

F. A. HOFFMANN.
Horseshoe.

No. 219,944.

Patented Sept. 23, 1879

Fig. 1.

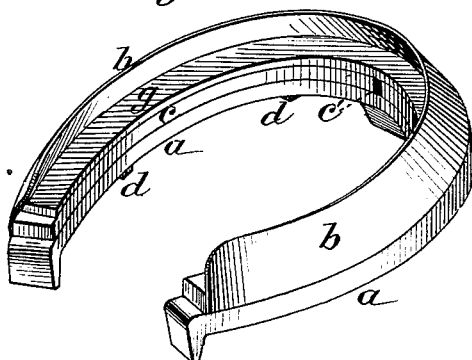


Fig. 2.



Fig. 4.

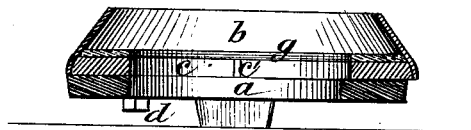


Fig. 3.

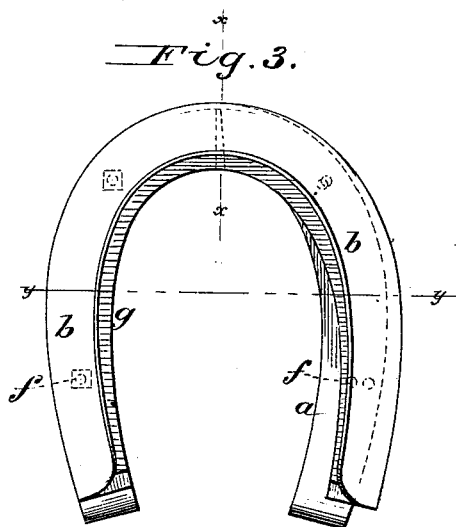
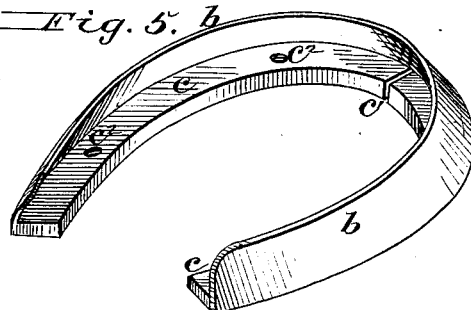


Fig. 5.



Attest:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDRICK A. HOFFMANN, OF BALDWIN CITY, KANSAS.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSESHOES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,944**, dated September 23, 1879; application filed June 20, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDRICK AUGUST HOFFMANN, of Baldwin City, in the county of Douglas and State of Kansas, have invented a certain new and useful Improved Horseshoe, of which the following is a specification.

My improvement relates to horseshoes adapted for use without nail-fastenings which enter the hoof. Many plans have been proposed for this purpose, embracing, among other devices, spring-bands held by their form upon the hoof and secured to the shoe. Two-part non-spring bands, with divided base for securing such two-part band to the hoof, have also been used; but, so far as I know, these band-holders require shoes adapted with specific appliances by which to secure them to the holding-bands, which is an objection to their use.

My improved shoe-holding device is adapted for use with the ordinary horseshoe, and in this particular is an important advantage over others, which require a shoe of novel or different construction from the common shop-shoe.

To this end my improvement consists of a spring-band provided with a divided base, by which it is secured to the shoe by means of screws passing through the shoe from the under side into the said sectional base-plate, whereby the spring-band is united solidly to the shoe, and can be placed upon or removed from the hoof by removing the screw-fastenings of one section only of the base-plate, by reason of the capacity of the hoof-band to be sprung open with said plate-section independent of the shoe, and to resume its spring-holding function when placed upon the hoof with the securing base-section, thus making the spring-holding band a fixed part of the shoe, and from which it is not removed, either in putting the shoe on or taking it off the hoof.

I use the ordinary shoe, with screw-holes instead of nail-holes.

The shoe can be made of malleable cast-iron, and, in being adapted for use without nails, avoids the danger of laming the horse and gives the advantage of removing the shoes when the horse is used upon the farm, and is especially important in curing quarter-cracks.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1

represents my improved horseshoe-fastener; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the same; Fig. 3, a top view, showing one side of the spring-band sprung open, as in applying the shoe to or removing it from the hoof; Fig. 4, a cross-section of the shoe and its holder; and Fig. 5, the spring-holding band and its divided base-plate detached from the shoe.

The shoe *a* is of the common kind, provided with the toe and heel calks. The cap or band *b*, is of sheet steel or brass, made to conform to the contour of the hoof, so as to clasp it and hold itself thereon in place when applied. It is provided with a base-plate, *c*, divided at the toe *c'*, and secured in any suitable manner to the lower edge of the spring cap or band, so that the divided base-plate and spring-band form one piece, which, when secured, constitutes a fixed part of the shoe. The spring cap or band, thus constructed, is secured to the shoe proper by means of screws *d*, screwed through the shoe from its under side and into the divided base-plate, the shoe for this purpose having screw-holes *f*, coincident with those *c''* in the base-plate, which is by this means firmly and solidly secured to the shoe, and forms a supplemental shoe, on which a rubber cushion, *g*, is placed, and upon which the foot is supported, which gives an easy travel to the horse and avoids hoof-binding.

The spring-band clasps the rim of the hoof and holds itself securely thereon by forming an acute angle with the shoe.

By having the spring-band secured as described to the divided base-plate, the shoe is secured thereto as a fixture, and in applying it the screws are removed from one of the sections of the base-plate, and the latter sprung out with the band sufficient to place it over the hoof.

In Fig. 3 this springing out of one side of the band and base-plate is shown, and after the shoe is applied this sprung-out part will spring back and clasp the hoof uniformly, and is then secured to the shoe by the screws.

When the shoe is worn out a new one can be used with the same spring-holding band and divided base-plate. I prefer to use square-headed screws.

In using this nailless shoe the horse's feet are left in their natural condition, and only require to be rasped off as the hoof grows.

The band-holder, when of sheet-brass, can be kept polished and be an ornament to the foot.

I claim—

In a horseshoe, the spring-band *b*, having the divided base-plate *c*, secured to the shoe by screw-bolts *d*, inserted from the under side of

the shoe and clamping the parts firmly together with the band around the hoof, as shown and described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand.

FREDRICK A. HOFFMANN.

Witnesses :

JOHN STICKNEY,

W. R. ROBERTS.