

S. A. PHELPS.
TOE-WEIGHTS FOR HORSES.

No. 192,002.

Patented June 12, 1877.

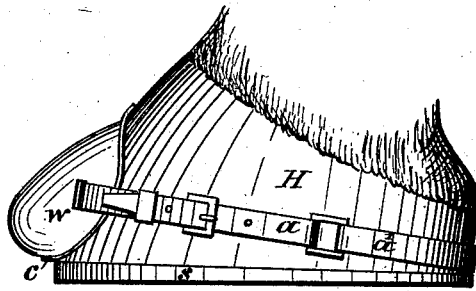


Fig. 1

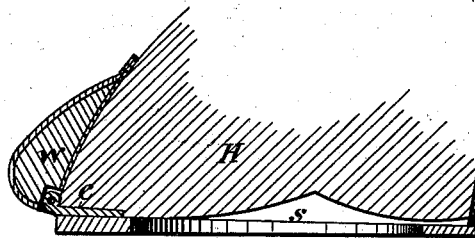


Fig. 2

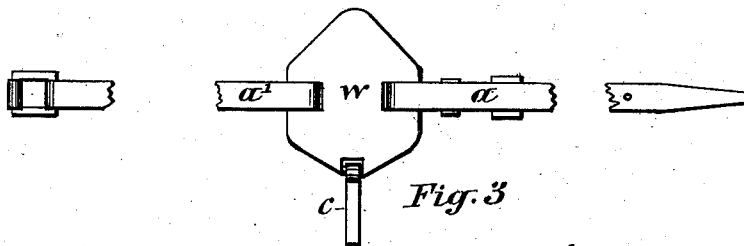


Fig. 3

WITNESSES:
George W. Hoy
Will. Sanders Jr.

INVENTOR:
Samuel A. Phelps
By Sanders & Hoy
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SAMUEL A. PHELPS, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN TOE-WEIGHTS FOR HORSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **192,002**, dated June 12, 1877; application filed April 23, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL A. PHELPS, of the city of Syracuse, county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Toe-Weights for Forming and Regulating the Gait and Action of Trotting-Horses; and I declare the following to be a full, clear, and complete description of the same, that will enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same.

In describing and specifying my invention, reference is had to the accompanying drawing, forming a part of this specification, in which like letters indicate corresponding parts.

Figure 1 represents my improved toe-weight attached to the hoof of a horse, and shows the manner of attaching the same. Fig. 2 is a sectional view, showing the position of the hinged tenon *c* when the weight is attached. Fig. 3 is the toe-weight detached, showing the hinged tenon and appliances for attaching the weight.

My invention consists in providing a weight with a hinged tenon, to be applied to the toes of horses' hoofs for the purpose of steadying and regulating the gait of trotting-horses, and to increase and develop their knee-action, and also to develop a trotting-gait in colts and pacers.

Experience has demonstrated the fact that the addition of a weight, as above applied, produces this desirable result; but the difficulty heretofore has been in devising means to secure the weight firmly, and at the same time have a durable and practical device, as

the weights now in use break off readily, and cannot be retained in position.

This difficulty I have entirely overcome by providing on my weight the hinged tenon *c*, Fig. 3. The hinge permits the necessary motion and conforms to the movement of the hoof as it strikes, thus forming an effective device and accomplishing the desirable result. I also provide loops on each side of the weight, Fig. 3, through which pass the straps *a a'*. In order to apply the device, a small incision is made in the shell of the hoof, just above the shoe, Figs. 1 and 2, large enough to insert the hinged tenon of the weight. The weight is then applied by inserting the tenon in the incision and securing the straps around the hoof.

The straps may be of leather, as shown, or of metal. The weight *w* is made of metal, and is incased in a heavy leather cover, neatly stitched on, presenting an attractive appearance.

Having thus fully described my invention, I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, the following, viz:

1. The toe-weight herein described, provided with a hinged tenon, substantially as shown and specified.
2. The combination of the weight *w* and hinged tenon *c* with each other and the securing-straps, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 19th day of April, 1877.

SAMUEL A. PHELPS.

Witnesses:

GEORGE W. HEY,
S. J. BILLINGTON.