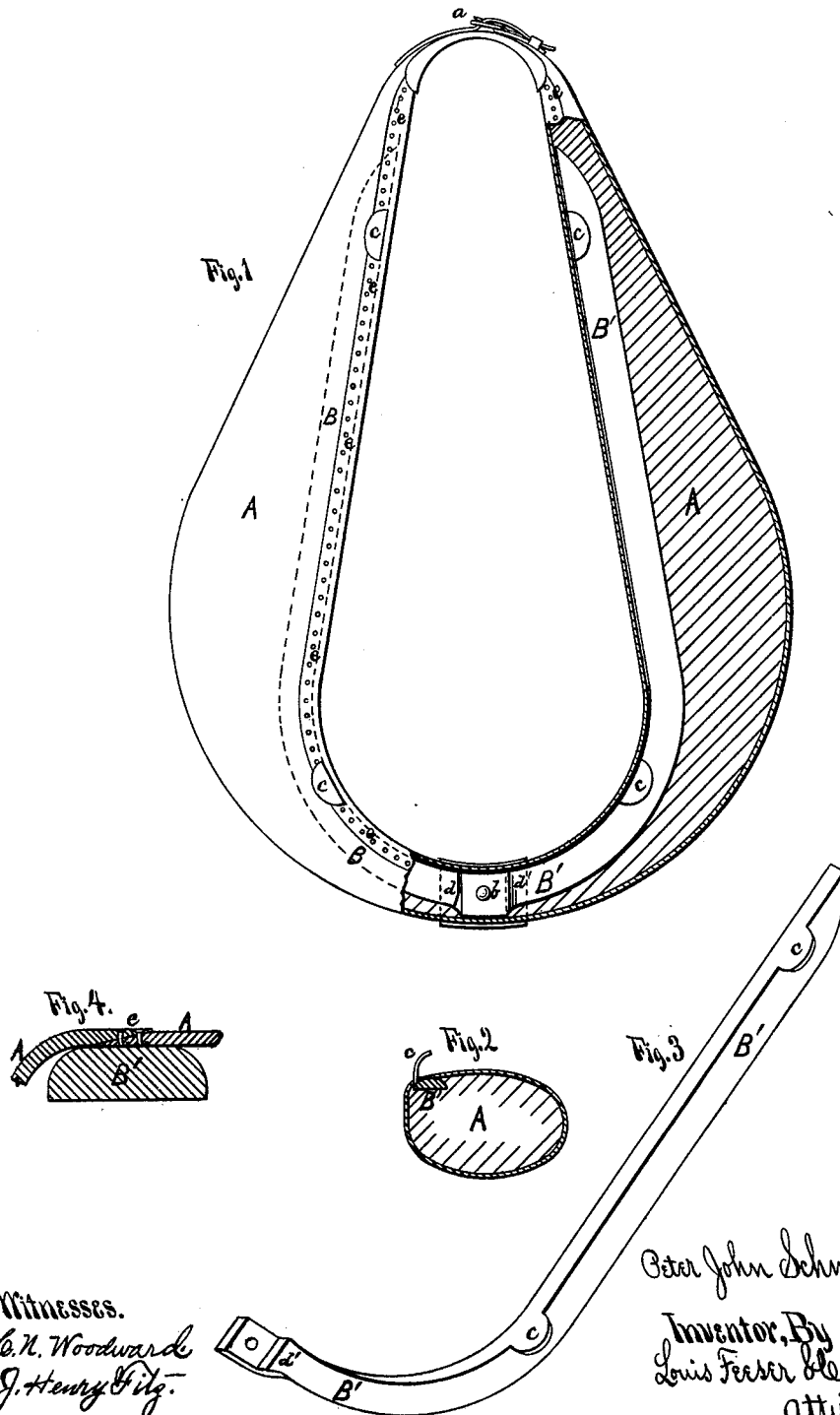


P. J. SCHMITZ.
Horse-Collar.

No. 200,847.

Patented March 5, 1878.



Witnesses.
C. H. Woodward
J. Henry Fitz.

Peter John Schmitz,
Inventor, By
Louis Feiser & Co.
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER JOHN SCHMITZ, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE-COLLARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **200,847**, dated March 5, 1878; application filed November 15, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, PETER JOHN SCHMITZ, of St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Collars, which improvements are fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a semi-sectional front view of a horse-collar, showing the method of applying my improvement. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of the collar, showing the manner of arranging the brace therein; Fig. 3, a perspective view of one of the metal braces detached; Fig. 4, an enlarged view of a section of the leather covering and metal brace, showing the method of fastening the joint.

This invention relates to collars for horses; and consists in two flat metal strips hinged together at the bottom, and so placed inside the collar as to allow it to be opened at the top sufficiently to insert the horse's neck, as well as to stiffen and strengthen the collar, as hereinafter fully described.

A is the collar, which is of the open-top style, with the buckles and straps *a*, made in the usual manner. B B' are two flat metal strips or braces, hinged together at *b*, and placed inside the collar, on the side next the hames, as shown in Fig. 2.

Metal clips or lugs *cc* may be secured to the metal braces B B', and project through the leather casing A, to support the hames, if desired.

d d' are shoulders formed upon the braces B B', at the lower ends, which limit the action

of the hinge, and prevents it being opened wider than is sufficient to place it upon the horse, or from being closed more than is necessary, thus preventing the neck of the collar being broken, or the horse's neck being compressed too much.

In the ordinary open-top collar the danger of breaking them by opening them too far is very imminent, and often occurs. This is a cause of frequent annoyance, and led to the invention above described.

By this means all danger of breaking the collar is avoided, as the shoulders *d* will prevent its being opened too far.

I am acquainted with the patent of Mathew Gordon, October 15, 1872, No. 132,206, which shows a collar having metal braces arranged therein; but such I do not claim, broadly.

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

The combination, with an open-topped horse-collar, of the metal braces B B', hinged together at *b*, and provided with shoulders *d d'*, adapted to limit the distance to which the collar may be opened or closed, arranged and operating substantially as hereinbefore described.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

PETER JOHN SCHMITZ.

Witnesses:

C. N. WOODWARD,
JOHN T. HALSTED.