

(No Model.)

H. A. BIERLEY.
SHAFT LOOP.

No. 577,833.

Patented Mar. 2, 1897.

FIG. 1.

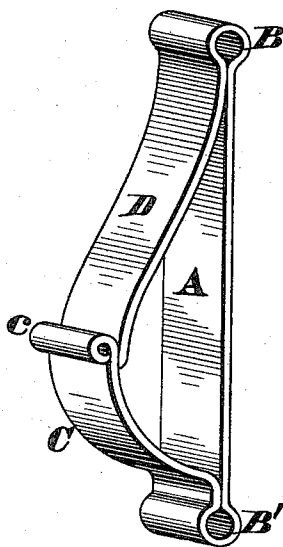
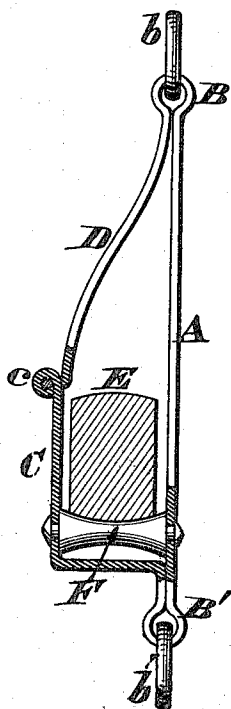


FIG. 2.



Attest.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY A. BIERLEY, OF PORTSMOUTH, OHIO.

SHAFT-LOOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 577,833, dated March 2, 1897.

Application filed August 10, 1896. Serial No. 602,232. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY A. BIERLEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Portsmouth, in the county of Scioto and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Shaft-Loops; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, reference being had to the annexed drawings, which form a part of this specification.

My invention comprises a shaft-loop which includes a vertical back plate, an eye at the top thereof, another eye at the bottom, an outwardly-projecting bearing to support a shaft, a bead or roll at the upper end of said bearing, and a spring which extends down from said upper eye and has its free end in contact with the back of said bearing and at a point slightly below said roll, the entire device being made of a single flat strip of spring metal, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of one form of my shaft-loop. Fig. 2 is a vertical section of a modification of the invention.

My loop is made of a single piece or strip of sheet-steel or other metal having the proper resilient action; and it consists of a back A, which is practically straight from end to end, and has at top an eye B and at bottom another eye, B'. Bending outwardly and upwardly from this lower eye is a bearing C, to support a thill or shaft, the top of said bearing being formed into a rounded bead or roll c.

D is a spring extending down from the upper eye B and having its free end in contact with the inner side of bearing C at a point slightly below its bead c.

It is customary to attach rings *b b'* to the

eyes B B', as seen in Fig. 2, in order that the loop may be applied to a harness in the same manner as an ordinary loop, and when this is done the thill or shaft E is inserted in a moment. It is necessary only to bring the thill down on the spring D with sufficient force to overcome its tension, and then said spring is pressed back toward the plate A and the thill allowed to drop until it rests upon the bearing C. The spring then flies out to its normal position and prevents accidental disengagement of the shaft.

In the modification of my invention seen in Fig. 2 a small roller F is provided for the lower side of the shaft E to play upon.

As my shaft-loop is made entirely of metal, it can be readily plated or japanned, or it can be enveloped with leather or otherwise ornamented to suit the demands of the trade.

I claim as my invention—

As a new article of manufacture, the within-described specific construction of shaft-loop, which construction includes the back plate A, having eyes B, B', at top and bottom; a bearing C, projecting outwardly and upwardly from the lower eye B'; a bead or roll c, at the upper end of said bearing; and a spring D, which extends down from the upper eye B, and has its free end in contact with the back of said bearing, and at a point slightly below said roll; the entire device being made of a single, flat, strip of spring metal, all as herein shown, and set forth.

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

HENRY A. BIERLEY.

Witnesses:

BERTHA LLOYD,
ELMER DOVER.