

R. C. FETZER.
 THILL STRAP FASTENER.
 APPLICATION FILED APR. 23, 1909.

949,175.

Patented Feb. 15, 1910.

Fig. 1.

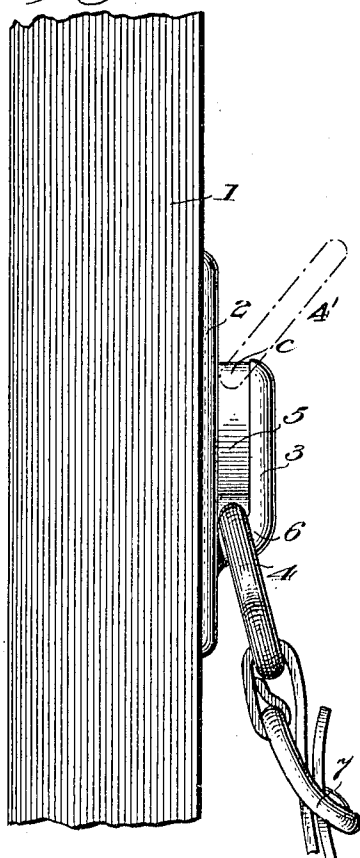


Fig. 2.

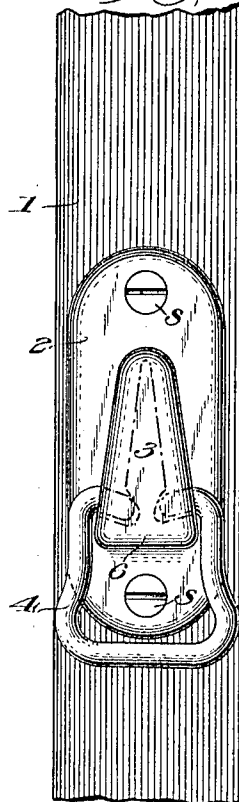
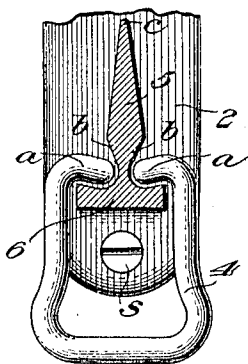


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:

A. J. Farwell
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Inventor:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RILEY C. FETZER, OF WOOSTER, OHIO, ASSIGNOR TO THOMAS E. GEORGE, OF
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THILL-STRAP FASTENER.

949,175.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Feb. 15, 1910.

Application filed April 23, 1909. Serial No. 491,869.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RILEY C. FETZER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Wooster, in the county of Wayne and State of Ohio, have invented a new and useful Thill-Strap Fastener, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in thill-strap fasteners. Its object is to provide improved means for detachably securing the thill-strap of a harness to the thill of a vehicle so that it may be readily detached therefrom either by hand, or by forward tension thereon when the tug or trace becomes unfastened, thereby preventing accidents, and improved means for quickly detaching the harness from the thill. Its object is further to provide improved means for securing the thill-strap to the inner side of the thill and avoid rattling and the possibility of its becoming detached inopportunately.

It consists of a plate solidly secured to the inner side of the thill at the usual place of attaching the thill-strap, said plate provided with a raised portion parallel therewith, and an intermediate wedge shaped support therefor, adapted to detachably secure underneath said raised portion an open-ringed clip, the open ends of which bend inwardly in the form of hooks, and said hooks being adapted to slight spring action against said intermediate portion in the hollows thereof, as hereinafter more fully set forth and claimed.

My invention is illustrated by the accompanying drawings in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention; Fig. 2 is a top view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a detail view of the spring clip and adjacent parts.

In the drawings, similar characters of reference indicate like parts.

Referring thereto, 1 is a section of an ordinary vehicle thill; 2 is the plate, and 3 the raised portion of the device, the upper surface of which is preferably made triangular and extended lengthwise to a rounded point; the base of said raised portion extends downwardly to the plate 2, and is furrowed out underneath the angle 6 to receive the hooks *a a* of the clip 4, as shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

The intermediate portion 5 solidly supports the raised portion 3 in such a manner

as to form longitudinal furrows on each side immediately above the plate 2, said furrows extending from the front *c*, where they approach each other, to points *b b* near the base aforesaid, from which points they deepen respectively to form hollows for the hook ends *a a*. The open clip 4 is made preferably of spring metal, and the hold-back strap 7 may be attached to its closed end in the manner shown in Fig. 1. By this construction the hook ends *a a* rest snugly in said hollows, and thus prevent rattling of the parts and the accidental detachment of the hold-back strap from the thill by the resilient action of the clip 4, and said clip may be detached with slight force when drawn in forward direction, as shown by dotted lines 4'.

The plate 2 may be secured to the thill by screws *s s*, or other suitable fastenings.

I am aware it is not new to construct a hold-back having catches on both sides combined with an open link having ends adapted to engage said notches, and such I do not broadly claim.

My improvement lies in the novel construction of an intermediate wedge-shaped support having opposite hollows at its base adapted to snugly engage therein the resilient ends of an open link or clip, in combination with a laterally projecting raised portion forming with said support opposite grooves which incline toward each other along said wedge shaped support, said notches being adapted to afford some resistance to the escape of said clip ends therefrom, to prevent rattling of the adjacent parts and the accidental detaching of the clip, and affording means for more easily attaching and detaching the same through said inclined grooves when drawn therealong to and from said notches.

I do not limit myself to the exact form of the several parts, as the same may of course be varied within the scope of my invention.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is;—

1. A thill strap fastener, comprising a plate having a raised portion, opposite side furrows terminating in opposite hollows at the base of a wedge-shaped support underneath said raised portion, and an open clip, having resilient ends hooked inwardly and adapted to be detachably secured in the

hollows of said base, substantially as set forth.

2. In a thill strap fastener, the combination with a plate secured to a thill, a raised
5 portion terminating at the base of a wedge-shaped support, opposite side furrows between said plate and said raised portion terminating in opposite hollows at said base,
and an open clip provided with resilient
10 ends hooked inwardly and adapted to rest snugly in said hollows respectively, and to

be detached forwardly through said furrows when forced out of said hollows, substantially as set forth and for the purpose specified.

Witness my hand this 27 day of March, 1908. 15

RILEY C. FETZER.

Witnesses:

HIRAM B. SWARTZ,
H. S. BAKER.