

(No Model.)

L. MIDDLETON.
HARNESS.

No. 514,092.

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Fig. 1.

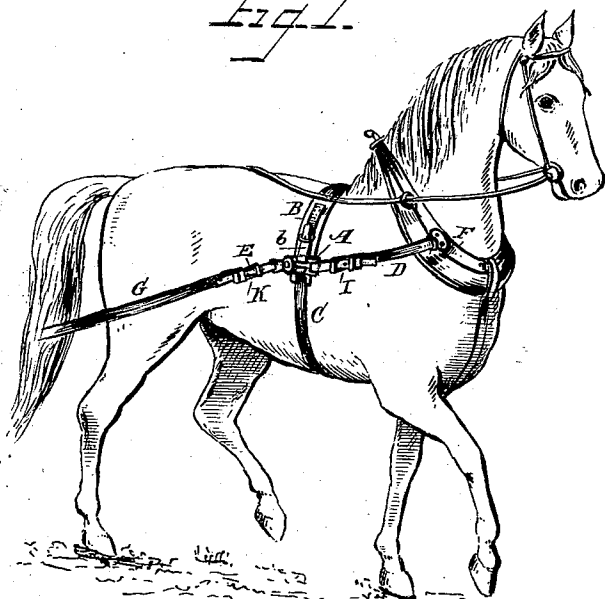


Fig. 2.

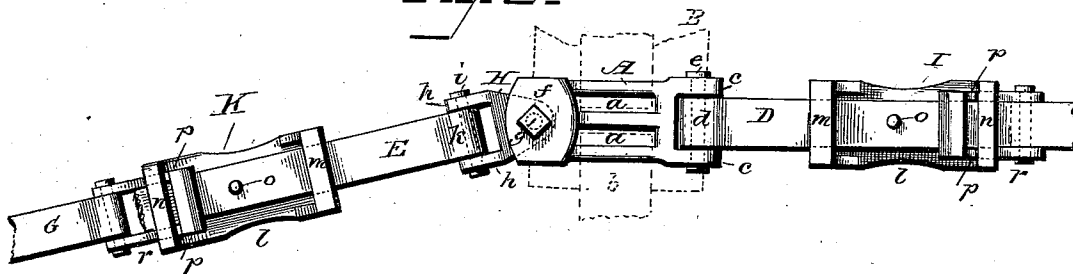


Fig. 3.

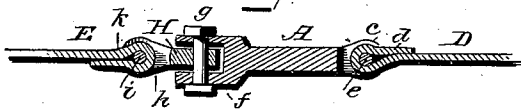
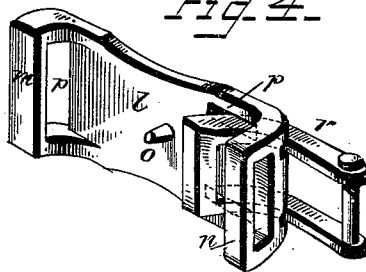


Fig. 4.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 514,092, dated February 6, 1894.

Application filed March 20, 1893. Renewed December 26, 1893. Serial No. 494,742. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEE MIDDLETON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Clarksville, in the county of Pike and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Plow-Harness; 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.

The present invention has for its object to provide a harness for plows or other like heavy drafts which will possess the required strength and durability, that can be readily adjusted to the animal and have many advantages in the details of construction over the class of harness heretofore in use for similar purposes.

The invention consists in a harness constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a view showing a horse with my improved harness placed thereon; Fig. 2 a detail plan view on an enlarged scale of a portion of the harness which embodies my invention; Fig. 3 a sectional elevation through the coupling; Fig. 4 a detail view in perspective of one of the buckles.

In the accompanying drawings A represents the coupling having the double longitudinal slots *a* to receive the strap *b* of the back band B and also the end of the belly-band C, as shown in Fig. 1, said back-band and belly-band being of any of the usual forms or of any suitable construction found most desirable.

To the coupling A are connected the ends of two straps D E, the former connecting in any suitable manner with the hame F and the latter with the tug-strap G.

The coupling A has at one end suitable eyes *c* and between the eyes is located the looped end *d* of the strap D, a pin *e* extending through the eyes and loop to secure the strap to the coupling. The opposite end of the coupling A is formed with a channeled head *f* to receive the tongue H upon the end of the strap E, said tongue being pivotally

connected to the coupling by means of the pin *g* or by any well known pivotal connection found most preferable. The tongue H is formed with eyes *h* to receive a pin *i* for connecting the looped end *k* of the strap E. The strap D is provided with a suitable buckle I and the strap E with a similar buckle K which are of substantially the same construction. These buckles consist of a rectangular section or frame *l* having curved looped ends *m n* for the reception of the straps, and between the ends a projecting pin or stud *o* to engage with one of the holes in the straps, and longitudinal slots *p* to connect thereto a clamping section *r*. To one of these clamping sections which may be of any suitable construction, is attached one end of the tug-strap as clearly shown in the drawings.

The employment of the coupling A enables the proper and convenient adjustment of the back-band, while the distance between the hame and back-band can be varied as circumstances require by lengthening the strap D through the medium of the buckle I.

The buckle K and strap E enable the tug-strap to be shortened or lengthened from back-band to singletree, the strap E forming in reality an extension to the tug-strap whereby it is lengthened or shortened as above described.

The buckles may be of any well known construction that will enable the lengthening and shortening of the straps to which they are connected, and many changes or modifications may be made in the details of construction that would come within the scope of my invention.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. In a harness, a coupling device for the traces, comprising a slotted body-portion having means for attaching a strap at one end and channeled at the opposite end, a tongue pivoted thereto, and means for attaching a strap to the tongue, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A plow or other heavy draft harness, consisting of a coupling for connecting the back-band with the belly-band having double lon-

gitudinal slots and channeled head, a tongue
pivotally connected to the head and provided
with a strap and buckle for attachment to the
tug-strap, and a strap and buckle connected
5 to the opposite end of the coupling and adapt-
ed for attachment to the hame, substantially
as and for the purpose specified.

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

LEE MIDDLETON.

Witnesses:

T. S. MCQUEEN,
C. L. CARROLL.