

(No Model.)

M. E. BURK.
HOLDBACK FOR VEHICLES.

No. 403,036.

Patented May 7, 1889.

Fig. 1.

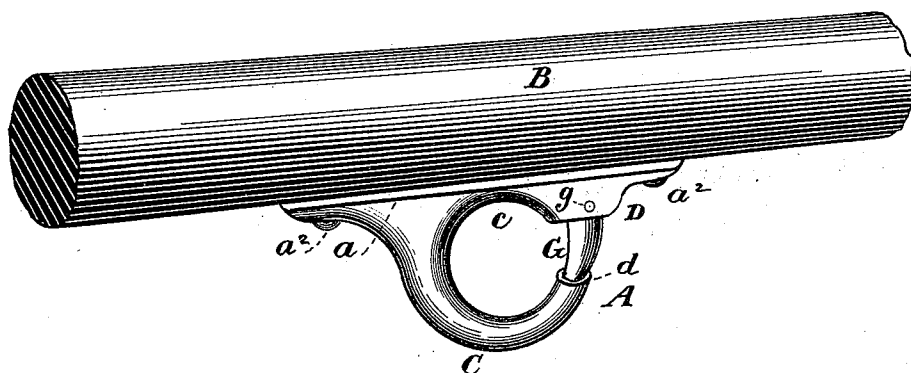
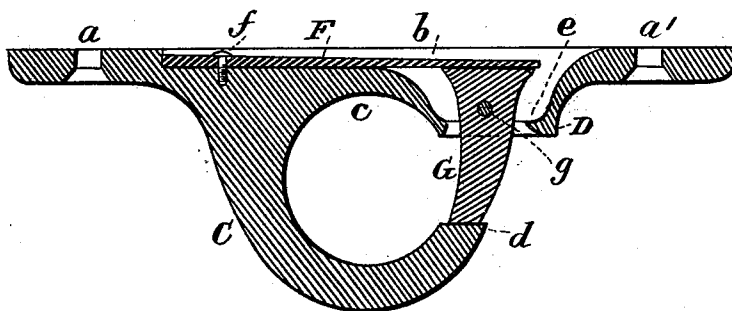


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MORRIS E. BURK, OF LOWVILLE, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF TWO-FIFTHS
TO FRANK C. BOWDISH, OF SAME PLACE.

HOLDBACK FOR VEHICLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 403,036, dated May 7, 1889.

Application filed January 30, 1889. Serial No. 298,072. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MORRIS E. BURK, a citizen of the United States, residing at Lowville, in the county of Lewis and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Holdbacks for Vehicle-Thills; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in holdbacks for vehicles of that class in which there is a hook and a pivoted tongue; and it has for its objects to improve upon prior constructions of this character, to render the same more durable and efficient in operation, and to provide a device of this class that may be employed either on the top or upon the under side of the thill, and one that in either position will be self-adjusting.

To the above ends, and to such others as the invention may pertain, the same consists in the peculiarities of construction and in the novel combination, arrangement, and adaptation of parts, all as more fully hereinafter described, shown in the drawings, and particularly defined in the appended claims.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the letters of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device shown attached to a thill, a portion only of which is shown. Fig. 2 is a central vertical section through the holdback detached.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout both views.

Reference being had to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates my improved holdback as a whole. In Fig. 1 it is shown as attached to a portion, B, of a thill of ordinary construction.

The holdback A consists of the plate *a*, rectangular, as shown, and provided at each end with a hole, *a'*, to receive screws *a''*, or other

means by which it is secured to the thill. This plate is formed upon its under side with a recess or chamber, *b*, to receive a spring, which will be hereinafter described. Formed integral with this plate to one side of the center is the hook C, enlarged at its base and curved, as shown, forming more than one-half of a circle, that portion of the base of the hook upon the side nearest the center being curved, and forming a continuation of the curve of the hook upon the inside. That portion of the plate *a* beneath the hook is also curved, as shown at *c*, said curvature being in the same arc of a circle as the hook and the curved portion of the base thereof. The end of the hook terminates in a flat horizontal bearing, as shown at *d*. Upon the opposite side of the center of the plate is formed the enlargement D, which is provided with an opening, *e*, communicating with the recess or chamber, *b*, in the plate *a*, heretofore referred to.

F is a flat spring located within the chamber *b* in the plate *a*, and secured therein in the usual manner by means of a screw or rivet, *f*.

G is the tongue, pivoted within the chamber *b*, or, rather, within the enlargement D, by means of the transverse pin or pivot *g*, removably secured in the side walls of the said enlargement. The lower end of the tongue is larger than the opening in the enlargement, and is inserted in place from the under side, by which construction in case the pivot thereof should break the tongue cannot be pulled out. The lower face of this tongue is broadened and made flat, and has a flat bearing on the spring F, the upper end of the tongue being flat, as shown.

The operation is simple and apparent.

The tongue will work in either direction, being held in its adjusted position by means of the broad bearing of its lower end on the spring.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a holdback, the combination, with the plate *a*, chambered, as shown, and formed with the curved hook C, of the spring within the portion *a*, and the tongue pivoted to the walls of the chamber, with its inner end bear-

ing on the spring, and the portions of said tongue upon both sides of its pivot extending in the same general line, substantially as shown and described.

- 5 2. The holdback described, consisting of the plate *a*, chambered, as shown, and formed with the curved hook *C*, forming more than one-half of a circle, with the portion of the base of the hook upon the side nearest the
20 center curved and forming a continuation of the curve of the hook upon the inside, as shown, and the end of the hook terminating in a flat bearing, the spring *F*, and the tongue

pivoted to said plate, with its heel bearing on said spring and its end extending in line with the free end of the hook, and the heel portion extending in line with the outer portion of the tongue, substantially as shown and described. 15

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses. 20

MORRIS E. BURK.

Witnesses:

GEORGE SHERWOOD,
FRANK C. BOWDISH.