(No Model.)

T. H. SHOTTENBERG.

HORSE CHECKING DEVICE.

No. 528,698. Patented Nov. 6, 1894.

Fig. I

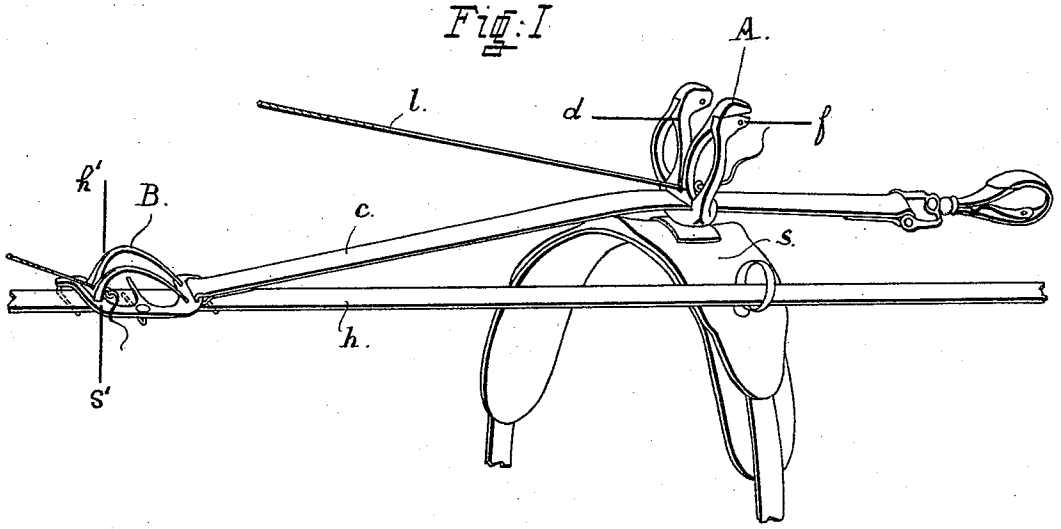


Fig. II

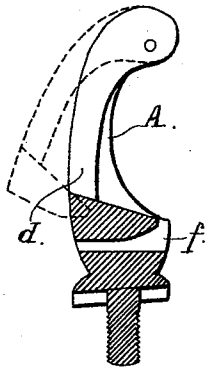


Fig. III

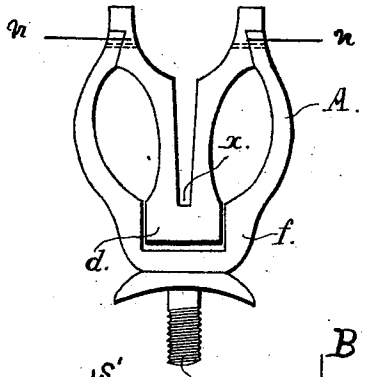
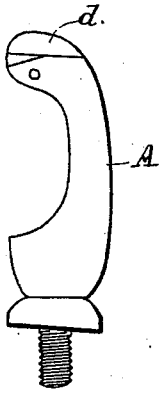


Fig. IV



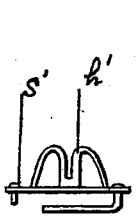


Fig. VI

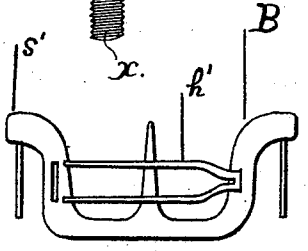


Fig. V

Witnesses:
George H. Crowley
W. K. Wagoner

Inventor:
Theodore H. Shottenberg.
Per L. D. Woodworth
Attorney.

THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THEODORE H. SHOTTENBERG, OF HUBBARD, OHIO, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO JOHN H. DENISON, OF SAME PLACE.

HORSE-CHECKING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 528,698, dated November 6, 1894.

Application filed January 23, 1894. Serial No. 497,818. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE H. SHOTTENBERG, a citizen of the United States, residing at Hubbard, in the county of Trumbull and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Checking Devices; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of my 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, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of horse checking devices intended to enable the driver to check and uncheck the horse by means of his whip-lash without quitting his seat, and its object is a new horse checking device completely fulfilling the purpose above expressed, and of such construction as to be, not only perfectly acting and in every way convenient in use, but also highly ornamental to the harness on which applied. I accomplish this object by the means hereinafter described and illustrated in the drawings, in which—

Figure I is an isometric view of the harness saddle *s*, and sections of the guide rein *h* and whip-lash *l* with my check-catch A and slide-hook B in place. Fig. II is a vertical cross section view of the check-catch A on the line *x x* of Fig. III. Fig. III is an elevation view of the same as seen from the rear of the harness-saddle *s*. Fig. IV is a side view of the same. Fig. V is a top or plan view of the slide-hook B, and Fig. VI is a rear end view of the same.

Similar letters refer to similar parts in all views.

In general description my invention consists in a check-catch having, pivoted within a suitable frame, a combined spring and gravity catch-dog to retain the check strap in the required position, which catch-dog presents two divergent prongs to engage the knotted end of a whip-lash for a means of freeing the check-strap to uncheck the horse, combined with a device for checking up the horse that is slidingly attached to one of the guide-reins in rear of the harness saddle, and provided also with two divergent prongs for a means of drawing the check-strap backward by engagement with the knotted end of the whip-lash.

The check-catch A consists of the clamp-frame *f* which is attached to the harness-saddle *s*, preferably by means of a screw projecting downward from its lower integral portion, said lower integral portion being suitably concave to fit the saddle *s*, above which, on right and left, extend upward on curved lines two similar sides each terminating in a head, flat upon the inner side, and at the top highest at the breadth center, to permit the rock of the catch-dog *d*, as will presently more fully appear.

Between the vertical sides, and in the upper side of the lower portion, appears a rectangular transverse groove or space of suitable breadth for the check-strap *c*. The catch dog *d* has place between the vertical sides of the frame *f*, and is in its lower portion a rectangular block suitable to movably fit into the rectangular space of the frame *f* so as to clamp, when vertical, against the check-strap thus retaining it. Above the rectangular lower portion occur two divergent prongs to engage the knotted end of a whip-lash, which in their upper portions still further and more abruptly diverge, having each upon the outer side a little below the head the slightly triangular notch *n* in which a head of a side of the frame *f* has place, the two parts pivoted together. The inwardly upward bevel of the notch *n* acting against the flat sides of the heads of the vertical portions of the frame *f* serve, by reason of the elasticity of the frame sides, to cause the catch-dog *d* to spring back to place when drawn from a vertical position, thus aiding gravity in making it instant in action.

The slide-hook B, which is attached to a guide-rein *c* suitably in rear of the harness-saddle *s*, as will appear, consists of the slide *s'* with the hook *h'* attached. The slide *s'* is of thin flat metal in **M** form on its horizontal lines, as seen from the side that is uppermost in the drawings, having the ends of the end stems curved outwardly, from which curved portions project downward for a slight distance and thence parallel with the end stems, similar rectangular prongs, so that by passing the guide-rein *c* between the prongs and

the end stems and over the central stem the two are readily attachable and the slide-hook B will slide over the guide-rein *c* without becoming detached. From the rear end stem extend, in upward arch, to the forward end stem, divergent prongs for a means of engaging the knotted end of a whip-lash, so that, the end of the check-strap being attached to the forward stem of the slide *s'* by means of a rectangular opening therethrough, the horse may be checked up by drawing the slide hook B backward.

It will be observed that the entrances between the prongs, both in the dog *d* and in the hook *h*, are made very wide so that the end of the whip-lash may be readily thrown into them.

My invention will now be understood and its value in accomplishing the purpose stated will be appreciated.

I am aware that a gravity dog pivoted within a clamp-frame attached to a harness-saddle for a means of checking up a horse by use of a whip-lash, and also that for unchecking by the same means, a bifurcated part attached to a loop that slides along the guide-rein, have been known separately, but I am not aware that either of my above described devices A and B was ever known until my invention thereof.

What I claim is—

1. In horse-checking devices, in combination with a means for drawing the check-strap backward, the unchecking device A, consisting of the clamp-frame *f* having an integral arched lower portion attachable to the harness saddle, above which is a portion having in its upper side and between the upward projecting frame sides a rectangular transverse space, such frame sides being upon curved lines terminating in heads that are flat upon the inner sides and highest at the breadth centers, and between which appears the check-dog *d*, said check-dog *d* being a rectangular block in its lower portion and in its upper portion two divergent prongs, each having on the outer side near the upper end the notch *n*, the vertical side of which notch *n* has an upwardly inward bevel, and in which notches *n n* appear the flat heads of the side of the frame *f*, said flat heads and frame sides being pivotally connected, substantially as described and for the purpose expressed.

2. In horse-checking devices, in combination with a suitable means for freeing the check-strap, the unlocking device B consisting of the horizontal slide *s'*, of flat metal in **M** form, from the outwardly curved end stems of which project downward for a slight distance, and thence extend parallel with the end stem, two similar, rectangular prongs, the forward end stem presenting a rectangular opening, and there appearing attached to and arched over the upper surface from the rear end stem to the forward end stem two divergent prongs substantially as described and for the purpose expressed.

3. In horse-checking devices, in combination, the unchecking device A, consisting of the clamp-frame *f* attachable to the harness saddle and having two upward projecting sides terminating in flat heads highest at the breadth center and between which, in the upper side of the horizontal portion, occurs a rectangular transverse space, and between which sides also appears the check-dog *d*, said check-dog *d* being a rectangular block in its lower portion, and in its upper portion two divergent prongs, each having on the outer side near the upper end the notch *n*, the vertical side of which notch *n* has an upwardly inward bevel, and in which notch *n* the flat heads of the sides of the frame *f* have place pivoted thereto; and the unlocking device B, consisting of the horizontal slide *s'*, of flat metal in **M** form, from the end stems of which project downward for a slight distance and thence extend parallel with the end stems, two similar prongs, the forward end stem having a rectangular opening, and there appearing attached to and arched over the upper surface from the rear to the forward end stem, two divergent prongs, substantially as described and for the purpose expressed.

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

THEODORE H. SHOTTENBERG.

Witnesses:
J. H. DENISON,
W. H. BENSON.