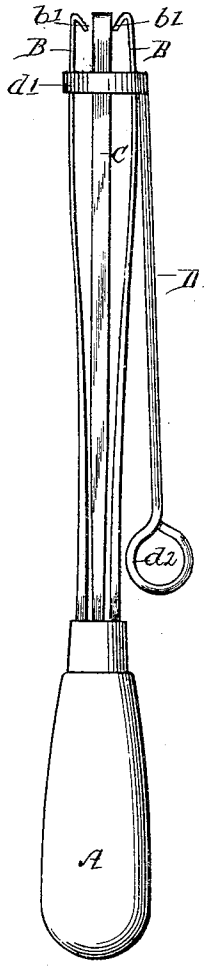



Fig. 3.

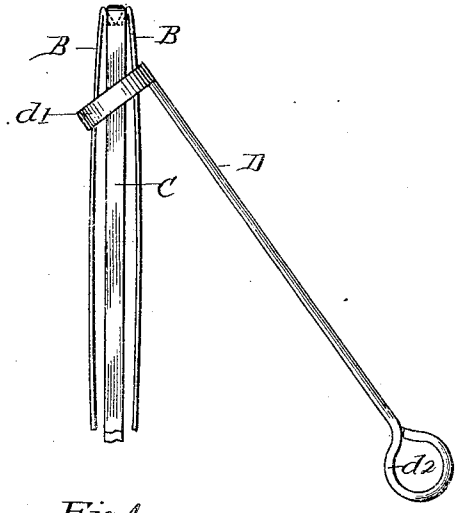
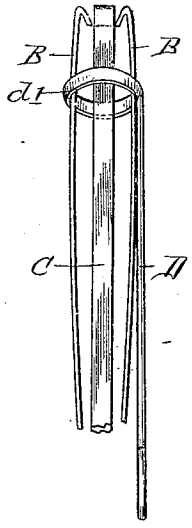



Fig. 4.




WITNESSES.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE W. READ, OF HARVARD, NEBRASKA.

## VETERINARY INSTRUMENT.

No. 835,688. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Nov. 13, 1906.

Application filed August 7, 1905. Serial No. 272,955.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE W. READ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Harvard, in the county of Clay and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Veterinary Instruments, of which the follwing is a specification.

This invention relates to devices for assisting the delivery of animals in labor, and it is especially adapted for use with sows.

The invention comprises a plurality of grouped spring-metal fingers adapted to be easily introduced into the vagina of the animal and to lie around and grasp the muzzle or other conveniently-presented portion of the fetus and to means for contracting and holding said fingers in position. Each finger has formed on its free end an inwardly and downwardly bent hook which engages the skin of the fetus and prevents slipping.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this application, Figure 1 is a view of my invention in its expanded position. Fig. 2 is a view showing the fingers partially contracted. Figs. 3 and 4 are fragmentary views showing the manner of contracting one pair of fingers more than the others.

Referring to the drawings in detail, A represents a wooden handle suitable for grasping with the hand, and same is bored and ferruled to receive the fingers B B and C C. These fingers are formed of flat spring-metal bars, are arranged in pairs the members of which are oppositely placed, and are tempered to spring outwardly or away from each other with the greatest divergence at their free ends, as shown in Fig. 1. The ends of these fingers are bent inwardly and downwardly, as at $b'$ $c'$, respectively, and have sufficient edge to effectively grasp and hold against slippage the skin of the fetus. Connected with the fingers by a ring $d'$ is a lever D, which is formed from a wire rod, and an addition to the ring $d'$ at one end has a ring $d^2$ at the other end, which is adapted to be grasped by the finger of the user or operator. The ring $d'$ encircles the fingers B C loosely, so that it may be slid along same and cause the fingers to contract, as shown in Fig. 2. When the lower end of the lever is moved outwardly, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4, it will cause two of the fingers or the members of one pair to contract more than the other two, depending upon the direction of movement of the lever.

In using this instrument the fingers, ring $d'$, and lever are thoroughly oiled, and with the parts, as shown in Fig. 2, it is introduced into the vagina of the animals, when the lever is retracted, thus allowing the fingers to expand and permitting the operator to push them over the muzzle or other presented portion of the fetus, and when this is done the lever is pushed outwardly from the handle until the ends of the fingers are brought in firm contact with the fetus, whereupon the instrument is drawn back and the fetus is removed. If for any reason it be desired to contract one pair of the fingers more than the other pair, this is done by moving the lever outwardly or at angle to the fingers, as shown in Figs. 3 and 4.

The simplicity of construction of this device renders it easy to manipulate, not liable to break, and adaptable to the conditions usually present when such instruments are needed.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A veterinary instrument comprising a handle, a plurality of fingers secured to said handle and adapted to spring outwardly at their free ends, said fingers terminating in inwardly and downwardly bent hooks, a ring slidably mounted on and surrounding said fingers, and a lever rigidly secured to said ring and having a free outer end to permit it to be swung at an angle to said fingers and cause the ring to contract some of said fingers more than others.

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

GEORGE W. READ.

Witnesses:

S. B. MCBRIDE,

MOSES HARTLEY.