(No Model.)

J. J. A. VAN PATTEN.

TRACE OR REIN SUPPORTER.

No. 504,378. Patented Sept. 5, 1893.

Fig. 1.

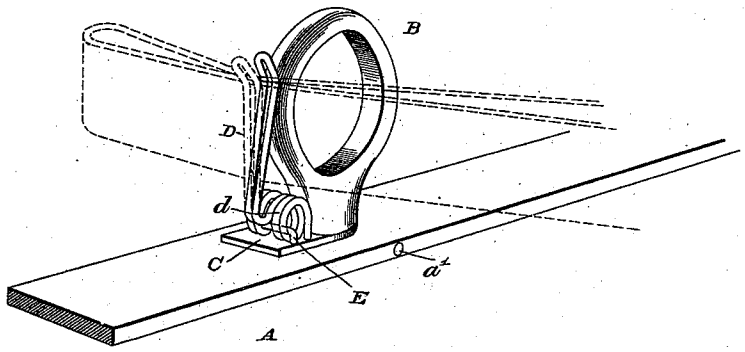


Fig. 2.

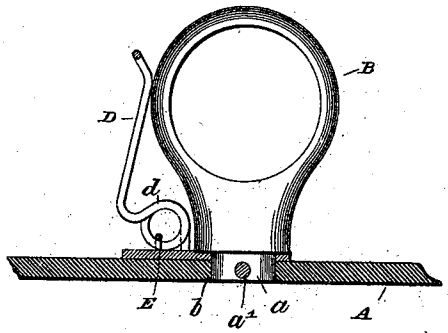


Fig. 3.

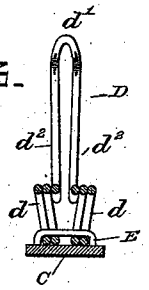
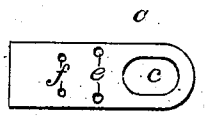


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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TRACE OR REIN SUPPORTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 504,378, dated September 5, 1893.

Application filed April 22, 1893. Serial No. 471,398. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN J. A. VAN PATTEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Schenectady, in the county of Schenectady and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace or Rein Supporters; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention relates to an improvement in trace or rein supporters for use with harness, the object of the invention being to provide a simple, cheap and inexpensive device for the purpose in view and one which will be easy and effective in operation, and the invention therefore consists in the construction, arrangement and combination of parts, substantially as will be hereinafter described and then more particularly pointed out in the appended claim.

In the annexed drawings illustrating my invention: Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved trace or line supporter applied to the back-strap or back-pad of a harness. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse section. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the holding plate for the spring.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts throughout all the different figures of the drawings.

This invention aims to obviate the difficulty which is experienced in keeping the traces and reins off the ground during the process of harnessing, or at any other time when it becomes necessary, after driving, to throw the reins over the horse's back, and the purpose is to provide a device which can be attached to any convenient part of the harness. In the present instance I have shown it as applied to the back pad or back-strap of a harness and designated by the reference letter A.

B denotes a terret which is secured to the back-strap or pad A, by being situated in a suitable opening or slot *a* cut in the strap A and having a pin or other device passing transversely through the strap and through the lower portion *b* of the terret to fasten the latter in position.

a' denotes the pin. See Fig. 2. This means of securing the terret to the strap is simply given as an example as it is evident that other means may be employed if preferred.

C is a plate made of metal or other material, of the form preferably as shown in Fig. 4, where it is seen to consist of a general rectangular shape, one end of which is cut square, while the other end is rounded and provided with the recess or opening *c*, of the same size and shape as the opening in the back-strap, which is of a general oval form. This plate C is also provided with suitable holes or perforations *e e* and *f f* to receive the ends of the spring and of the loop or clip, to be hereinafter described. The plate C is located on the strap between the terret and said strap, the small end *b* of the terret passing through the oval recess *c* of the plate and thus securely fastening said plate to the back-strap.

D designates a spring catch or fork bent upon itself at *d'* so as to form the parallel portions d^2 d^2, which are again bent at right angles to the main length near their upper and lower ends so as to form a double-**S** shape, as clearly shown in Fig. 2. The lower ends of the portions d^2 d^2 are continued so as to form the coils *d d*, whose ends pass through slots *e e* in the plate C and are securely riveted or otherwise fastened beneath the same.

E designates a loop or clip which passes transversely through the coils *d d* and holds the same down firmly upon the plate C, the ends of the clip passing through the slots *f f* and being fastened in place in the same manner as are the ends of the spring catch or fork.

It will be readily understood that with my improved device, the reins or traces, as represented by dotted lines in Fig. 1, can readily be forced down between the terret and the double-**S** shaped portion of the spring D by a slight pressure, and held there until it is desired to remove them, when they can easily be removed by simply pulling upon the reins or traces and they will immediately become disengaged.

Having thus described my invention, what

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

The combination with the terret and strap, of the plate C, the spring fork or catch secured to said plate and comprising a spring wire or other spring metal which is bent upon itself at d', providing the parallel sides d^2 d^2 which are bent so as to form a double-**S**, and formed at their extreme ends into the double coils d d whose ends pass through holes in the plate C and are secured beneath the same, together with the clip or loop E passing through said coils and adapted to hold the spring down firmly upon the plate, substantially as described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN J. A. VAN PATTEN.

Witnesses:
WM. W. WEMSOLT,
MARCUS WING.