

J. THORNTON.  
HARNESS-HAMES.

No. 174,591.

Patented March 7, 1876.

Fig. 1.

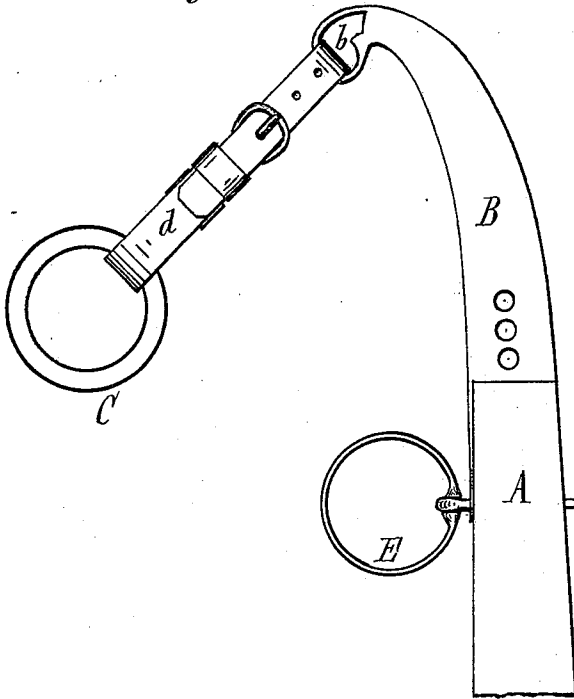


Fig. 2.

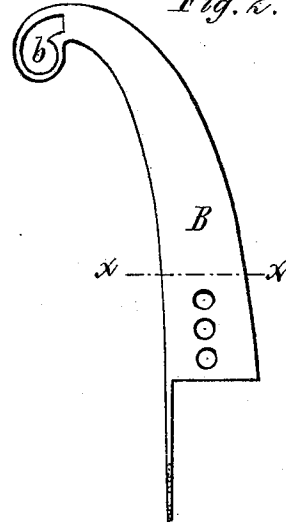
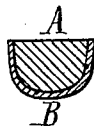


Fig. 3.



Edward Wilhelm  
Chas. J. Bushheit  
Witnesses

James Thornton, Inventor  
By J. A. Hyatt  
Att'y.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES THORNTON, OF WELLSVILLE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-FOURTH HIS RIGHT  
TO PRATT & LETCHWORTH, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HARNESS-HAMES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **174,591**, dated March 7, 1876; application filed  
December 3, 1875.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, JAMES THORNTON, of Wellsville, in the county of Allegany and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hame-Tops, which improvements are fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

My invention consists of a cast hame-top provided at its upper end with an opening adapted to receive the strap to which the guide-ring of the crossing-reins of a double-harness is attached.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a side elevation of the upper portion of a hame provided with my improved top. Fig. 2 is a detached view of the hame-top. Fig. 3 is a cross-elevation in line *x x*, Fig. 2.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in each of the figures.

A represents the hame, and B the metallic top thereof, cast hollow or U-shaped in cross-section, so as to be light and to draw readily from the sand. The upper end of the hame-top has the form of an outwardly-projecting open scroll or ring so as to form an opening, *b*, as clearly shown in the drawing. C is one of the rings in which the inner-crossing reins

of a team harness are guided, and *d* the strap by which it is suspended from the opening *b*.

Heretofore the rings C were suspended from the lower ring E of the hame, whereby the point of support for the crossing-rein was placed so low as to frequently cause said reins to catch under the tongue or pole of the vehicle. By attaching the guide-rings C to the opening *b* of my improved hame-top, the rings are raised sufficient to avoid this difficulty, thereby enabling the horses of a team to walk at a greater and more comfortable distance apart, without rendering the crossing-reins liable to catch, as above stated.

In the openings *b* of the outside hame-tops of a double-harness any suitable ornamental pendant may be arranged if desired.

My improved hame-top is readily cast complete without coring, and presents a light and ornamental appearance.

I claim as my invention—

A cast hame-top formed at its upper end with an opening or ring, *b*, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

JAMES THORNTON.

Witnesses :

LEWIS JONES,  
WHEELER HOKE.