(Model.)

J. C. GERMEYER.

RELEASING DEVICE FOR CATTLE STALLS.

No. 265,797. Patented Oct. 10, 1882.

Fig. 1.

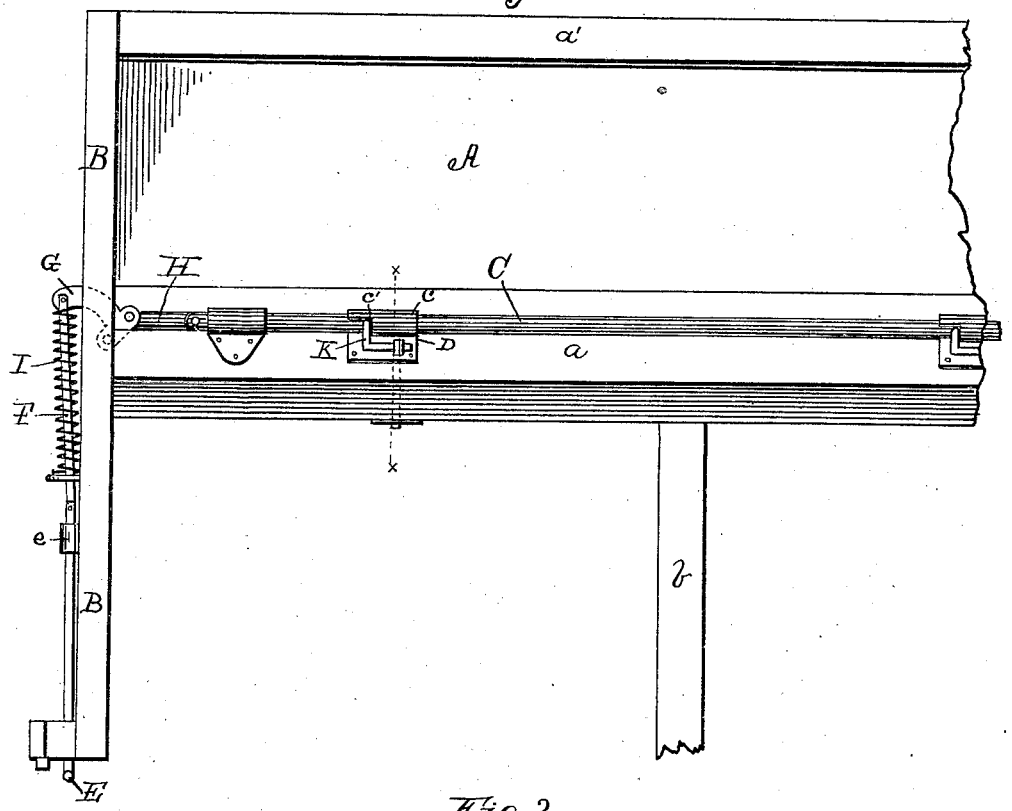


Fig. 2.

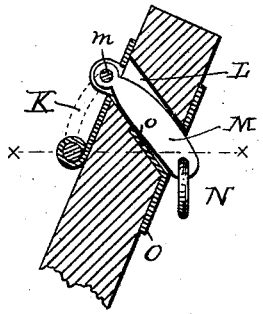
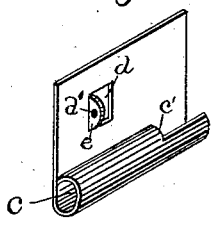


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. GERMEYER, OF CARLISLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

RELEASING DEVICE FOR CATTLE-STALLS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 265,797, dated October 10, 1882.

Application filed March 29, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. C. GERMEYER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Carlisle, in the county of Cumberland and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Releasing Devices for Stalls for Cattle, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention has relation to the hitching devices in the stalls or stables for cattle; and the object of the invention is to provide a means whereby at ordinary times the animals may be properly secured or fastened in their stalls; but in the event of an emergency—such as a fire occurring or other extraordinary occasion—all the cattle may be instantly and simultaneously loosened, so as to facilitate their rapid exit from the building; and the novelty consists in the construction of the devices, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, similar letters of reference indicate like parts of the invention.

Figure 1 is a top plan view of a stall fitted with my device. Fig. 2 is a section through the line *x x*, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the bolt-plate detached from the frame-work of the stall.

A is the feed-trough, having the inclined front *a*, and rear or back *a'*, of ordinary construction.

B is the side or end of the stable, and *b* one of the stall-partitions.

C is an iron rod running the entire length of the stalls, and is located on the inner side of the inclined front *a*. This rod C works in guides *c* in the bolt-plate D, so as to have an end-sliding movement of an inch or two, and is operated by a handle, E, secured on the outside B of the stable, or, if preferable, to a partition on the inside. The handle E works in a guide, *e*, and is connected to pitman F, which in turn is secured to one end of a bell-crank, G, the other end of which is attached to a short connecting-rod, H, secured to one end of the rod C. It will thus be seen that by operating the handle E a sliding motion is communicated to the rod C. A spiral or other suitable spring, I, is secured to the bell-crank G, so as to force the rod C inwardly or to the right.

About the center of each feed-trough are secured the bolt-plates D. These plates consist of a single piece of sheet metal, the lower part of which is bent up to form the guide *c*, and a portion of this guide is cut away to form a stop, *c'*, for the bolt, and that part of the metal which is cut away on three sides to form an opening, *d*, is bent out at a right angle and provided with an orifice, *d'*, so as to form a staple, *e'*. At the point where the rod C passes through the guides *c* an angular bolt, K, is secured to the rod, so that its bolting end is inserted into the orifice *d'* in the staple *e'*. A downwardly-inclined slot, L, is cut through the front *a* of the feed-trough, through which passes a link, M, having an orifice, *m*, and ring N. A sheet-metal escutcheon, O, is secured to the front of the trough, so as to form a protection to the slot L and prevent wear of the wood, and the piece of metal *o*, which is cut away on three sides of slot, is bent inwardly and forms a wearing-surface for the link M.

The ingenious construction of the plate D and escutcheon O adds greatly to the life of the device, and they are in themselves inexpensive and very effective for the purpose in which they are employed.

In ordinary operation the cattle are secured by a snap on the halter to the ring N, and in this position, should the stable take fire or other extraordinary event occur, by simply drawing the handle E outwardly the bolts K are withdrawn from the staples *e'*. This frees the links M, and they fall by gravity through the inclined slots L, and thus the whole number of cattle in the stable are instantly and simultaneously unhitched, which greatly facilitates their exit in case of danger.

It will readily be understood that my invention is applicable to stables for all classes of animals wherein it may be desirable at any time to unhitch the lot at one operation without undergoing the tedious operation of loosening them singly.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and useful, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The bolt-plate D, having the guide *c*, opening *d*, staple *e'*, and orifice *d'*, made of a single piece of metal, in combination with the link M, rod C, and bolt K, as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

J. C. GERMEYER.

Witnesses:
THEO. CARMAN,
WM. VANCE.