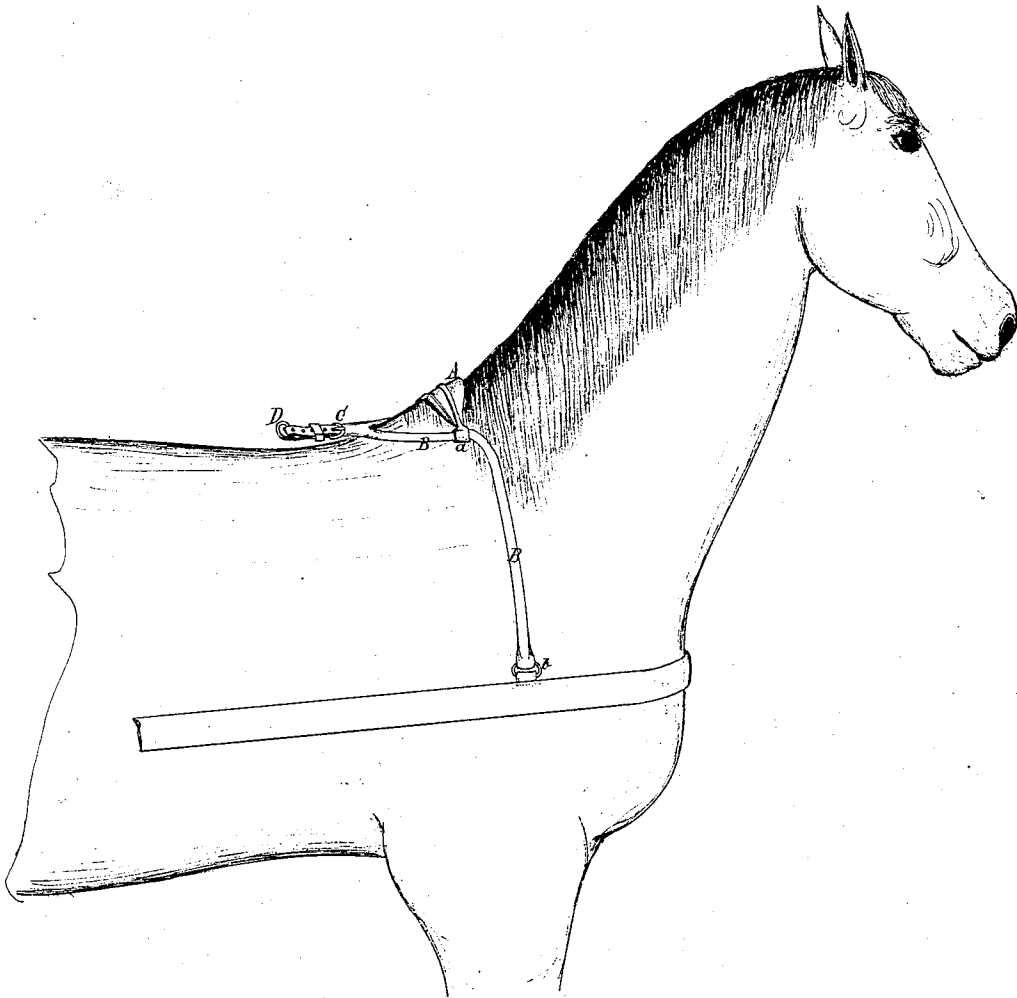


L. Whitehead,

Harness.

No. 104,306.

Patented June 28, 1870.



Witnesses:

Chas. Jacobs
J. V. White

Inventor:

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Per
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Att'y.

United States Patent Office.

LEWIS WHITEHEAD, OF NUNDA, NEW YORK.

Letters Patent No. 104,806, dated June 28, 1870.

IMPROVEMENT IN HARNESS.

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, LEWIS WHITEHEAD, of Nunda, in the county of Livingston and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Neck-Straps to Breast-Collars; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction of the neck-straps of harness, as will be hereinafter fully set forth.

In order to enable others skilled in the art to which my invention appertains to make and use the same, I will now proceed to describe its construction and operation, referring to the annexed drawings, which represent a perspective view of my improved neck-strap.

A represents a pad, made of cloth and stuffed, and provided at each end with a loop, *a*, through which pass the neck-straps B B.

These straps are made of one piece of leather, split as shown in the drawings, the split ends passing through the loops *a a* on the pad A, and having rings, *b*, at their outer ends.

The main portion of the leather piece forming the neck-strap is provided with a buckle, C, and ring, D, as shown.

The ring D is to be hooked on to the hook on the gig-saddle, while the rings *b b* are to be stitched onto the breast-collar, making the adjustment on top of the back, instead of at the sides, as heretofore.

This neck-strap is a decided improvement over the old style, as there has always been great annoyance felt by drivers in consequence of the reins catching under the end of the neck-strap, where it buckled on the side of the breast-collar. The buckles on the sides where the neck-strap was fastened sometimes wear the thills, and also rough up the lines; and the neck-strap will always rot where the buckles come, if continued in one place for a length of time. The old kind of neck-strap also wears down into the neck of the horse.

Another kind of neck-strap has also been used, fastened in the old way by the side buckles, and

rounded above them, with a ring in the center. The ring, instead of resting on the top of the neck, was hooked over the hook of the gig-saddle; but when used, the horse pulling against the breast-collar, and directly from the breast-collar to the check-hook, it pulled hard on the gig-saddle, and that strained against the crupper, which made the under part of the tail sore, and that kind of neck-strap is gone most entirely out of use.

Now, my neck-strap has the advantages of both and the disadvantages of neither. It does away with the side buckles, not catching lines on the ends sticking out below the loops; no rusting out at the buckle-holes, nor tearing from the strain of the buckle-tongue.

The pad, to rest on the top of the neck, being made of cloth and stuffed, will not wear off the hair. The manner in which the neck-strap passes through the loops at the ends of the pad and fastens to the check-hook has a tendency to lift the pressure of the pad on the top of the neck, and, at the same time, the passing of the neck-strap through the loops, before it goes to the check-hook, obviates the difficulty of pulling against the horse's crupper entirely. Another thing, it is much easier and more pleasant to regulate the length of the neck-strap with the buckle on top than to have to pass around the horse and do it at the sides, especially where the horse is attached to the carriage, and then the thills are much in the way.

Having thus fully described my invention,

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

The neck-straps B B, constructed as described, with their ends stitched to the breast-collar and passing through the connecting-pad A, and having their adjustment on top of the back, substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own invention, I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

L. WHITEHEAD.

Witnesses:

GEO. M. OSGOODBY,
JOHN R. GURNEE.