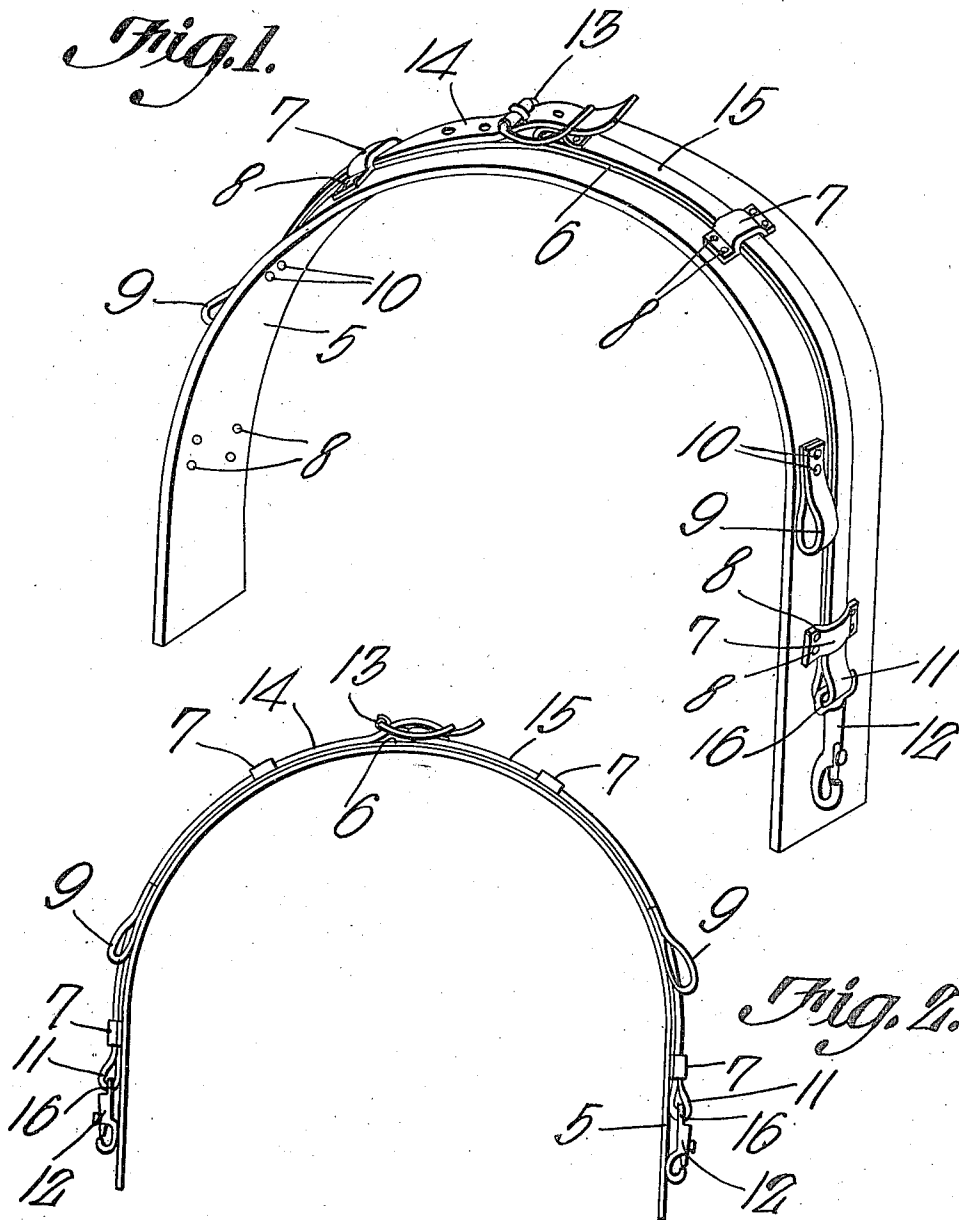


W. S. WELDEN.
 BACK BAND FOR HARNESS.
 APPLICATION FILED DEC. 23, 1911.

1,060,045.

Patented Apr. 29, 1913.



Witnesses

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WILLIAM SANFORD WELDEN, OF DALLAS, GEORGIA.

BACK-BAND FOR HARNESS.

1,060,045.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Apr. 29, 1913.

Application filed December 23, 1911. Serial No. 667,545.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM S. WELDEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dallas, in the county of Paulding and State of Georgia, have invented a new and useful Back-Band for Harness, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to backbands for plow-harnesses, and the like. It is the object of the present invention to provide a backband adapted to fit comfortably over the animal's back to exert an even pressure when in use and including a strap passing thereover to be attached to the traces and capable of several adjustments to adjust the snap-hooks provided for engaging the traces and for also shifting the bends of the straps forming the loops for the attachment of the snap-hooks, for the purposes hereinafter described.

This invention consists in the combination and construction of parts as hereinafter described and claimed, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, wherein similar reference characters indicate similar parts, and wherein—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a back-band constructed in accordance with the present invention. Fig. 2 is an elevation thereof.

Referring in detail to the drawings, 5 designates a flexible band to pass over the animal's back and being of considerable width and of sufficient thickness. A plurality of keepers or transverse strips 7 are secured at their ends upon the band 5 at intervals along its length by means of the rivets 8, and a strap 6 has its intermediate portion passing underneath the keepers 7. The ends of the strap 6 are bent back and pass under the keepers 7 over the intermediate portion of the strap to form the loops 11 beyond the end keepers. A buckle 13 is attached to one extremity of the strap 6 for connecting the ends of the strap together. Snap-hooks 12 of suitable character are connected to the straps 6 by means of the eyes 16 provided, which engage the loops 11 of the said strap.

The buckle 13 connecting the ends 14 and 15 of the strap 6 permits the adjustment of the strap by drawing the ends 14 and 15 together or separating the said ends, and by adjusting the said ends it will be noted that the loops 11 will be adjusted inward or outward to adjust the snap-hooks 12. By slid-

ing the intermediate portion of the strap in one direction and sliding the ends 14 and 15 in another direction, the bends of the strap forming the loops 11 may be shifted, thus rendering it possible from time to time to shift the strap and thereby prevent the snap-hooks 12 from wearing through the loops 11.

To the sides of the band 5 there are secured looped flaps 9 by means of rivets 10, these loops being adapted to receive the lines or reins of the harness.

In use, the back-band is applied to the animal's body in the customary manner, the band 5 being passed over the animal's back and extending partially over the sides of the animal, and the snap-hooks 12 are engaged with the traces. Thus it will be seen that a portion of the strain or stress of the traces is transmitted to the back-band, and the band 5 being of suitable thickness and width, causes the pressure to be evenly exerted upon the animal's back and without injury to the animal. As stated above, the buckle 13 permits the loops 11 to be drawn inward or extended outward to adjust the snap-hooks 12, and by shifting the ends 14 and 15 and the intermediate portion of the strap in opposite directions, the bends of the strap may be shifted to prevent the snap-hooks from wearing through the loops, thus materially lengthening the life of the strap. The back-band, with the exception of the buckle 13 and the snap-hooks 12, may be constructed of leather, hemp, or any other suitable material. A back-band of this character is adapted to fit comfortably over the animal's back and presents no uneven inner surface which would tend to rub against the animal's body to produce injury, but on the other hand, the back-band will not rub against the animal's body and will lie evenly against same.

This back-band may be readily used in connection with ordinary plow-harnesses, but it is understood that the same may be also used on other harnesses wherever it may be found convenient, and serviceable.

Having described the invention, what is claimed as new is:

A back-band for harnesses comprising a flexible band of comparatively large width, a plurality of transverse keepers at intervals along the length of the band, a strap passing over the band and under the keepers and having its ends bent back over the

intermediate portion of itself to form loops
beyond the end keepers, means for adjust-
ably connecting the ends of the strap, the
ends and intermediate portion of the strap
being slidable in opposite directions on the
band to shift the bends forming the loops,
and trace engaging snap-hooks having eyes
engaging the said loops.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as
my own, I have hereto affixed my signature 10
in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM SANFORD WELDEN.

Witnesses:

H. G. HITCHCOCK,
H. M. NEW.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D. C."