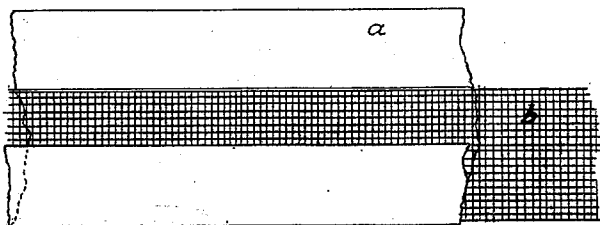


G. G. LARKIN.
Carriage-Top Stay.

No. 106,595.

Patented Aug. 23, 1870.



Witness

Henry C. Houston
Wm. Franklin Seavey

Inventor

Geo. G. Larkin
Per *Wm. H. Clifford*

United States Patent Office.

GEORGE G. LARKIN, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

Letters Patent No. 106,595, dated August 23, 1870.

IMPROVED STAY FOR CARRIAGES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same

To all whom it may concern :

Be it known that I, GEORGE G. LARKIN, of Portland, in the county of Cumberland and State of Maine, have invented a new and useful improved Stay for Carriage-Tops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use my invention, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which is shown a view of a piece of the stay with the covering partially removed therefrom, so as to expose the material of which the body of the stay is formed.

This invention consists in the use and application of a new material in the formation of a stay to extend from some part of the carriage-seat or seat-rail to the back bow, for the purpose of preventing the top from tipping or pitching forward, or the leather from wrinkling between the back bow and joint prop.

It is well known to all carriage-makers that there has always existed great trouble in keeping carriage-tops from pitching forward, and keeping the back bow in its place, and many different kinds of leather, cloth, belting, &c., have been resorted to, having had the "stretch," so called, partly taken out to remedy the serious evil found in practice. But after a little use the leather in the back stretches, the old fashioned stay gives, and the top tips forward, and the back bow gives up, causing the leather over the same to wrinkle, greatly to the injury of the carriage.

My invention consists in using a non-elastic substance, made of material that will not yield to any tension.

The non-stretching stay may consist of an iron, steel, brass, copper, or other metal wire-gauze or cloth, or thin strips of steel, brass, or other metal, that is sufficiently flexible to let the top back, when desired.

This is used in the same manner as and in the place of the ordinary stay.

The wrinkles in the leather over the bow, caused by the old-fashioned stay, are much increased by the turning back of the carriage-top, and when they have once been begun, by reason of the stretching or expansion of the stay, soon mar the beauty of the carriage-top, and render the leather liable to wear out and break.

The contraction and expansion, caused by heat and cold, will effect the same to a considerable degree, and with leather stays moisture and succeeding dryness will make considerable difference in the length of the stay, and to the same degree affect the leather of the carriage top.

The method of construction of my improved stay is as follows:

I cut from the wire-cloth or thin sheet metal a strip one or more inches wide, and cover it with some thin material to keep it from wearing the leather or cloth.

The strip is then made fast to the back bow and some part of the seat or seat-rail, or the body of the carriage, by being nailed, or in any other convenient and well known way.

This will prevent the back bow from drawing up and loosening the leather, and letting the top pitch forward, and will thus keep the leather smooth and the top comely in its appearance, and, at the same time, this does not prevent the top from lying flat when the same is thrown back.

In the drawing—

a shows the covering of the stay, and

b the wire-gauze within.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The improved stay for the tops of covered vehicles, constructed as herein described.

GEORGE G. LARKIN.

Witnesses:

W. H. CLIFFORD,

HENRY C. HOUSTON.