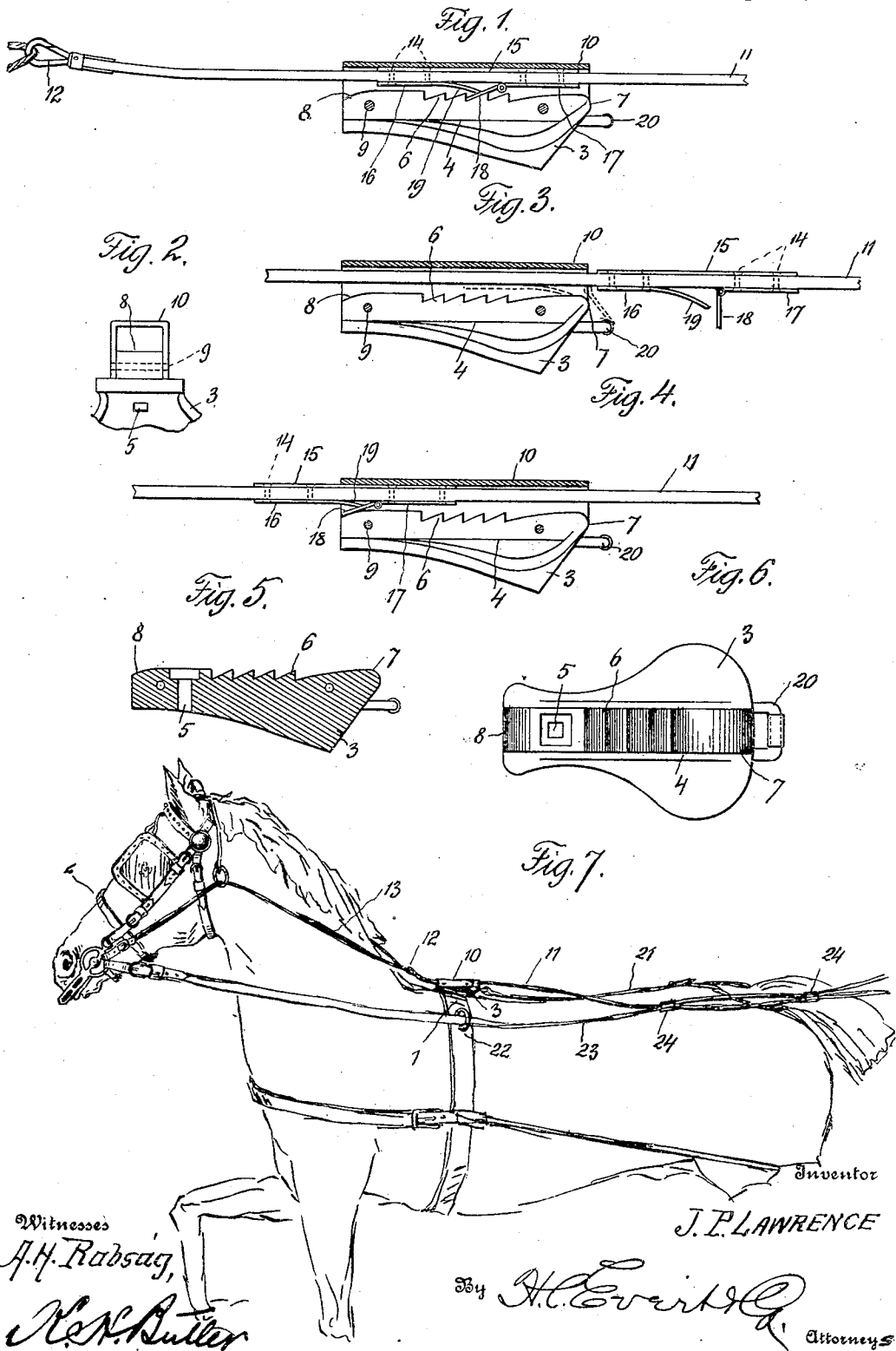


CLAMP,

935,527.

Patented Sept. 28, 1909.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH P. LAWRENCE, OF THOMAS STATION, PENNSYLVANIA.

CLAMP.

935,527.

Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Sept. 28, 1909.

Application filed November 3, 1908. Serial No. 460,876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH P. LAWRENCE, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Thomas Station, in the county of Washington and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Clamps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

This invention relates to a releasing and locking clamp for harness, and the primary object of my invention is to automatically release a check rein whereby a horse can lower his head for drinking purposes, this being accomplished without the driver of the horse leaving the vehicle seat.

Another object of my invention is to provide a simple and durable attachment for a harness saddle for adjustably holding the check rein of a bridle.

With the above and other objects in view which will more readily appear, as the invention is better understood, the same consists in the novel construction, combination and arrangement of parts to be presently described and then claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of my clamping device, illustrating the checking rein in a locked position, Fig. 2 is an end view of the same, Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view of the device illustrating the checking rein in an unlocked position, Fig. 4 is a similar view illustrating the checking rein released, Fig. 5 is a longitudinal sectional view of a portion of the device, Fig. 6 is a plan of the same, and Fig. 7 is an elevation of the device as applied to a single set of harness.

In the accompanying drawings, 1 designates the saddle of a set of harness, and 2 the bridle. Mounted upon the saddle 1 is a plate 3 having a central longitudinal rib 4 provided adjacent the forward end thereof with a rivet or screw opening 5, whereby said plate and rib can be secured to the saddle 1.

The upper edge of the rib is provided with a plurality of ratchet teeth 6 and the ends of said rib are rounded or beveled as at 7 and 8. Mounted over the rib 4 and secured thereto by pins or rivets 9 is an inverted channel shaped casing 10. Extending through the casing 10 is a rein 11 having the forward end thereof provided with a snap hook 12 adapted to be attached to the looped check rein 13 of the bridle 2. Secured to

the rein 11 by rivets 14 are three plates 15, 16, and 17, the plate 15 being on the upper face of the rein and the plates 16 and 17 on the lower face thereof, and pivotally connected to the plate 17, is a pawl 18 adapted to be engaged by the resilient end 19 of the plate 16.

The rear end of the plate 3 is provided with a yoke 20 for the crupper strap 21 of the harness, and mounted upon the saddle 1 are terrets 22 for the driving reins 23 of the harness. The rein 11 is supported by one of the reins 23 through the medium of sleeves 24 slidably mounted upon said reins.

The check rein 13 is held in a normal position with the horse's head elevated by the pawl 18 engaging one of the ratchet teeth 6 of the rib 4 and to release the check rein 13, the rein 11 is pulled rearwardly until the pawl 18 passes out of the rear end of the casing 10, as shown in Fig. 3 of the drawings. When the rein 11 is released allowing a horse to lower his head, the pawl 18 drags over the ratchet teeth 6 and the resilient end 19 of the plate 16 recedes over said teeth until the pawl 18 passes out of the forward end of the casing 10.

After the horse has finished drinking, the rein 11 is pulled and the pawl 18 enters the casing 10 again, as shown in Fig. 4, and it eventually engages the ratchet teeth 6, the pawl being held in engagement with said teeth by the resilient end 19 of the plate 16.

If a check rein device is used in connection with a double set of harness, the reins 11 can be connected together whereby the check reins 13 of the horses can be simultaneously released.

The pawl 18 can be readily retained in the forwardmost ratchet tooth 6 and should the horse become fractious or excited, the rein 11 can be pulled to place the pawl in engagement with the rearwardmost ratchet tooth, thereby retaining the horse's head at a greater elevation permitting of the horse being more easily controlled by the lines 23.

The check rein device is made of strong and durable metal and is applicable to the present style of harness without altering the same.

While in the drawings forming a part of this application there is illustrated the preferred embodiments of my invention, I would have it understood that the details of construction can be varied or changed as to the shape, proportion and manner of assem-

blage, without departing from the spirit of the invention.

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

- 5 1. In a check rein device, the combination with a harness saddle and a check rein, of a plate having a longitudinal toothed rib secured on the harness saddle, a casing inclosing said toothed rib, a rein formed imperforate extending continuously through the casing, said rein being connected to the check rein, a plate having a resilient end on the underside of the rein, a second plate on the underside of the rein, and a pawl hinged to the inner end of the plate, said pawl being adapted to engage with the toothed rib and being held normally thereagainst by the resilient end of the first plate.
- 10 2. In a check rein device, the combination

with a harness saddle and a check rein, a 20 plate having a longitudinal toothed rib secured to the saddle, a casing inclosing said toothed rib, a ring connected with the check rein extending unbrokenly through the casing, a plate on the upper side of the rein engaging the casing, a plate having a resilient end on the underside of the rein, a second plate on the underside of the rein, and a pawl hinged to the second plate adapted to engage the toothed rib and the resilient 30 plate.

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

JOSEPH P. LAWRENCE.

Witnesses:

STUART A. LAWRENCE,
GEORGE B. HAMILTON.