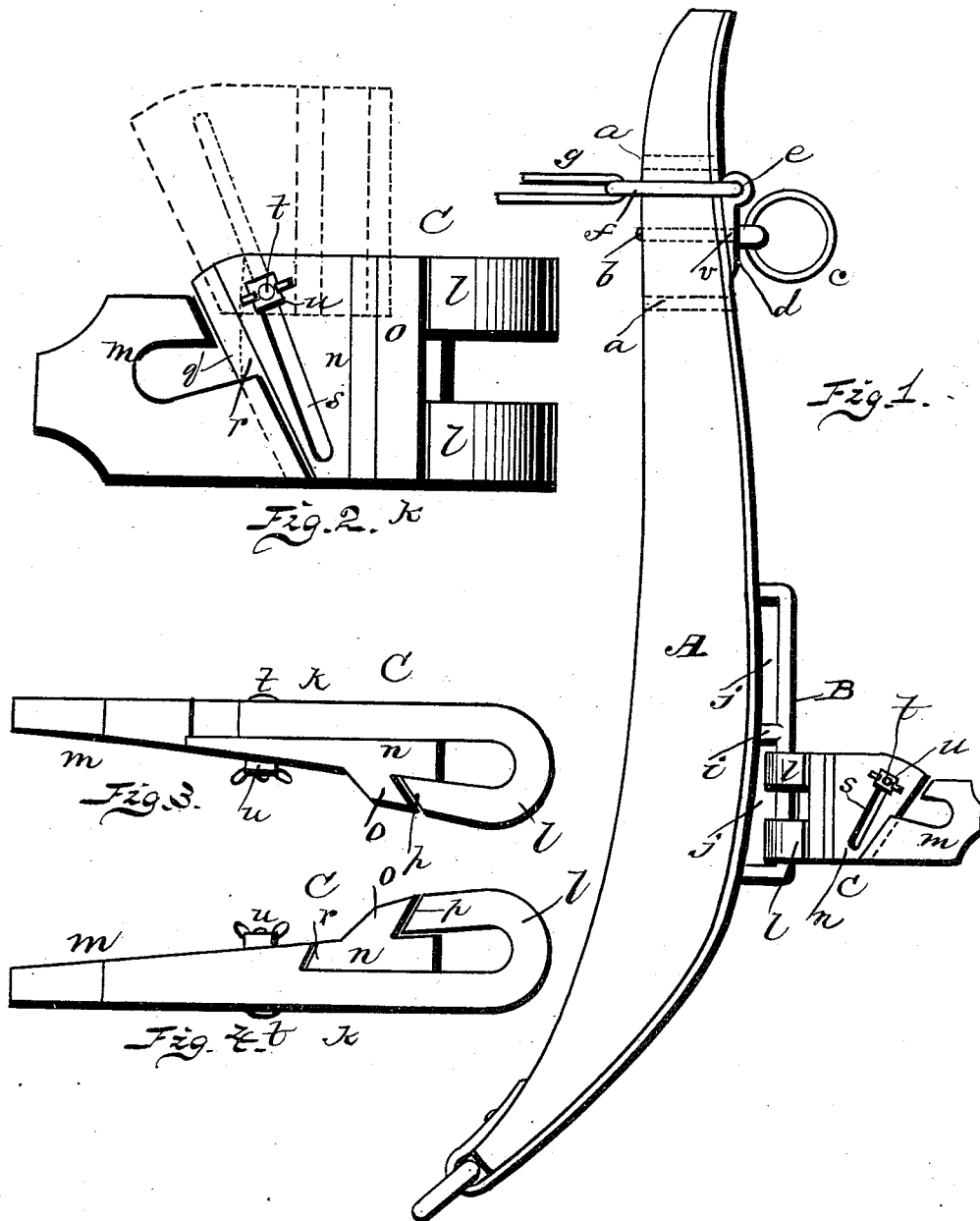


(No Model.)

A. C. MATLACK.
HAME.

No. 381,399.

Patented Apr. 17, 1888.



WITNESSES,
Jas. F. Watson.
John G. Nailor.

INVENTOR,
A. C. Matlack.
By E. H. Bates.
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER C. MATLACK, OF INDEPENDENCE, CALIFORNIA.

HAME.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 381,399, dated April 17, 1888.

Application filed February 27, 1888. Serial No. 265,404. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER C. MATLACK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Independence, in the county of Inyo and State of California, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hames; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to improvements in hames; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts, hereinafter fully explained, whereby the top neck-strap and tug-hook are made adjustable, as well as providing a lock for said hook.

The annexed drawings, to which reference is made, fully illustrate my invention, in which—

Figure 1 represents a front view of a hame, showing my device applied thereto, and Fig. 2 represents an edge view of the draft-hook. Fig. 3 is a top or edge view of the hook, and Fig. 4 is a bottom edge view of the same.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, A designates an ordinary hame, which is transversely perforated at *a* for the passage of the screw *b*, to which the rein-ring *c* is attached. This screw passes through an eye in a plate *d*, having an eye, *e*, in its upper end, to which is connected one end of a link, *f*, having the top neck-strap, *g*. The hame is also provided with a long staple, B, having a central bar, *i*, which divides the same into two spaces, *j j*, in either of which is attached the draft-hook C. This draft-hook is of peculiar construction. The same consists of the main body portion *k*, having at one end the double hook *l l*, for attachment to the bar on the hame, and at the opposite end the single hook *m*, which receives the draft chain or trace of a harness, and a slide-lock portion, *n*, the forward end of which has a vertical flange, *o*, beveled on its inner face, in which snugly fits the beveled ends *p* of the double hooks aforesaid. The rear edge of the sliding lock-plate inclines forwardly and downward, as at *q*, and the same is beveled to correspond with the

inclined bevel of the single hook, as at *r*, and in which the same has its vertical play. This lock-plate is also provided with an inclined slot, *s*, through which passes a bolt, *t*, having a fastening-nut, *u*, for locking said plate in position after being adjusted.

It will be seen from the above description and by reference to the annexed drawings that the top hame-strap can be adjusted up or down by withdrawing the screw with its ring, plate, link, and strap, and reinserting it in any of the other perforations in the hame, and the draft-hook can be adjusted vertically by loosening the nut and raising the lock-plate until clear of the hooks, when the latter can be detached from the staple on the hame and again attached higher or lower or intermediate, thus, if the latter, bringing the central bar of the staple between the double hooks, when the plate is again lowered, the nut screwed up, and thereby locking the parts together. It will be seen, also, that the plate also locks the tug-trace to the single hook, thereby preventing accidental displacement of the parts, and it is simple in operation, durable, and cheap to manufacture.

What I claim is—

1. The combination, with the hame A, provided with the vertical series of perforations *a*, strap *g*, link *f*, bolt *b*, and ring *c*, of the plate *d*, provided at its upper end with the eye *e* and at its lower end with the transverse perforation *v*, the former adapted to receive the link and the latter the bolt, as shown, and for the purpose set forth.

2. The herein-described draft-hook, adapted to be attached removably to a hame, consisting of the main portion having at its forward end the double hooks, the ends of which are beveled, and at its rear end a single hook having the inclined slideway, the lock-plate, thicker at its forward end and provided with the side flange having the inner bevel, the rear inclined and beveled edge, and the slot, bolt, and nut, the whole adapted to operate as and for the purposes set forth.

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

ALEXANDER C. MATLACK.

Witnesses:

J. C. SHOCKLEY,
R. M. SHOCKLEY.