

(No Model.)

A. G. HAMBLIN.
HITCHING DEVICE.

No. 530,992.

Patented Dec. 18, 1894.

Fig. 1.

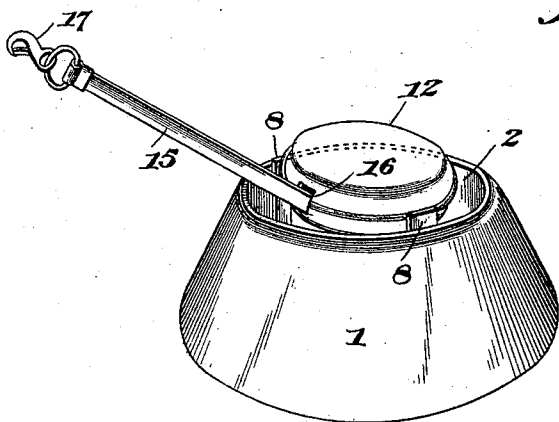


Fig. 2.

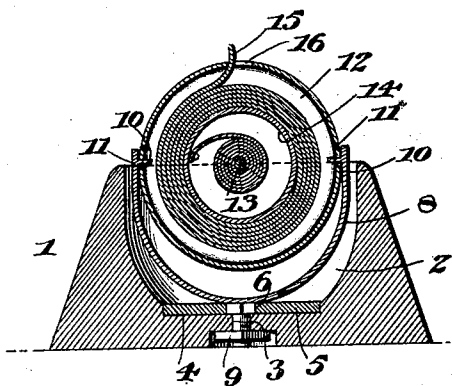
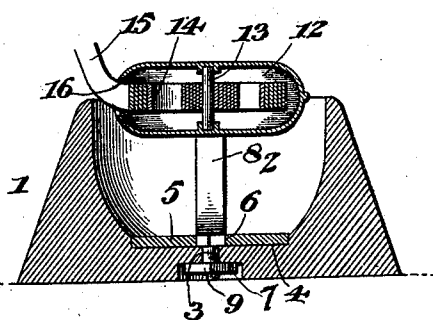


Fig. 3.



Inventor

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Witnesses

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By *his* Attorneys.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALBERT G. HAMBLIN, OF ASHLAND, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF
TO C. H. WALLOW, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

HITCHING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 530,992, dated December 18, 1894.

Application filed January 16, 1894. Serial No. 497,057. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALBERT G. HAMBLIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ashland, in the county of Ashland and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Hitching Device, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in hitching-devices, and to that particular class thereof commonly termed weights and employed in connection with hitching-straps which terminate in snap-hooks for engaging with the bit-rings of bridles.

The objects of my invention are to produce a weight designed to be carried about in the vehicle and so constructed as to inclose the hitching-strap in a compact manner within the same, whereby it will not lie loose in the vehicle or become entangled with the feet of the occupant, and which will automatically fold or pack itself within the weight when released and will adjust itself to the position of the horse with reference to a weight.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hitching-device embodying my invention. Figs. 2 and 3 are vertical transverse sectional views taken at right angles to each other, the hitch-strap casing in Fig. 2 being shown elevated to its vertical position.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the practice of my invention I employ a weight 1 of suitable size and preferably of truncated cone-shape, the said weight being provided upon its upper or truncated end with a cavity or chamber 2, which is circular. The bottom of this cavity is provided with an opening 3 whose under side is countersunk, as shown.

The bottom of the cavity is provided with an annular recess 4, and seated loosely for rotation therein is a disk 5 having a central opening 6 through which is passed the threaded stem 7 formed on the under side of a U-shaped yoke-frame 8. The yoke frame is located within the cavity of the weight,

and is protected from injury by the sides of the weight. The lower end of the stem has applied thereto a nut 9, which rests within the countersink at the lower end of the perforation in the bottom of the cavity or chamber. The central opening 6 of the disk 5 is rectangular and the stem 7 is provided with a rectangular upper portion, which fits in the polygonal opening 6 of the disk.

The upper ends or terminals of the yoke-frame are provided at their inner sides with trunnions or pins 10, and the same engage sockets or perforations 11 formed in a case 12. The case 12 may be swung to a horizontal position and be wholly within the cavity 2, or it may be swung to a vertical position, it being loosely mounted as shown.

The case 12 is provided with a transverse axle 13 upon which a spring-drum 14 is mounted, and secured to the drum is one end of a hitching-strap 15, the leading end thereof being passed through an opening 16 formed in the periphery of the case and having secured thereto a suitable snap-hook 17 designed to engage with the bit-ring of a bridle. By the action of the spring-drum the hitching-strap when not otherwise influenced is drawn within the casing and wound upon the drum, but is free to be withdrawn therefrom for the purpose of engaging its snap-hook with the bit-ring of a bridle when desired.

The coiled spring has its inner end attached to the shaft. Its outer end is secured to the drum, and the hitching strap for compactness is coiled around the drum and located in the same plane as the coiled spring.

It will be seen that when the strap is released or not in use it immediately winds within the casing upon the drum, so that merely the snap-hook extends from the opening in the casing. When it is desired to use the bit it is simply necessary to place the same upon the sidewalk or roadway and withdraw the strap against the tension of the spring of the drum and engage the snap-hook thereof with the bit-ring. Whatever may be the position of the horse with relation to the weight the universal movement accorded the casing by reason of its swiveling in the yoke and the latter swiveling in the weight will present the opening in the casing in proper alignment with

the strap, and hence immediately upon a release of the latter from the bit-ring it will automatically wind within the casing.

5 From the foregoing description in connection with the accompanying drawings it will be seen that I have provided a very simple construction of hitching-device of the portable kind, in that it may be readily transported to a vehicle or removed therefrom
10 when it is desired to use the same, and which when not in use will be compact and not in danger of becoming entangled with the feet of the occupant of the vehicle or any articles that may be therein and which will automatically adjust itself to the position of the
15 horse to whose bit it is attached.

It is obvious that I may omit the weight, or rather form the same so light as not to serve as a weight, but more as a base and attach
20 the same to a hitching-post or other object, depending upon the latter to lend proper security. I prefer, however, to employ the weight and have so shown and described it as evidence of my preference.

25 Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The combination of a weight hollowed out at its upper side to form a cavity, the U-shaped yoke arranged within the cavity of
30 the weight and swiveled to the bottom there-

of, and a casing having a spring actuated drum and adapted to receive a hitching strap and swiveled between the sides of the yoke, whereby it is capable of swinging vertically and horizontally to prevent a hitching strap
35 from becoming tangled, substantially as described.

2. The combination of a truncated cone-shaped weight hollowed out at its upper side to form a cavity and provided at the bottom
40 thereof with a recess, a rotary disk seated in the recess, a U-shaped yoke arranged within the cavity of the weight and having a stem secured to the disk and swiveled to the bottom of the weight, a nut arranged on the
45 lower end of the stem and countersunk in the bottom of the weight, and a casing provided with a spring actuated drum and adapted to receive a hitching strap and journaled between the sides of the yoke and
50 capable of swinging vertically and horizontally, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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

ALBERT G. HAMBLIN.

Witnesses:

JOHN H. BURCH,
PETER JOHNSON.