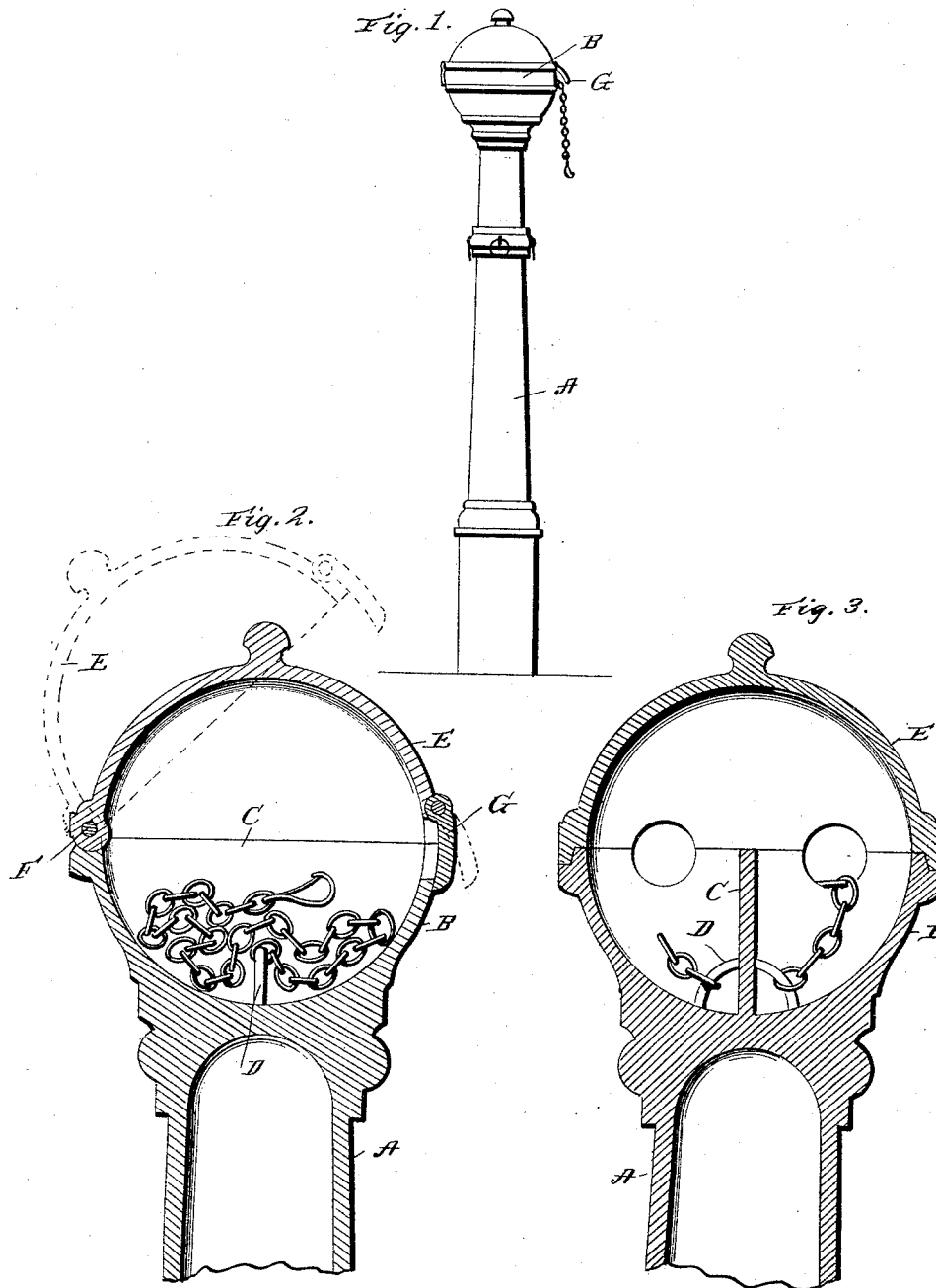


(No Model.)

J. MASSEY.
HITCHING POST.

No. 458,737.

Patented Sept. 1, 1891.



Witnesses:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MASSEY, OF MANVILLE, RHODE ISLAND.

HITCHING-POST.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 458,737, dated September 1, 1891.

Application filed April 22, 1891. Serial No. 389,942. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN MASSEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Manville, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Posts; 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.

My invention has relation to improvements in hitching posts and boxes; and it has for its object to provide a post of a construction adapted to afford a closed receptacle for the hitching chain or strap when not in use, whereby the same is protected from the weather, &c.

To the attainment of this object the invention consists in the construction, novel combination, and adaptation of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is an elevation of my improved hitching-post. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal diametrical section of the upper portion thereof, the swinging cover being illustrated in an open position by the dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a similar view taken in a plane at right angles to that of Fig. 2.

In the said drawings similar letters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, referring to which—

A indicates an ordinary hitching-post upright, which is preferably of a circular contour in cross-section.

Formed integral with or suitably mounted upon the upper end of the upright A is a cup or receptacle B, which is preferably of a general hemispherical form, and is provided in its edge at suitable points with semicircular notches, for a purpose presently to be described.

Preferably formed or cast integral with the receptacle B is a diametrical vertical partition-wall C, which is designed to separate the receptacle into two compartments, whereby the respective chains or straps are prevented from becoming tangled or in any way interfering with each other.

Extending at right angles to the partition C are bars D, which are preferably curved and have one end connected to said partition and the other connected to the bottom of the receptacle, whereby they serve for the attachment of one end of the hitching straps or

chains, which are preferably provided with a snaffle-hook or the like at their opposite end.

E indicates the cap or cover of my improved post, which is also preferably of a general hemispherical form, and is connected to the cup or receptacle B in a hinged manner, as better illustrated at F in Fig. 2 of the drawings. This cap or cover E is provided in its edge, as shown, with semicircular notches, so arranged as to register with those of the receptacle when the cover is closed, whereby the circular openings are afforded for the passage of the hitching chains or straps.

Connected in a hinged manner to the cover or cap E above the notches in the edge thereof are depending swinging doors G, which are adapted to close the circular openings to prevent the entrance of moisture, &c., when the chains or straps are not in use.

As better illustrated in Fig. 3 of the drawings, the edges of the receptacle B and the cover E are preferably recessed, whereby it will be seen that when the cover is closed a tight joint will be effected between the two, as is desirable.

By the construction described it will be seen that when it is desired to hitch a horse it is simply necessary to raise the cap or cover and pull the free end of the chain out, after which the cover is let down and the chain takes passage through the circular aperture formed by the recesses in the edges of the section.

It is obvious that, if desirable, the receptacle and the cover might be of a rectangular or other suitable form; but I prefer to employ the hemispherical form in their construction, as illustrated and described. It is further obvious that if but one hitching chain or strap is employed the partition C might be dispensed with and only one semicircular recess need be made in the edges of the receptacle and cover, as only one passage would be necessary; but I prefer to provide the partition and two or more chains, as the same are obviously desirable.

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

1. As an article of manufacture, a hitching-post having a receptacle for a hitching chain or strap, a cover hinged to the receptacle, and both the receptacle and cover having notches in their edges at corresponding points for the

passage of the hitching strap or chain, and hinged doors closing said recesses, substantially as specified.

2. As an article of manufacture, a hitching-
5 post having a receptacle for hitching straps or chains, a partition dividing the receptacle into two compartments, means in each compartment for a retaining device, a cover hinged to the receptacle, said cover and receptacle hav-
10 ing apertures at their meeting edges for the

passage of the hitching-chains, and hinged plates or doors closing said passages, substantially as specified.

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

JOHN MASSEY.

Witnesses:

SAML. P. COOK,
GEO. W. SPAULDING.