(No Model.)

D. S. MOORE.

TRACE CARRIER.

No. 252,126. Patented Jan. 10, 1882.

Fig. 1.

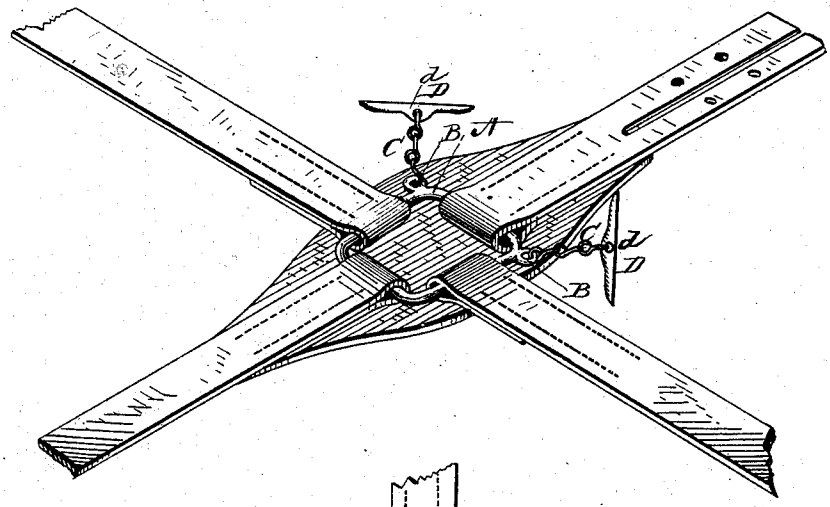
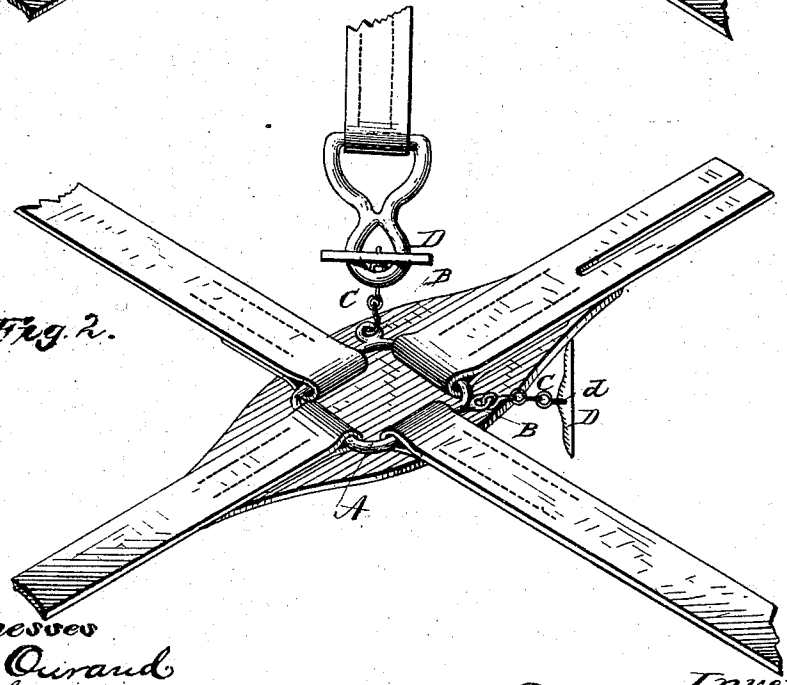


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID S. MOORE, OF OMAHA, NEBRASKA.

TRACE-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 252,126, dated January 10, 1882.

Application filed April 2, 1881. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID SMITH MOORE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Omaha, in the county of Douglas and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Carriers, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The object of my invention is to provide a simple and efficient means for holding the traces, when not in use, without the possibility of their becoming accidentally detached by any movement of the horse, or by the contact with other objects of either the carrier or the traces themselves.

The invention consists in a novel construction and arrangement of parts, as hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device as applied to the harness. Fig. 2 represents the same when secured to the harness and having the cockeyes and traces attached to the holder.

A represents a frame adapted to be secured to the back-strap loop. I usually cast this frame in one piece, of the form or shape shown in the drawings—viz., with slightly-rounded corners and somewhat longer in one direction than in the other, and with the sides gradually tapering or curving inward from one side to the other. I do not, however, limit myself to this peculiar form, as the frame may be made of any other contour desired.

B B represent eyes cast or formed on opposite sides of the frame, preferably at the widest or broadest part.

C C represent short chains, which are secured at one end to the eyes B, and have each at their other ends a swivel or short metal bar, D, which, when it is desired to support the traces when out of use, is passed through the cockeye of each trace. At the center of each bar D is an eye, *d*, to which one end of the chain C is attached. When it is desired to pass this bar through the cockeye the bar is turned around, so as to be parallel to the chain. It is in that position passed through the cockeye, and then allowed to fall across the eye, as shown in the drawings. As the bar is made with its ends long enough to project across the cockeye, and is secured to the frame by a chain which permits of the movement of the horse or cockeye without conveying such motion to the bar as a rigid connection would, it will readily be seen that any amount of jolting of the traces caused by the movements of the horse or by the traces coming in contact with other objects will fail to release the bar from locking engagement with the cockeye, as the flexible connection afforded by the chain C will generally prevent any such movements having any effect upon the cockeye-retaining bars. In any event the movement of the bars will be so slight as not to be sufficient to raise it far enough independent of the chain to cause them to turn in line with the chain, which position they must assume before they can be withdrawn.

The complete device will lie flat upon the horse's back. There are no upward-projecting portions to get entangled with other parts of the harness. There are no complicated parts to get out of order or require special care in their manufacture. The bars D can be readily inserted in so as to retain cockeyes of different sizes, from the smallest to the heaviest made. In these respects my device is superior to such trace-carriers as are now in use, as where the carrier consists of a ring with curved upwardly-projecting pieces it is not adapted to hold all sizes of cockeyes securely; and, moreover, the cockeye is apt to be released should the traces be by any means pushed upward. Again, my carrier is superior to those where the cockeye is passed over an upwardly-extending post and secured thereon by means of a pivoted bar operated by a spring to turn into engagement with the top of such post, because such pivoted bar is apt to be pushed aside or the spring become useless, in either of which events the cockeye is in great danger of being prematurely released.

I am also aware that trace-holders have been constructed where the holding devices do not project materially above the back-straps. I am not, however, aware that any trace-carrier has heretofore been made, before my invention thereof, where the trace-holding device is flexibly connected to the back-strap loop or buckle. By thus flexibly connecting the trace-holder to the loop or frame A it will be observed that the movement of the traces, when secured thereto,

will not have any effect to loosen the fastener to which the cockeye is attached, as the flexible connection C will allow the traces to sway back and forth and up and down or in any other direction without disturbing the connection between the T-fastener and the cockeye. This is quite an advantage over those carriers where the fastening-connection is rigid, as in such cases there is no slack or flexible portion to sway back and forth with the movements of the traces, and thereby relieve the fastening device from the strain it would be subjected to were the connection between the trace and the holder rigid—a strain that would often tend to the unfastening of the traces.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

A back-strap loop or buckle, A, having rigid loops or eyes B, and provided with a flexible holder, C, carrying a T-shaped fastener, D, adapted to receive and hold the cockeye, substantially as and for the purpose described.

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