

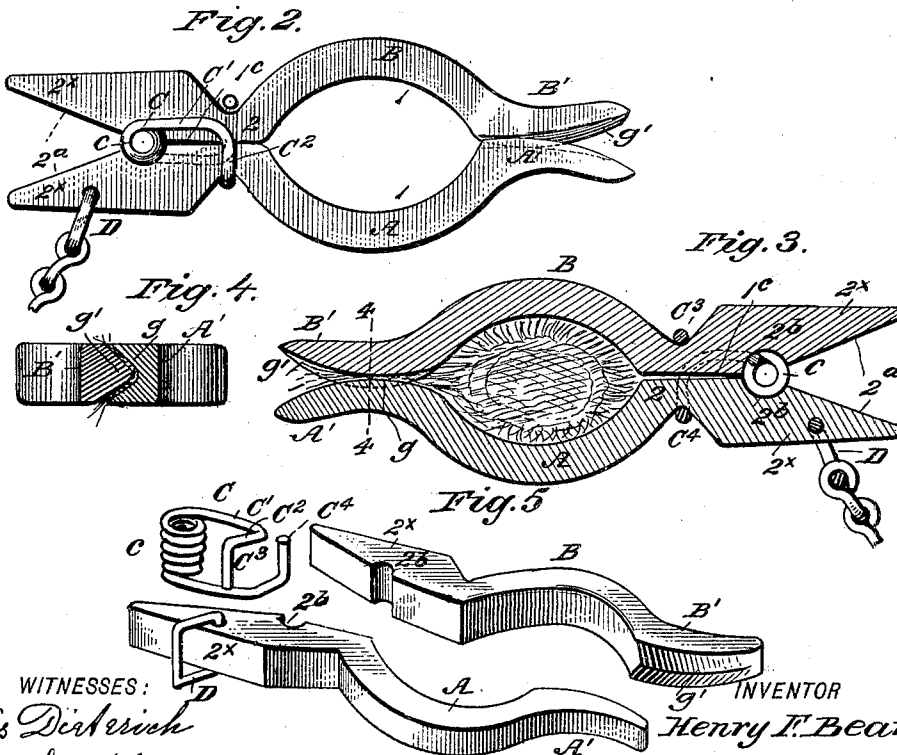
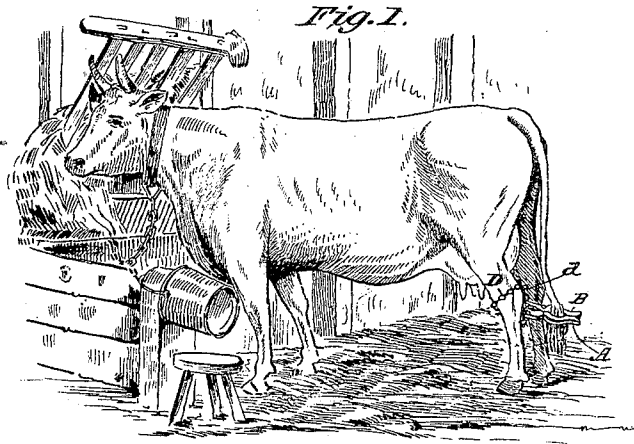
No. 689,033.

Patented Dec. 17, 1901.

H. F. BEAN.  
COW TAIL HOLDER.

(Application filed Feb. 18, 1901.)

(No Model.)



WITNESSES:  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY FRANCIS BEAN, OF SALISBURY, NEW HAMPSHIRE.

## COW-TAIL HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 689,033, dated December 17, 1901.

Application filed February 18, 1901. Serial No. 47,867. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, HENRY FRANCIS BEAN, residing at Salisbury, in the county of Merrimack and State of New Hampshire, have invented a new and Improved Cow-Tail Holder, of which the following is a specification.

This invention is in the nature of an improved means for holding the cow's tail while milking to avoid the annoyance and inconvenience encountered when the tail is permitted to switch about; and it relates more particularly to devices for this purpose having means for clamping the tail and connected to the leg of the animal, usually above the gambrel-cord.

Heretofore in cow-tail holders connected to the leg by a flexible connection the tail-gripping members have not been arranged for easy application and for engaging the tail in such a manner as to prevent slipping up or down thereon.

My invention primarily seeks to provide a tail-engaging device of wood or metal of a very simple and inexpensive construction capable of being instantly applied on the tail and to grip it in such manner as not to clamp the tail sufficiently to hurt and at the same time grip it in such way so it (the clamping device) will remain on the tail where it is clamped.

My invention comprehends, essentially, a pair of spring-closed clamping-jaws adapted to close over the tail and having supplemental clamping-faces that will firmly grip the hair on the tail, whereby to firmly hold the device at any point on the tail desired.

In its subordinate features my invention consists in certain details of construction and peculiar combination of parts, including a special construction of the two jaws and a correlative arrangement therewith of the spring member, all of which will hereinafter be fully explained, and particularly pointed out in the appended claim, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view illustrating my invention as applied for use. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the tail-clamping device. Fig. 3 is a horizontal section of the same, the cow-tail being indicated in broken lines. Fig. 4 is a cross-

section on the line 4 4 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of the jaws and the holding spring members detached.

My improved cow-tail holder is formed substantially of three members—a pair of clamping-jaws and a combined jaw-holder and closing-spring. The two jaws in their general arrangement resemble an ordinary nose-clamp.

In my construction the two jaws A and B (with the exception of the outer extremities) are of like contour and act as opposing mates.

The jaws A and B may be formed of metal or wood, and each jaw consists of a main centrally-curved part 1, that terminates at the inner end in a contracted neck 2, from whence the said members 1 extend rearwardly and terminate in finger-pieces 2<sup>x</sup>, the inner faces 2<sup>a</sup> of which extend divergingly outward from the inner or closely-adjacent ends 1<sup>c</sup>.

By referring now more particularly to Figs. 1 and 2 it will be noticed the two jaws A and B are disposed in the same horizontal plane, and said jaws do not lap or have a fixed pivot-joint like the ordinary nose-clamp.

To hold the two members A and B in their proper positions relatively and also for pressing their outer ends normally together, I provide a special construction of spring. (Shown clearly in Fig. 5.) The spring C consists of a vertically-disposed coil *c* of a height substantially that of the thickness of the jaws A and B. The coil *c*, besides its ordinary function, in my case also serves an additional purpose—that of a fulcrum-point which upon the two jaws A and B are pivotally held.

To provide a simple and effective means for holding the two jaws A and B properly on the fulcrum member *c*, the faces 2<sup>a</sup> each have a concaved seat 2<sup>b</sup>, as shown, and to securely hold the spring C in place and at the same time maintain the inner ends of the jaws A and B in a proper horizontal plane I terminate the opposite ends of the spring C in the manner best shown in Fig. 5, by reference to which it will be noticed the upper end C' of the spring extends horizontally forward and forms a restraining member to keep the jaw B from moving up out of position, and the said end C' terminates in a right-angle ex-

teusion C<sup>3</sup>, that extends over the jaw A and ends in a pendent hook C<sup>3</sup>, that passes down in contact with the outside of the neck part 2 of jaw A. The other end of the spring C is likewise bent and extends under the two jaws, its end C<sup>4</sup>, however, projecting upward over the neck part 2 of jaw B. By arranging the inner ends of the two jaws and providing a spring device, as shown, a very simple and economical means is provided for holding the two jaws A and B in their proper relative position.

The outer ends of the jaws A and B are extended to form supplemental clamping-sections A' B', and the said sections A' and B' have interlocking portions, one jaw, A', having a longitudinal >-shaped groove *g* and the other, B', a similarly-shaped tongue *g'* for engaging the said groove *g*.

The purpose of the tongue-and-groove jaw connection is twofold—first, it provides for positively gripping the hairs of the tail, as shown in Fig. 4, and holding the device from slipping up and down on the tail without requiring it to clamp the tail with a pressure that might irritate the cow, and, secondly, it also provides a means for holding the outer ends of the two jaws in a proper horizontal alinement. One of the jaws has a ring D, to which is joined one end of a chain or other flexible connection, the other end of which has a grab-hook *d* of the ordinary kind, whereby the outer end of said connection can be readily made fast to the hind leg of the cow, as shown in Fig. 1.

My invention can be readily fitted upon or

removed from the cow's tail by pressing the finger ends of the two jaws A and B together.

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

An improved cow-tail holder, consisting of two opposing jaws A B, each having an outwardly-curved portion 1 1, adapted to clamp over the tail, said portions 1 1, terminating at one end in inwardly-curved supplemental clamping-sections A' B', one of said sections having a <-shaped groove, the other a <-shaped tongue to engage the groove, whereby to firmly grip the hairs of the tail, and hold the said ends A' B', in proper alinement, the opposite end of said jaws A B, terminating in contracted neck portions, and outwardly-extending members 2<sup>x</sup>, having divergently-extended inner faces 2<sup>a</sup> and concaved seats 2<sup>b</sup> 2<sup>b</sup>; a spring-coil adapted to engage the seats 2<sup>b</sup> 2<sup>b</sup>, and form a fulcrum for the two jaws A and B, the opposite ends of the said spring-coil being extended in reverse directions and over the top and bottom faces of the sections 2<sup>x</sup> 2<sup>x</sup>, the extremities of the said coil ends being bent at right angles to engage the contracted necks of the jaws, and a flexible member connected to the jaws for holding the device attached to the cow's leg, all being arranged substantially as shown and described.

HENRY FRANCIS BEAN.

Witnesses:

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