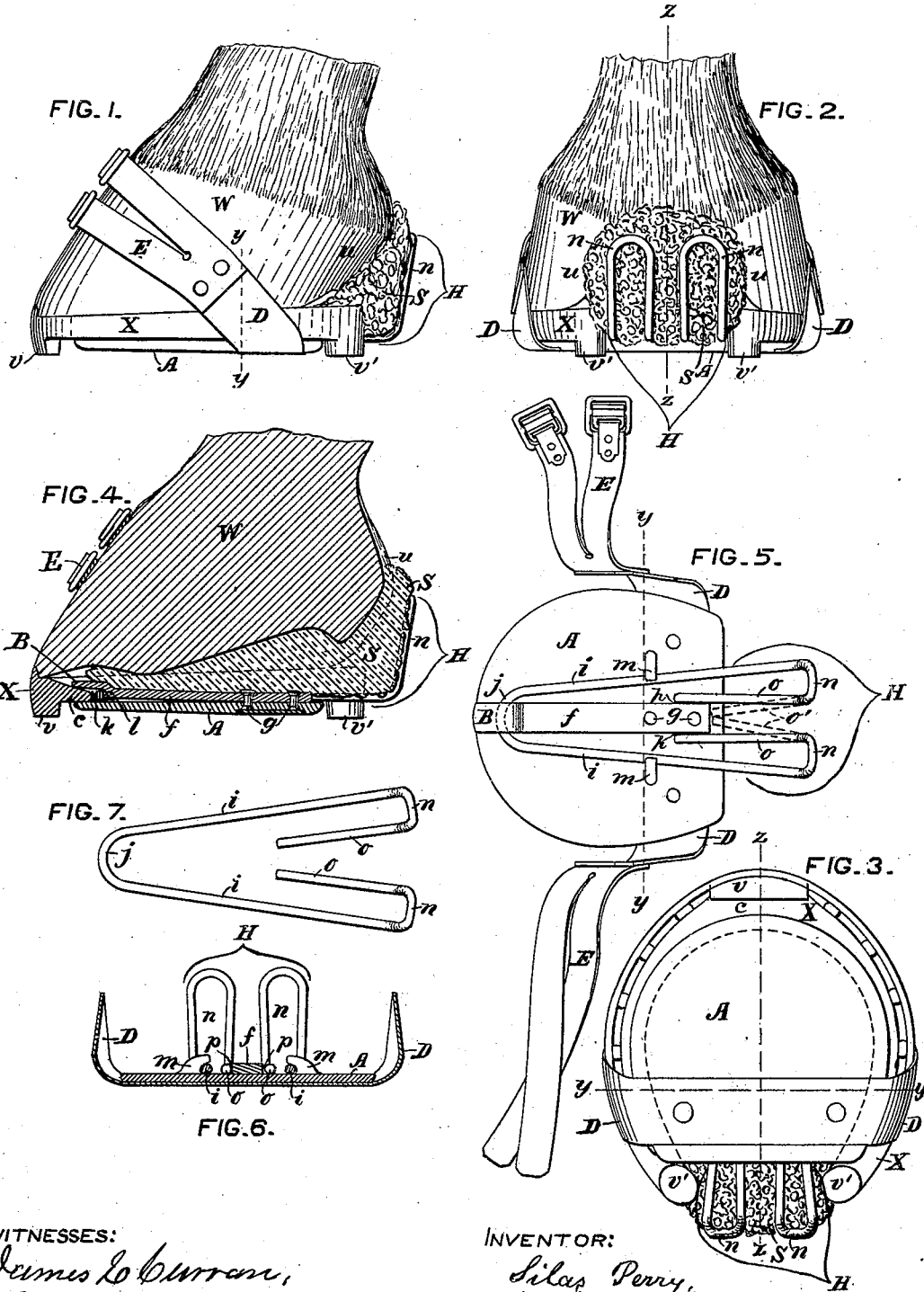


S. PERRY.
Hoof-Moistener Holder.

No. 211,639.

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WITNESSES:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN HOOF-MOISTENER HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **211,639**, dated January 28, 1879; application filed December 16, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SILAS PERRY, of the city of Troy, in the county of Rensselaer and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hoof-Moistener Holders, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a side elevation, Fig. 2 a rear elevation, Fig. 3 a plan of the under side, and Fig. 4 a section at the line *z z* in Figs. 2 and 3, all of a shod horse-foot having my invention applied thereto. Fig. 5 is a plan of the same device removed from the foot; Fig. 6, a section of the same at the line *y y* in Figs. 1, 3, and 5, and Fig. 7 a plan of a removable part thereof.

A is a rigid sole-plate, which is adapted to fit against the under side of a common shoe, X, on the hoof W, and between the toe and heel calks *v v' v'*, as shown by Figs. 1, 2, 3, and 4, and which is, preferably, of malleable cast-iron or other suitable cheap material. B is a raised lug on the plate A, and adapted to fit upon the upper side of the inner part, *c*, of the toe of the shoe, while the forward part of the plate A is against the under side thereof, all substantially as shown by Fig. 4.

In order to provide very simple, cheap, effective, and durable means whereby the sole-plate A, having the raised front lug B, can be quickly and firmly secured and retained in the proper central position upon shod hoofs of considerably different sizes, and at the same time not have any strap or fastening device extend around and injuriously compress the somewhat yielding or tender rear portions *u* of the hoof, I secure to the plate A semi-rigid or stiffly-bendable metallic guards D D, extending upward from the sides of that plate, and furnished with flexible fastening-straps E E, arranged and adapted to be tightly buckled over and upon the forward part of the hoof, all substantially as shown in the drawings.

I generally prefer to have the guards D D of sheet-copper or other suitable stiffly-bendable metal, and both in one strip extending in a recess across the plate A, and secured thereto by rivets.

By having the sole-plate A provided with the raised lug B, and the semi-rigid metallic

side guards D D furnished with the fastening-straps E, the said side guards can be readily bent, so as to fit closely and stiffly against shod hoofs of considerably different sizes, and with such stability as to firmly hold, under all ordinary circumstances of use, the sole-protecting plate A in the proper central position against the under side of the shoe on the hoof, as shown in Fig. 3, when the lug B is placed upon the part *c*, as in Fig. 4, and the straps E E are buckled tightly upon the forward part of the hoof, as in Fig. 1.

As regards this invention, the raised lug B can be in one piece with the plate A, or secured to the latter by any suitable means; but I generally prefer to have the lugs B on the front end of a stiff spring-bar, *f*, secured at its rear part to the plate by screws or rivets *g*, or other suitable means, so that the spring shall cause the lug B and forward part of the plate A to fit tightly upon the part *c* of shoes having that part of considerably different thicknesses, and shall at the same time coact with the guides D D and straps E E in giving elasticity to the fastening of the plate A to the shod hoof.

In order to produce an improved device adapted to protect the bottoms of considerably different sizes of the shod feet of horses and mules, and at the same time properly hold a wet or moist sponge, S, or other suitable yielding liquid-absorbing material, against the bottom and rear portion of the foot, I form with, or firmly secure by any suitable means to, the plate A, furnished with the lug B, semi-rigid side guards D D and straps E E, a frame-like or open-work extension, H, reaching rearward and upward from the rear part of the plate A, and wholly supported by the latter, and adapted to hold the wet sponge S against the rear part of the hoof, and at the same time leave the rear portion of the sponge exposed, so as to permit ventilation and free evaporation to cool the foot, while the rigid plate A shall prevent the liquid from being squeezed out at the bottom by the animal standing on straw, litter, or soft ground.

In order to adapt the sole-plate A and lug B to readily receive and securely retain in proper working position a rearwardly-extended, conveniently-detachable, sponge-hold-

ing frame having laterally-elastic side rods *i i*, united by a front bend, *j*, I form the plate A and lug B with a recess, *k*, under the lug, and the bearing *l*, Fig. 4, suitable to receive the bend *j*, and form on the plate A laterally notched or hooked bearings *m m*, adapted to receive and hold the laterally-elastic side rods *i i*, substantially as shown in Figs. 5 and 6.

The device consisting of the plate A, having the raised front lug B, with recess *k*, bearing *l*, and laterally hooked or notched bearings or lugs *m m*, constitutes an improved hoof-protector, adapted to receive and securely hold different detachable sponge-holders having laterally-springing side extensions *i i*, and a forward bend, *j*, and a rearwardly-extended portion, H, of various lengths, widths, sizes, and shapes, as shall be suited to hold sponges of different sizes against greater or less portions of the rear parts of shod hoofs of various sizes and forms.

To produce from one piece of elastic steel or other suitable rod or wire an improved detachable skeleton sponge-holder, adapted to be firmly secured by its own elasticity when properly compressed and applied to the plate A, having the raised lug B, recess *k*, and bearings *l* and *m m*, I form in the rod or wire a bend, *j*, and side extensions *i i*, with upturned rear bends, *n n*, and inturned end parts *o o*, all substantially as shown separate in Fig. 7, so that when the bend *j* shall be placed in the recess *k* under the lug B, and against the bearing *l*, and the side parts *i i* then pressed nearer together and placed between and against the bearings *m m*, the whole frame will be secured to the plate A by the outward spring-pressure of the parts *i i* against the bearings *m m*, while the end parts *o o* may press laterally against each other, as indicated by dotted lines at *o'* in Fig. 5, or against raised bearings *p p* on the plate, as shown by full lines in Figs. 5 and 6, so as to thereby increase the spring-pressure of the parts *i i* against the bearings *m m*, and thus firmly secure the detachable elastic frame to the sole-plate. Several of these elastic frames, of different lengths, and having the rear parts, H, of various sizes and shapes, can be separately secured to one and the same sole-plate A, having the lug B, recess *k*, and bearings *l m m*, as shall be suitable or desirable in use upon different sizes of shod hoofs and with different sizes of sponges.

The device shown separate in Fig. 5, and consisting of the plate A, semi-rigid side guards D D, with fastening-straps E E, raised front lug, B, bearings *l m m*, and detachable elastic frame, (shown separate in Fig. 7,) with or without the spring-bar *f*, or bearings *p p*,

constitutes the most complete and generally desirable form of my invention.

I am aware that a device for holding a wet sponge against the shod hoof of a horse has embodied a solid sole-plate having a raised front lug to fit over the inner part of the toe of the shoe, and a flat bar extending therefrom across the sole-plate and upward in rear thereof, and there formed into a loop, through which a fastening-strap extended to buckle tightly around the heel of the foot and the wet sponge in rear thereof, and thereby tend to injuriously compress the same in securing the device to the hoof; and such device did not have, like my invention, the side bearings *m m* on the sole-plate, nor the elastic detachable skeleton-frame to engage therewith, nor the semi-rigid side guards D D, having fastening-straps E E, and adapted, by being variously bent, to fit stiffly upon various sizes of shod hoofs, and thereby securely keep the sole-plate firmly in place thereon.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. The device consisting of the rigid sole-plate A, having the raised front lug, B, and the semi-rigid metallic guards D D, extending upward and forward from the sides of the sole-plate, furnished with fastening-straps E E, and capable of being bent so as to fit stiffly upon shod hoofs of different sizes, as set forth.
2. The device consisting of the rigid sole-plate A, having the raised front lug, B, the rearwardly and upwardly extended sponge-holder H, and the semi-rigid side guards D D, with fastening-straps E E, substantially as described.
3. The device consisting of the sole-plate A, having the raised front lug, B, recess *k*, bearing *l*, and laterally hooked or recessed lugs or bearings *m m*, all arranged substantially as described.
4. The detachable elastic frame having the side extensions *i i*, front bend, *j*, rear upturned bends, *n n*, and inturned parts *o o*, substantially as described.
5. The device consisting of the sole-plate A, having the semi-rigid side guards D D, furnished with fastening-straps E E, the raised lug B, bearings *l* and *m m*, and detachable elastic frame having the extended side parts *i i*, bend *j*, and rear upturned bends, *n n*, all combined substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses this 13th day of December, 1878.

SILAS PERRY.

Witnesses:

JAMES E. CURRAN,
JAMES H. SLADE.