

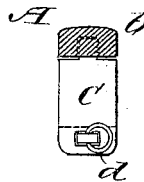
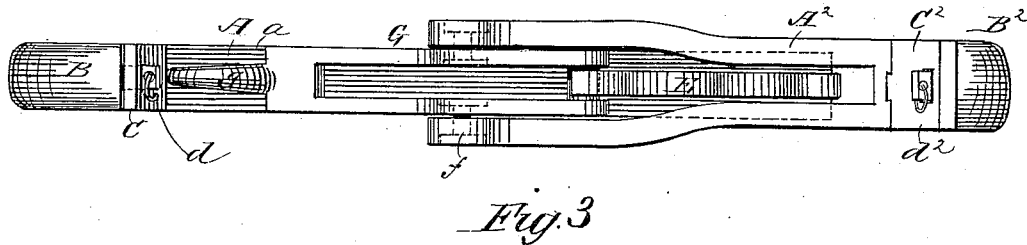
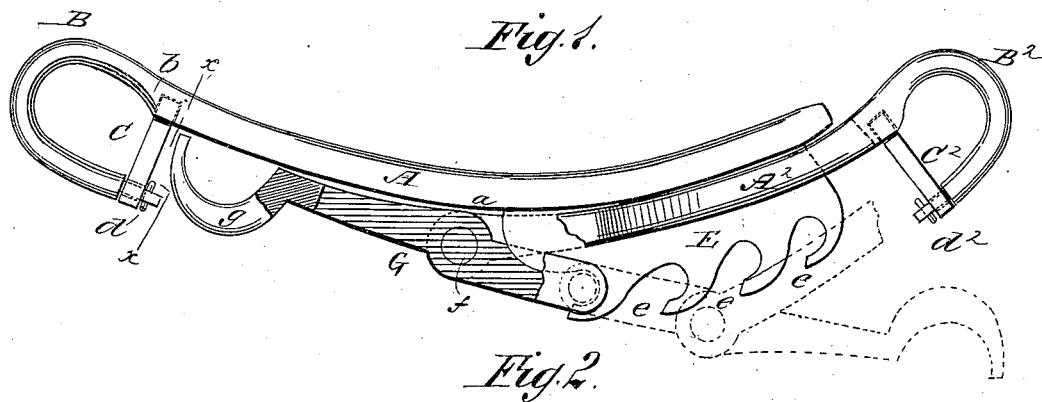
(Model.)

J. J. CURRY.

HAME FASTENER.

No. 266,438.

Patented Oct. 24, 1882.



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN J. CURRY, OF PLAINS, PENNSYLVANIA.

HAME-FASTENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,433, dated October 24, 1882.

Application filed April 11, 1882. (Model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. CURRY, of Plains, in the county of Luzerne and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful
5 Improvements in Hame-Fasteners, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to a means for connecting and securing the lower ends of a pair of
10 hames in lieu of an ordinary hame-strap.

The invention consists in a novel construction and combination of a bar provided with one or more ratchet-teeth, and a bar provided with a pivoted lever engaging with said ratchet-
15 teeth and operating after the manner of a cam, each of said bars being provided at its outer end with a hook for engagement with the loop or eye of the hame and a bolt for preventing displacement, as hereinafter more particularly
20 described.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

25 Figure 1 is a side view, partly in section, showing the position of the parts when the hames are fastened. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the same. Fig. 3 is a section taken in the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a detail view of a
30 modification.

A represents a metal bar which is curved to correspond with the shape of the lower end of a horse-collar, and is provided with lateral flanges *a*. The outer end of the bar A is formed
35 into a hook, B, for engagement with the loop or eye formed at the lower end of a metal hame, or the loop or staple carried by a wooden hame. When the hook B is engaged with a hame its displacement is prevented by means of a bolt,
40 C, the inner end of which is tenoned and fits in a mortise, *b*, in the bar A, and the outer end is perforated and fits over a tenon on the end of the hook, where it is secured by a ring, *d*, passing through a hole in said tenon. Near
45 the other end of the bar A, on the under side, is a rib or fin, E, the edge of which is provided with one or more ratchet-teeth, *e*, pointing toward the hooked end of the bar.

50 A² represents a metal bar curved to correspond with the curve of the bar A, and having its outer end formed into a hook, B², and

provided with a bolt, C², and fastening-ring *d*², similar to those above described. This bar A² is forked or divided into two branches, between which the fin E works. At the end of
55 the fork between the branches is pivoted a forked lever, G, the short arm of which has at its end a cross-bar for engagement with the ratchet-teeth *e*, and the long arm is bent into a half-ring or finger-piece, *g*.
60

The operation is as follows: The bars A A² being connected to the hames by the hooks B B², the hames are placed around the collar and their ends brought toward each other in the same
65 manner as when a hame-strap is used. The lever G is held in the position shown in dotted lines, and the cross-bar at the end of its short arm is engaged with one of the ratchet-teeth *e*. The lever is then moved around in the position shown in full lines, so that its long arm
70 rests against the bar A, and the end of its short arm is outside of a line continued from the bar A² through the pivot *f*. By this means the hames are drawn toward each other more tightly than it is possible to draw them with
75 a strap or any of the hame-fasteners now in general use, and are held perfectly secure in place on the collar. By pulling downward on the finger-piece *g* the position of the lever is reversed, so as to disengage it from the ratchet
80 and allow the hames to be separated.

The advantages of my invention are: It is cheap and simple in its construction and operation. It fastens the hames more tightly and
85 securely than is possible with a strap or any of the hames-fasteners in use. It can readily be adjusted to fit hames and collars of various sizes. It is strong and durable, not liable to break or wear out, and will last as long
90 as any hames to which it may be applied. After once being adjusted and fastened there is no stretching or straining, as in the case of straps, and the hames are always in place with the desired degree of tightness, affording safety to the hames and harness and ease and com-
95 fort to the animal.

Instead of the fastening-bolts shown in Figs. 1 and 2, the modification shown in Fig. 4 may be employed.

A plate or bolt, H, is hinged or pivoted at its
100 upper end to the extreme end of the hook B, and is held in place, when engaged with the

hame, by means of a spring-catch, J, attached to the base of the hook.

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

1. A hame-fastener consisting of a bar provided with one or more ratchet-teeth, and a forked bar provided with a lever pivoted between its branches and engaging with the said ratchet-teeth and operating after the manner of a cam, said bars being provided with hooks for engagement with the hames, substantially as herein described.

2. The combination, with the bar A, pro-

vided with the rib or fin E and ratchet-teeth ¹⁵ *e*, of the bar A² and pivoted lever G, provided with the finger-piece *g*, substantially as and for the purposes herein described.

3. The combination, with the hooks B B², of the bolts C C², having tenons engaging with ²⁰ mortises in the bars and slots engaging with tenons on the hooks, and the fastening-rings *d* ^d for securing said bolts, substantially as herein described.

JOHN J. CURRY.

Witnesses:

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