

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HOLDER FOR DRIVING-REINS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 637,811, dated November 28, 1899.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT MENDENHALL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oskaloosa, in the county of Mahaska and State of Iowa, have invented a new and useful Holder for Driving-Reins, of which the following is a specification.

My object is to provide a simple, strong, durable, and efficient device adapted to be detachably fastened to the top edge of the dasher of a buggy or carriage in such a manner that a person seated in the vehicle can readily detachably fasten driving-reins thereto, as required, to prevent them from falling to the ground to become trampled upon, soiled, or to cause accidents incident to such dropping of the lines.

My invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts, as hereinafter set forth, pointed out in my claims, and illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the complete device. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing my rein-holder applied to a dasher as required for practical use and end portions of driving-reins clamped fast thereto. Fig. 3 is an end view showing means for adjusting the clamp relative to the frame and also means for regulating the tension of the spring combined therewith. Fig. 4 is a vertical and longitudinal sectional view showing the relative positions of operative parts.

The letter A designates the body portion of a frame that has a longitudinal slot in its bottom part adapting it to stride the top edge portion of a dasher, as shown in Fig. 2, to be clamped fast thereto by means of set-screws *b*, seated in its lower portion.

An integral vertical extension *G* at one end of the body portion *A* is adapted to support an adjustable clamp *D* in parallel position with the top face of the body in such a manner that driving-reins can be readily slipped in and out from under the clamp. A longitudinal bore through the top portion of the clamp admits a screw-bolt *f* to be passed through and the screw end of the bolt extended through a vertical slot *g* in the part *C* in such a manner that the bolt can be rigidly fastened to the part *C* by means of a nut *f'*, as required,

to pivotally connect the clamp *D* in such a manner that it can be raised and lowered, as required, to adjust it relative to the top face of the body *A* to suit driving-reins that differ in thickness. A round nut *h*, placed on the screw-bolt *f* before it is extended through the slot *g*, aids in retaining the bolt rigidly connected with the frame, while the clamp is pivotally connected therewith. A coil-spring *m* on the nut *h* engages the extension *D*² on the end of the clamp, and the outer end of the spring is adjustably connected with the part *C* by inserting it in one of a plurality of holes *n*. To regulate the tension of the spring, its end is changed from one of said holes to another. The spring will normally press the clamp upon reins placed between the clamp and the inclined top face of the body portion *A* of the frame, as required, to securely fasten the lines thereto.

*C*² is a projection from the inside face of the part *C* to serve as a stop required for restricting the movement of the clamp *D* relative to the frame.

*A*² is an integral extension of the part *A* and adapted to serve as a guide in directing and facilitating slipping lines in and out from under the spring-actuated clamp *D*.

From the foregoing description of the construction, purpose, and operation of my invention its utility will be readily understood by persons familiar with the art to which it pertains, and

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent therefor, is—

1. A rein-holder adapted to be fastened to the dasher of a vehicle, comprising a frame having a slot in its body portion adapting it to be placed astride the top edge of a dasher and provided with set-screws for clamping it fast, a vertical extension at one end provided with an elongated opening and a stop on its inside face and an inclined extension or guide at its other end, a clamp extending parallel with the top face of the body portion of the frame and pivotally connected with the vertical extension at the end of the frame, a screw-bolt extended through a bore in the clamp and opening in the vertical extension of the frame and fastened thereto by a nut, and a spring connected with the clamp and

the frame, all arranged and combined to operate in the manner set forth for the purposes stated.

2. The rein-holder consisting of the frame
5 portion A having an inclined extension A²
at one end, screws *b* seated in its lower portion, an open slot extending from end to end in its bottom, a right-angled extension C having an integral stop C² and an opening *g*, a
10 clamp D having an extension D² at one end at its lower portion and a longitudinal bore in its top portion, a bolt *f* extended through the clamp and said opening in the frame, nuts

h and *f*' on the bolt and a spring *m* adjustably connected with the frame and the clamp, 15 all arranged and combined to apply and operate in the manner set forth for the purposes stated.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature 20 in presence of two witnesses.

ALBERT MENDENHALL.

Witnesses:

W. S. KENWORTHY,
J. W. SARVIS.