

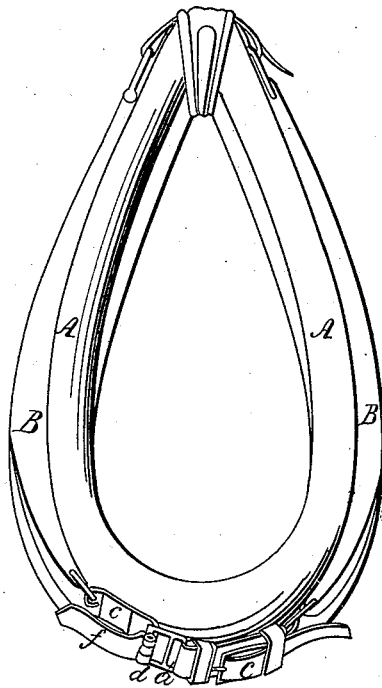
A.B. Conde,

Hame Fastener.

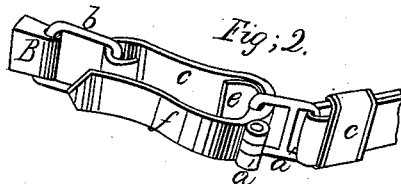
N^o 51,926.

Patented Jan. 9, 1866.

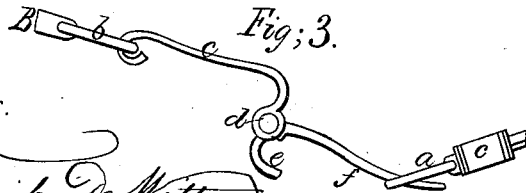
Fig; 1.



Fig; 2.



Fig; 3.



Witnesses.

*Chief Clerk De Witt
J. Minn*

Inventor.

A B Conde.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALONZO B. CONDE, OF ALBANY, NEW YORK.

IMPROVED CLASP FOR LEATHER STRAPS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 51,926, dated January 9, 1866.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALONZO B. CONDE, of the city of Albany, State of New York, have invented a hook or clasp for securing the ends of leather straps to other straps in harness, or to any other apparatus where the same may be serviceable; and I declare the following specification, with the drawings forming part thereof, to be a full and complete description of my invention.

Figure 1 represents a horse-collar with hames attached, my device being shown as arranged to fasten the lower ends of the hames under the collar. Fig. 2 shows, in perspective, on a larger scale, the clasp when shut and its connections; Fig. 3, a sectional view of the clasp when open.

Similar letters denote the same parts of the apparatus.

A is the collar; B, the hames, secured over the collar, at its top, in the usual manner, by strap and buckle. Attached to one of the lower ends of the hames is the usual strap-and-buckle arrangement, C, which, instead of extending to and connecting directly with the other end, terminates in a metal loop, *a*, a similar metal loop, *b*, being affixed to the other end of the hames. The clasp, the subject of this invention, unites the two loops. It consists of a strip of thin metal, *c*, bent at one end, as shown, around loop *b*, and at the other end curved, so as to form a hook, fitting loosely around loop *a*. The outer end of this hook is formed as a hinge, *d*, into which there is pivoted another strip, *f*, of thin metal, formed, as

shown, with a hook, *e*, at one end, fitted to lie between the hook of *c* and the loop *a*, the other part of the strip, *f* extending so as, when closed, to lie parallel with *c* and beyond its attachment to loop *b*.

When the clasp is to be used, *f* is to be thrown back as shown by Fig. 3, the loop *a* passed over it, and then *f* drawn back to its position as shown in Fig. 2, the loop sliding over it and falling into hook *e* so soon as *f* is brought down to its place.

It will be seen that then loop *a* will lie in such a position in reference to the hinge *d*, that strain upon it will hold it firmly within the hook without the possibility of slipping out of it; also, that the simple act of throwing *f* back will instantly discharge loop *a*.

From this description it will be seen that this clasp is applicable extensively to the connecting of straps with each other or with other articles—as, for example, traces with whiffletrees—wherever it is desirable to employ fastenings that can be connected or disconnected promptly and without resorting to the slow process of buckling and unbuckling.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The clasp formed and operating as described and for the purposes set forth in this specification.

A. B. CONDE.

Witnesses:

RICHD. VARICK DEWITT,
E. J. MILLER.