(No Model.)

S. R. BROOKS.

CHECK REIN.

No. 480,865. Patented Aug. 16, 1892.

Fig. 1.

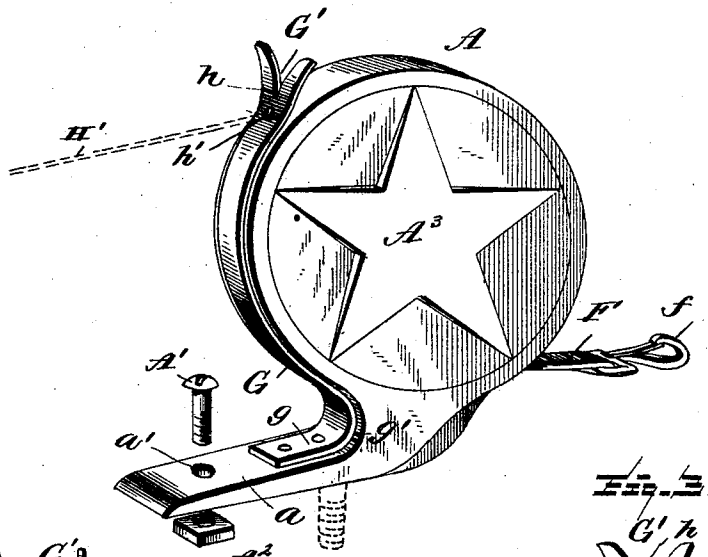


Fig. 2.

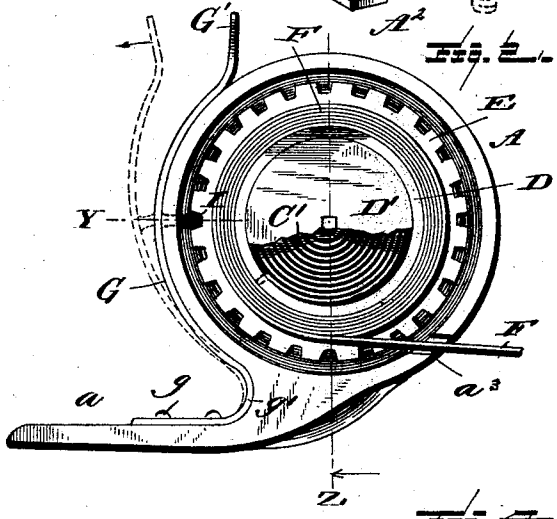


Fig. 3.

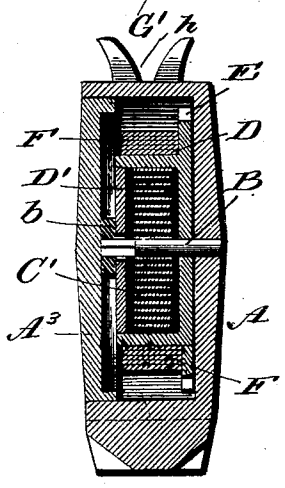
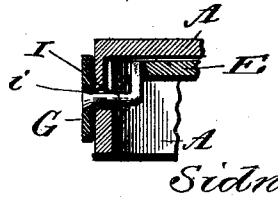


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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CHECKREIN.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 480,865, dated August 16, 1892.

Application filed April 25, 1892. Serial No. 430,516. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SIDNEY RODGERS BROOKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Uniontown, in the county of Fayette and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Checkreins; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in checkreins; and it has for its objects, among others, to provide an automatic check which shall be simple in its construction, and which can be operated to uncheck the animal from the vehicle without leaving the same, and which shall automatically check up the horse after he is through drinking.

The objects and advantages of the invention will hereinafter appear, and the novel features thereof will be specifically defined by the appended claim.

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. Fig. 2 is a side view with the cover to the case removed and a portion broken away. Fig. 3 is a section through the the same on the line 2 2 of Fig. 2 with the cover in place. Fig. 4 is a sectional detail showing the pawl.

Like letters of reference indicate like parts throughout the several views.

Referring now to the details of the drawings by letter, A designates a suitable case, within which the operating parts are arranged. It is provided with an extension *a*, having an opening *a'*, through which may pass the securing means for securing it in position. I have shown a screw A' and nut A^2 for this purpose; but other means may be employed. The case may be as ornamental as may be desired and may be made of any suitable material. The ring portion is provided at its lower front portion with an opening a^3 for the passage of the strap, which will soon be described. One side or face A^3 of the case is made removable and may be held in place in any suitable manner. This removable face is provided upon its inner face with a plate *b*, which has a square hole to receive the square end of the shaft B. This shaft B has its other end journaled in the opposite side or face of the case, as seen in Fig. 3, and has secured thereto one end of a flat coiled spring C, the other end of which is held to the inner wall of the case D, which has a removable face D', having an opening, through which the said shaft revolves, as seen in Fig. 3. This case carries at its inner end a ratchet-wheel E, as seen in Figs. 2 and 3.

F is a strap, preferably a thin flat steel strap, wound upon the outer surface of the flange of the case D, with one end secured thereto, and its other end extends through the opening a^3 in the outer case and is provided with a suitable device, as a snap-hook *f*, for attachment to the check.

G is a spring-plate having its end secured to the extension *a* of the outer case, as seen at *g* in Figs. 1 and 2, and is bent into the recess *g'* thereof, with its free end curved to conform to the curvature of the case, and its extreme end is provided with a fork G', with a tapered or wedge-shaped space *h*, as seen in Figs. 1 and 3. It may be provided with a hole *h'* for the attachment of a cord or string H', as seen by dotted lines in Fig. 1.

With the parts thus constructed and arranged the operation will be readily understood. The spring being wound upon the shaft within the case and the strap attached to the check, the ratchet-wheel is held against rotation by means of a pawl I on the spring plate or arm G, which pawl extends through a hole *i* in the outer case, and its inner end is bent at right angles, as seen in Fig. 4, to engage the ratchet, as shown in the said figure. As soon as the horse has occasion to drink or for any other purpose it is desired to uncheck him all that it is necessary to do is to draw upon the cord H' and withdraw the pawl from its engagement with the ratchet-wheel, when the strap F is free to be withdrawn from the case, or the pawl may be withdrawn from the ratchet by means of the whip, the

knot in which is engaged in the form of the spring-arm in a manner which will be readily understood. When the animal is through drinking, the spring automatically winds up the strap and the pawl falls into a tooth of the ratchet-wheel and holds it.

The parts can readily be assembled or removed for the purpose of repairs or otherwise. The device as a whole can be made at a minimum cost. It is durable and not liable to get out of order. If preferred, a screw, as shown in dotted lines of Fig. 1, may be used when the device is applied to double harness, or any suitable fastening may be employed, as found most desirable for the purpose.

What I claim as new is—

The herein-described checkrein attachment, consisting of the outer case having an extension, the spring-drum within the case, the spring, the strap wound around the spring-drum, with one end extended through the case, the ratchet-wheel on the drum, the spring-arm secured to the case and having its free end formed into a fork, and a pawl carried by the spring-arm, with its free end extended into the case and turned at right angles to its length to engage the ratchet-wheel, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

SIDNEY RODGERS BROOKS.

Witnesses:
GEO. W. H. SHIRKEY,
CHAS. N. SHIRKEY.