

G. J. LETCHWORTH.

EYES FOR HAMES.

No. 187,650.

Patented Feb. 20, 1877.

Fig. 2.

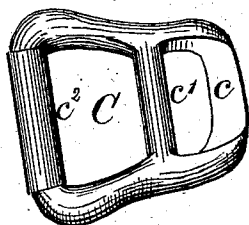
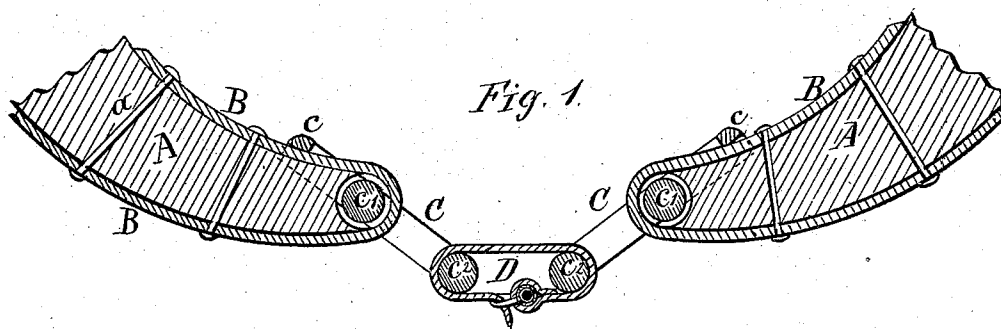


Fig. 1.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN EYES FOR HAMES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **187,650**, dated February 20, 1877; application filed October 2, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE J. LETCHWORTH, of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Hames, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a vertical section of hames having my improvement applied thereto, and Fig. 2 is a detached view of the three-barred link or eye.

A is the wooden portion of the hame, which may be of any usual or approved form or construction. B is a metal band, or strap, or lining, secured to the wooden part by means of rivets *a* or otherwise. This strap extends below or beyond the lower end of the wood, and forms a loop, *b*, as is customary in hames of the ordinary construction. The link C has three bars—one at each end and one at or near the center, as shown at *c c' c''*, the central bar *c'* being clasped by the loop *b* of the hame iron or lining B. The leather hame-strap D is passed around the lower bar *c''* of each link, and it will be seen from an inspection of Fig. 1 that the bar *c* engages with the inner face of the hame, in such manner that the eye or link is made to serve as a practically rigid extension of the hame.

One of the advantages incident to my invention is its extreme cheapness, it being apparent that the cost of this eye or link is much less than would be the expense of forming an equivalent extension in one and the same piece with the metal band or strap B, and it is also evident that in case my link

should be broken, it will cost much less to replace it than it would cost to supply an entire new strap or lining B.

This improvement is equally applicable to iron hames, as they can be so cast as to receive the links at their lower ends.

I am aware that three-barred buckles have been used for various purposes in and about harness; but I believe that I am the first to employ a three-barred link in combination with the lower end of a hame, under the arrangement which I have shown—that is to say, having the central bar *c'* pivoted to the hame in such manner that when the hame-strap D is in the position shown in the drawing, the upper bar *c* shall rest against the inner face of the hame, and the lower or outer bar *c''* shall be thrown downward or outward beyond a line which would be formed or shown by a prolongation of the curve or outline of the hame or hame-lining, and form a practically rigid extension of the hame.

I have found that, in practice, such a rigid extension at an angle to the hame proper is very desirable.

What I claim is—

The combination, with a hame, of a three-barred link attached to the lower end of the hame by its central bar *c'*, adapted to form an angular extension of the hame, when the hame-strap is applied to the lower bar *c''* of the link, substantially as set forth.

GEORGE J. LETCHWORTH.

Witnesses:

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