

(No Model.)

J. FINDLAY.  
HORSE HITCHING DEVICE.

No. 304,716.

Patented Sept. 9, 1884.

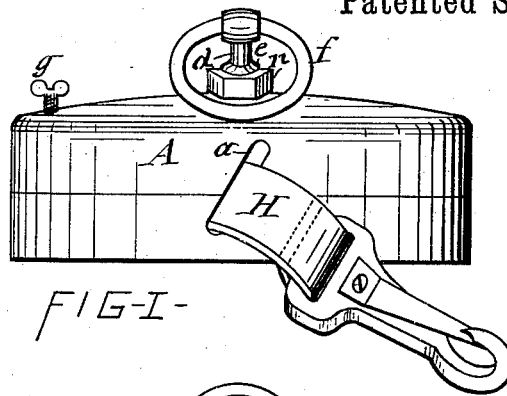


FIG-I-

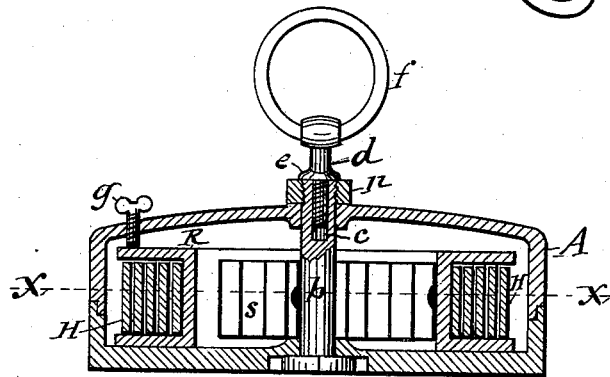


FIG-II-

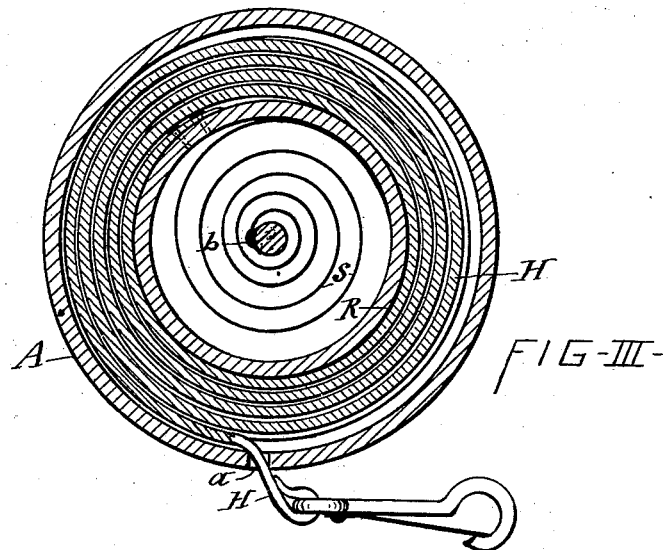


FIG-III-

WITNESSES

Ch. Benson  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES FINDLAY, OF OSWEGO, NEW YORK.

## HORSE-HITCHING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,716, dated September 9, 1884.

Application filed February 11, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAMES FINDLAY, of Oswego, in the county of Oswego, in the State of New York, have invented new and useful  
5 Improvements in Horse-Hitching Devices, of which the following, taken in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to that class of hitching devices which have the hitching-strap wound on a reel inclosed in a case which is either weighted or adapted to be secured to a post or other stationary object.

My invention consists in novel means for checking the rotation of the reel, and thus limit the length of the hitching-strap extended from the reel, all as hereinafter more fully described, and specifically set forth in the claim.

The detail construction of said hitching device is fully illustrated in the annexed drawings, wherein—

Figure I is a side view of my invention. Fig. II is a vertical transverse section thereof; and Fig. III is a longitudinal section on line  
25 *x x*, Fig. II.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

A represents an annular metallic case, which may be either fixed to a post or weighted sufficiently to render it self-sustaining in any position it may be placed, and resist by its weight the draft of a horse hitched thereto by its halter or hitching-strap. Said case is provided in its periphery with a transverse slot,  
35 *a*, for the passage through it of a hitching-strap, H, the interior end of which is attached to a reel, R, in the form of a ring fitted loosely in the case, and having its periphery provided with flanges, between which the hitching-strap lies when wound up on the reel. The case is divided horizontally or at right angles to the axis of the case, and preferably about midway the length of the slot *a*, so as to admit of forming the latter in casting the case without the use of a core. The two sections of the case are fitted together by a rabbet-joint, as shown in Fig. II of the drawings, and are tied together by a bolt, *b*, which  
45 passes through the center of the case, and is provided on the under side thereof with a head, and has its opposite end screw-threaded

externally, and a nut, *n*, applied thereto to clamp the two case-sections together.

To the bolt *b* is attached the inner end of a coil-spring, *s*, the outer end of which is connected to the reel R. By turning the bolt *b*, the spring *s* can be wound up, so as to cause it to rotate the reel R, and thereby wind thereon the hitching-strap H. After the spring is thus adjusted to the requisite tension, the bolt *b* is clamped in its position by tightening the nut *n*. To prevent the nut from accidentally working loose, I provide the screw-threaded end of the bolt *b* with an axial female-threaded  
65 socket, *c*, into which I fit a screw-threaded stud-pin, *d*, having a flange, *e*, bearing on the nut *n*, and serving as a nut-lock. The threads of the said stud-pin run in such a direction that the turning of said pin into the socket *c* is in the same direction which is required of the turning of the bolt *b* in winding up the spring.

To the stud-pin *d*, I attach a ring, *f*, which serves as a handle for carrying the case and also for turning the stud-pin, and may also be used for attaching thereto another hitching-strap.

*g* represents a set-screw working through the top of the case, and adapted to engage the reel R, so as to prevent the rotation thereof. By thus locking said reel the hitching-strap H can be confined either in the case or retained at any desirable length extended therefrom.

I do not claim, broadly, the combination of a hitching-strap connected to a spring-actuated reel and a case inclosing the same, as I am aware this is not new; but

What I claim as new is—

In combination with the strap H, reel R, spring *s*, and inclosing-case A, the set-screw *g*, passing through the case and adapted to engage the reel, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto signed my name and affixed my seal, in the presence of two attesting witnesses, at Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga, in the State of New York, this 4th day of February, 1884.

JAMES FINDLAY. [L. S.]

Witnesses:

FREDERICK H. GIBBS,  
JOHN LAASS.