

CALEB WHEELER.
Improvement in Horse Collar Fastenings.

No. 120,356.

Patented Oct. 24, 1871.

Fig. 1

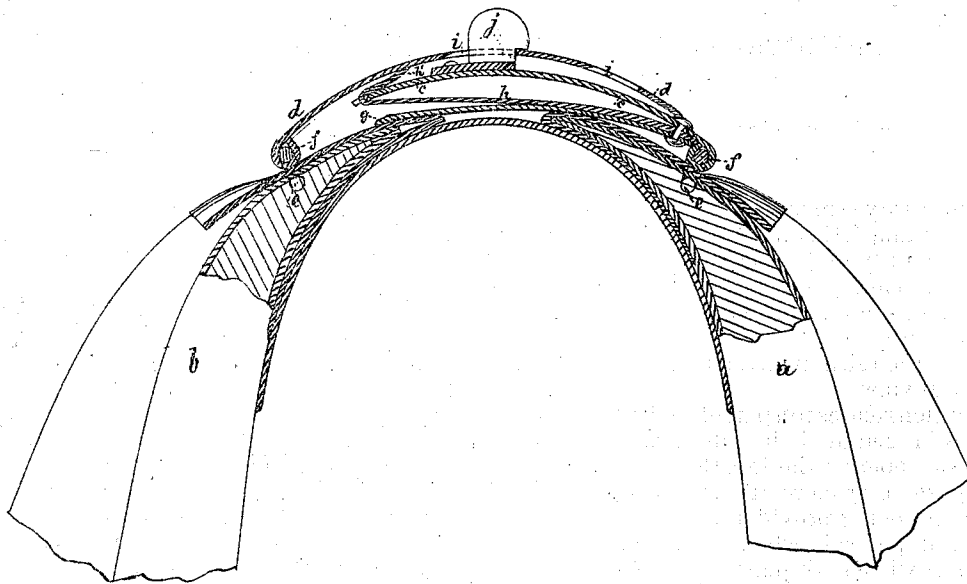
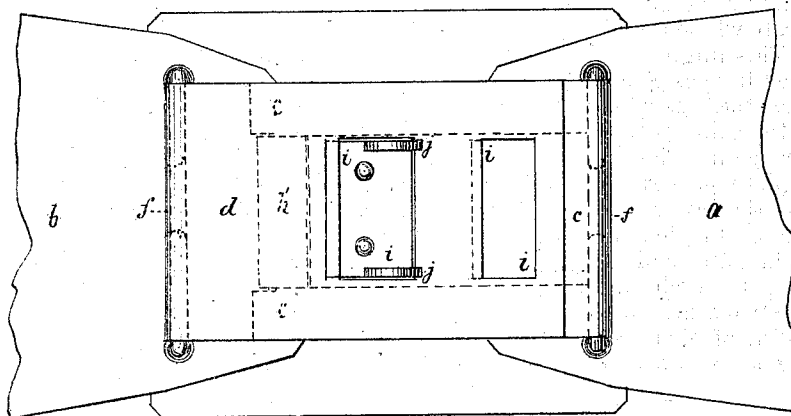
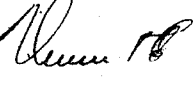


Fig. 2.



Witnesses:
G. Mearns.
W. B. Hutchinson.

Inventor:
Caleb Wheeler.

PER 
Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CALEB WHEELER, OF WARSAW, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE-COLLAR FASTENINGS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 120,356, dated October 24, 1871.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CALEB WHEELER, of Warsaw, in the county of Coshocton and State of Ohio, have invented certain Improvements in Horse-Collar Fastenings, of which the following is a specification:

Figure 1 is a longitudinal vertical section, and Fig. 2 is a top view.

This invention relates to a pair of folding curved metal plates hinged at their ends to the extremities of a collar open at the top, the upper of said plates having one or more transverse slots, and the lower plate being provided with lugs springing from its upper side which enter one of the aforesaid slots when both plates are folded down, thus fastening the two branches of the collar together, said lower plate being also provided with a double spring-plate, which both assists in raising the upper plate when released from the lower and also eases the downward pressure of the hames on the horse's neck.

Referring to the drawing, *a b* are the extremities of the collar, to which are hinged the curved metal plates *c d*. This hinging is effected by means of staples *e* placed in eyes *f* formed at the inner ends of the plates, the legs of said staples being passed through the collar-pieces *a b* and bent toward each other against the under sides of the same. A steel plate, *g*, is riveted at one end to the under side of the lower plate *c*. Along the back of the plate *g* is fastened a strip, *h*, which is bent around the outer end of the plate *c*, the flexure occupying a notch in the plate. The branch *h'* of the strip *h* lies on the upper side of the plate *c*, standing off therefrom at a slight angle. The spring *h'* assists in throwing up the

plate *d* when released from the plate *c*, and the spring *h* eases the downward pressure of the hames on the animal's neck. The plate *g* forms a bridge between the ends of the collar-pieces *a b*. The plate *d* has one or more slots, *i*, and the plate *c* is furnished with a pair of lugs, *j*, springing from its upper side. When the plate *d* is folded down on the plate *c* the lugs *j* pass through one or the other of the slots *i*, according to the size of the animal's neck. The lugs *j* have notches in their rear sides into which the edge of the plate *d* slips, and by means of which it is fastened. The back edges of the slots *i* are beveled off on the under side of the plate *d* so as to allow the upper plate to easily slip up from the lower one when the lugs *j* are pressed against said beveled edges, thus facilitating the separation of the two plates should the spring *h'* happen to be inoperative. The lugs *j* also form a guard to prevent the hames from slipping off from the collar. The folding back of the plates is a great advantage, as it renders unnecessary the stretching apart of the branches of the collar which would otherwise have to be done, and which would seriously injure the collar.

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

1. The collar-pieces *a b*, combined with the hinged folding plates *c d*, as specified.
2. The plate *c*, combined with the plate *g*, springs *h h'*, and lugs *j*, as described.

CALEB WHEELER.

Witnesses:

SOLON C. KEMON,
CHAS. A. PETTIT.

(72)