

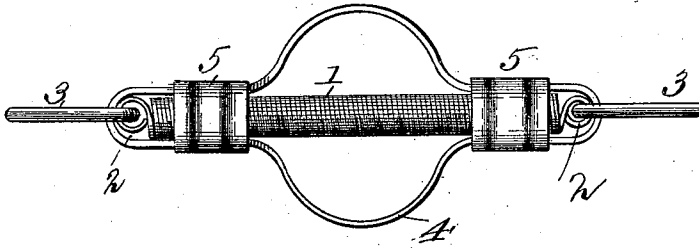
(No Model.)

J. M. CHAFFIN.  
CHECKREIN FOR HARNESS.

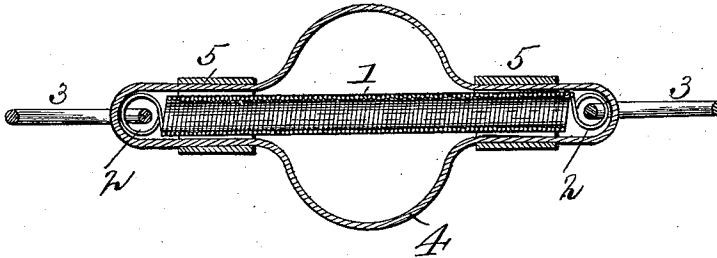
No. 556,618.

Patented Mar. 17, 1896.

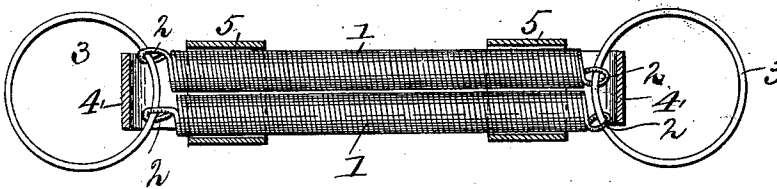
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES  
*F. L. Curand.*  
*J. L. Coombs.*

INVENTOR:  
*John M. Chaffin.*  
*Louis Bagger & Co.*  
Attorneys

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN M. CHAFFIN, OF RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA.

## CHECKREIN FOR HARNESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 556,618, dated March 17, 1896.

Application filed October 18, 1893. Serial No. 488,455. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN M. CHAFFIN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Red Cloud, in the county of Webster and State of Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Checkreins for Harness; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which 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 a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in checkreins for harness for holding the animal's head in an elevated position. These checkreins as ordinarily constructed are connected directly with the checkrein-hooks on the saddle. This construction frequently results in severe injury to the animal's mouth, owing to the movements of the head being too suddenly checked by said rein.

The object of my invention is to remedy the above and other defects by providing an improved yielding connection between the checkrein and its hook, which will gradually take up the strain caused by sudden movements of the animal's head, thus preventing jars and shocks which are liable to injure the mouth, and which are also liable to injure the harness.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a plan view of a harness attachment constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a central longitudinal section of the same. Fig. 3 is a central horizontal section.

In the said drawings the reference-numeral 1 designates two short parallel coiled springs, each end of which is bent over, forming a coil or loop 2, with which engages a ring 3. One of these rings is connected with the checkrein in any suitable manner, while the other

engages with the checkrein-hook, as will be readily understood by those skilled in the art to which the invention pertains. Engaging with the rings 3 is an endless band 4, consisting of a leather strap with the ends united together. This band is somewhat longer than the springs when the latter are in a contracted or normal position. Its object is to limit the movement of the rings and prevent the springs from being distended to too great an extent.

The numeral 5 designates two leather bands which embrace band 4 and hold it to the springs. These bands 5 are movable on band 4.

The operation will be readily understood. One of the rings 3 is connected with the checkrein, while the other is connected with the checkrein-hook. It will be obvious that any sudden movements of the animal's head will cause the springs to give or yield, thus preventing too sudden checking of said movements. The band 4 prevents the springs from being damaged or injured by being distended to too great an extent.

While I have shown and described two springs in the present instance it is obvious that three or more may be employed without departure from my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

As an improved article a harness attachment consisting of the coiled springs, the rings connected therewith, the endless band of leather or other flexible material passing through said rings and around the coiled springs and the movable bands embracing said endless band, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereunto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOHN M. CHAFFIN.

Witnesses:

GEO. R. CHANEY,  
C. H. POTTER.