S. G. HUGHES.

ADJUSTABLE HOLDBACK.

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1,038,141.

Patented Sept. 10, 1912.

Fig. 1.

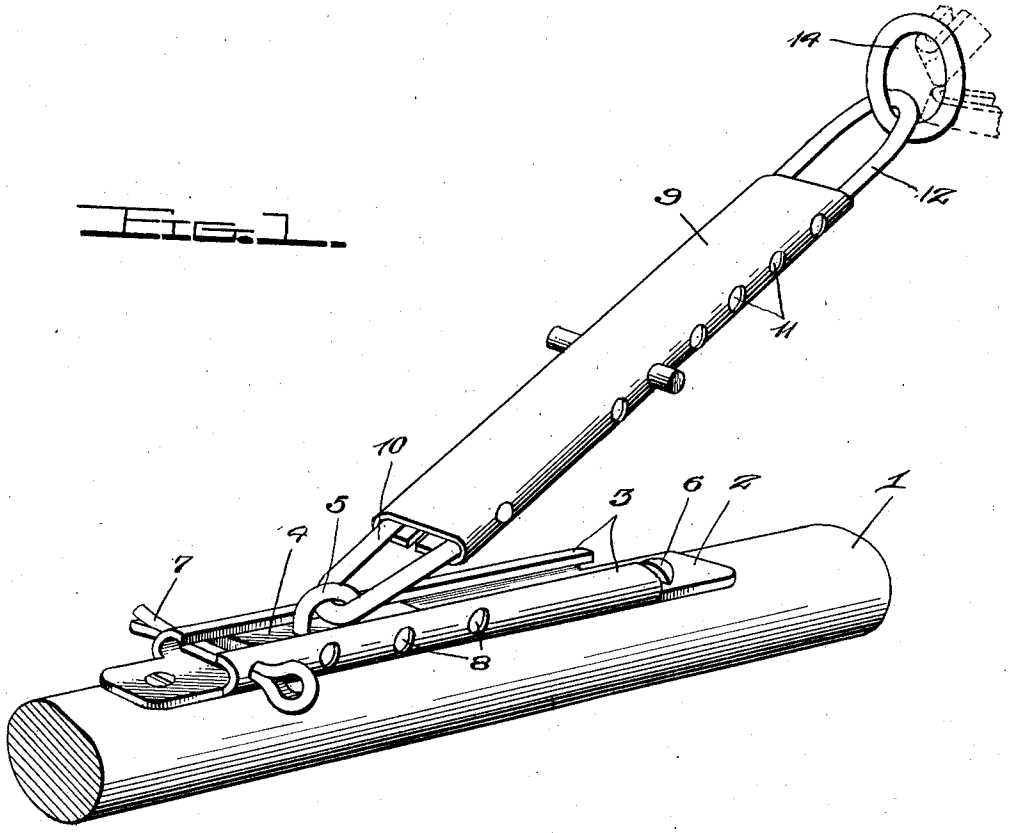


Fig. 2.

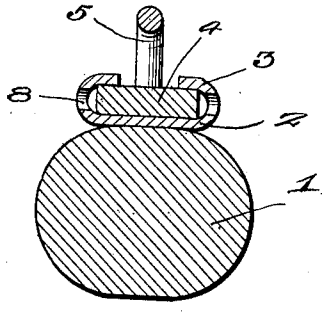
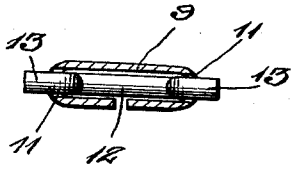


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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ADJUSTABLE HOLDBACK.

1,038,141. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 10, 1912.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SCHUYLER G. HUGHES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mineral, in the county of Harrison and State of West Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Holdbacks, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to new and useful improvements in securing means between hold-back straps and the thills and more particularly to an adjustable hold-back connection, and my object is to provide a device which will most efficiently perform the functions of holding back, when a vehicle is traveling down grade and at the same time may be readily detached to release the draft.

A further object of the invention resides in providing a hold-back connection on a thill which in itself is removable and further to provide a connection between the last mentioned connection and the hold-back strap which is also adjustable.

Still another object of the invention resides in providing a device which may be applied to any set of harness now in use, and it will not provide any unnecessary wear upon the thill.

A still further object of the invention resides in providing a device which is simple and durable in construction, inexpensive to manufacture and one which will be efficient and useful in operation.

With these and other objects in view, the invention consists in the novel features of construction, combination and arrangement of parts hereinafter referred to and more particularly pointed out in the specification and claims.

In the accompanying drawing forming a part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing my improved hold-back applied to use on a thill; Fig. 2 is a vertical transverse section through the thill and the connection mounted thereon; and Fig. 3 is a similar view through the adjustable hold-back member.

In describing my invention, I shall refer to the drawing in which similar reference characters designate corresponding parts throughout the several views, and in which 1 indicates a thill, to the upper face of which is removably secured a plate 2, the side edges of which are bent upwardly and inwardly toward one another as shown at 3 to form channel ways thereon and slidably disposed in these channel ways is a slide member 4 having an upwardly projecting eye or the like 5 thereon disposed between the inwardly extending flanges 3. The inner end of the plate 2 is secured to the thill 1 by means of a bolt 6, the head of which projects above the face of said plate 2 to limit the movement of said slide 4 in one direction and in order to limit the movement of the same in the opposite direction, a cotter pin or the like 7 is provided and adapted to be disposed through a pair of the series of alining openings 8 in the sides of the upwardly and inwardly extending flanges 3.

A hold-back member comprising an elongated housing 9 of channel-shaped design is provided, the one end of which has secured therewith a loop or the like 10, which is in turn engaged with the eye member 5 of the slide 4. This channel-shaped housing member 9 has the sides thereof provided with a series of alining openings 11 and an elongated U-shaped spring member 12 is slidably disposed in said housing 9, the free ends of the arms of said spring member being bent outwardly as shown at 13 and adapted to be engaged through the alining openings 11. The base or connecting portion of this U-shaped spring member 12 is connected with the breeching ring 14 of the hold-back strap and from this construction, it will be seen that this U-shaped spring member may be adjustably disposed in the housing 12 to correspondingly adjust the hold-back strap. When it is desired to increase or decrease the length of the strap, the arms of the spring member 12 which project beyond the free ends of the housing 9, are pressed inwardly to correspondingly disengage the outwardly bent ends 13 of the arms thereof, whereupon said spring member may be adjusted forwardly or rearwardly as the case may be. When it is desired to entirely disengage the hold-back strap from its connection with the thill, the spring member 12 may be entirely removed from the housing 9 or the slide member 3 may be entirely removed from the track member formed by the plate 2 and the flanges 3 thereon.

From the foregoing, it will be seen that I have provided a simple, inexpensive and efficient means for carrying out the objects

of the invention and while I have particularly described the elements most well adapted to perform the functions set forth, it is obvious that various changes in form, proportion and in the minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the spirit or sacrificing any of the principles of the invention.

Having thus described this invention, what is claimed is:—

1. The combination with a thill; of a track member secured thereto, a slide mounted on said track, a portion of the means for securing said track member on the thill being adapted to limit the movement of said slide in one direction, adjustable means to limit the movement of the slide in the opposite direction, and means to connect a hold-back strap with said slide.

2. The combination with a thill; of a track member removably secured thereto, a slide mounted on said track member, a portion of the means securing said track to the thill being adapted to limit the movement of said slide in one direction, a key adjustably mounted transversely of the track member and adapted to limit the movement of said slide in the opposite direction, and means to connect a hold-back strap with said slide.

3. The combination with a thill; of a channel-shaped plate, means to removably secure the same to said thill, the side walls of said channel-shaped plate being provided with alining openings, a slide member mounted in said channel-shaped plate, a key adapted for insertion through a pair of alining openings in said channel-shaped plate to limit the sliding movement of said slide member in one direction, a portion of the means securing said plate to the thill being adapted to limit the movement of said slide member in the opposite direction, and an adjustable member engaged with said slide and adapted for connection with a hold-back strap.

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

SCHUYLER G. HUGHES.

Witnesses:
GOFF DAVIS,
F. L. POST.

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