

No. 815,503.

PATENTED MAR. 20, 1906.

J. W. ARMITAGE.
RIDING GALLERY.
APPLICATION FILED AUG. 17, 1904.

Fig. 1.

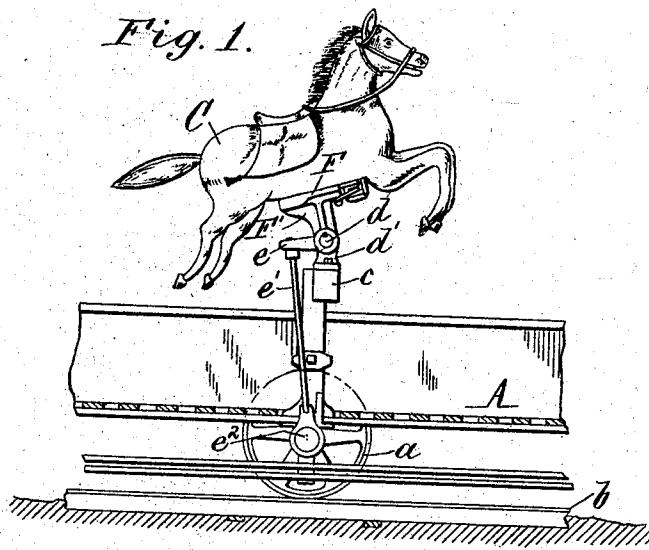


Fig. 2. f²

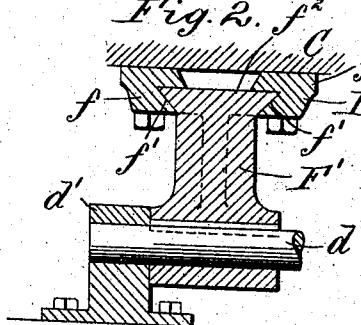


Fig. 3.

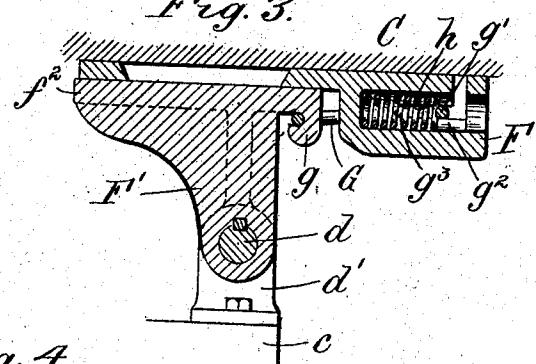
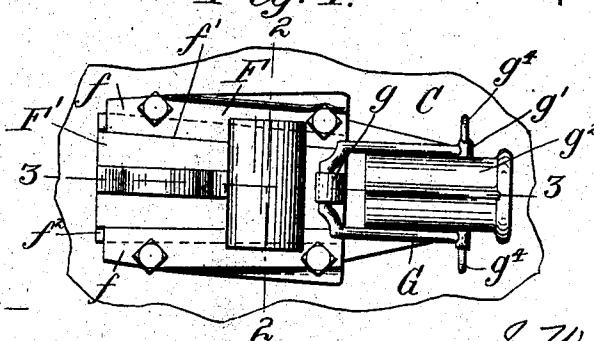


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:-

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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RIDING-GALLERY.

No. 815,503.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

Application filed August 17, 1904. Serial No. 221,016.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES W. ARMITAGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at North Tonawanda, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Riding-Galleries, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in merry-go-rounds or riding-galleries, and more particularly to devices employed in such machines for removably securing the horses, other figures, or seats on their supporting frames. The figures or seats are often pivotally mounted upon the moving frame of the machine and rocked by suitable mechanism, and while it is desirable to so secure the figures or seats that they can be quickly and easily attached and detached to facilitate the setting up and dismantling of the machine, and thus enable it to be quickly moved from place to place, it is imperative to safety, especially in the case of the rocking figures or seats, that they be securely held in place against accidental detachment.

The object of this invention is to provide an attaching device for the figures or seats of simple, strong, and secure construction, whereby the figures or seats can be easily and securely fastened to their supports and as readily detached therefrom.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation of a portion of a merry-go-round, showing the horse secured in position by an attaching device embodying the invention. Fig. 2 is a vertical cross-section of the fastening device, on an enlarged scale, in line 22, Fig. 4. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal cross-section of the same in line 33, Fig. 4. Fig. 4 is a bottom plan view of the same detached from the rock-shaft.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in the several figures.

A represents a portion of the traveling frame of a merry-go-round or the like which is supported by wheels *a*, (one of which is shown,) which are journaled in suitable bearings on the frame and travel on a stationary track *b*.

C represents the rocking horse, other figure, or seat, which is mounted to rock on a standard or support *c* on the traveling frame A. In the construction shown the figure or seat is attached to a rock-shaft *d*, which is journaled in bearings *d'* (one of which is shown) on the

support and is provided with a rock-arm *e*, 55 connected by a pitman *e'* and eccentric *e''* to the wheel *a*, so that the rotation of the latter as the frame A travels around causes the rock-shaft *d* and figure or seat attached thereto to rock. These parts are of known construction, and any other known means may be used to support and rock the figure or seat.

The figure or seat is detachably secured to the rock-shaft or other rocking support employed by an attaching device comprising 65 two separable parts, one of which, *F*, is bolted or otherwise secured to the figure or seat and the other of which, *F'*, is keyed or otherwise fixed to the rock-shaft. The part *F* shown consists of a plate or casting having depending converging side flanges or portions *f*, which form a tapering dovetailed groove *f'*, and the other part *F'* is provided with a tapering or wedge-shaped dovetailed top or projection *f''*, which is adapted to enter horizontally and wedge tightly into said groove *f'*. A manifest reversal of this construction would be to provide the part *F'*, which is secured to the rock-shaft, with a dovetailed or undercut tapering groove and provide the 70 other part, which is secured to the figure or seat, with a correspondingly-shaped projection to enter said groove. The two parts *F* and *F'* of the attaching device are held from accidental detachment by a latch *G*, pivoted to one part—for instance, the part *F*—and adapted to engage over a hook or lug *g* on the other part *F'*. The latch consists of a bail having a cross-bar *g'*, which passes through a spring barrel or pocket *g''*, formed on the 75 part *F* of the attaching device, the bail being adapted to slide and swing in longitudinal slots *g* in the opposite sides of the pocket. A spring *h* is confined in the pocket, between one end thereof and the cross-bar of the latch-bail, to force the latter yieldingly in a direction to hold its free end releasably in engagement with the hook or lug *g* on the part *F'* of the attaching device. The latch is preferably provided with lateral projections or finger-pieces *g'* for operating it. The spring-pressed latch thus tends to draw and hold the two parts of the attaching device tightly together and at the same time is held by its spring from accidental disengagement from the hook *g*, and thereby prevents the separation of the parts of the attaching device. Thus while the figure or seat, with the part of

the attaching device secured thereto, can be readily slipped horizontally off of the other part of the device by first disengaging the latch the accidental disconnection of the 5 parts of the attaching device is prevented. This is particularly desirable in the event of the breaking of the pivotal connection or operating-pitman of the figure or seat, because in such case, while the figure or seat might 10 fall forward or backward, it will not become entirely detached from its supporting or operating parts and will afford a hold for the rider, thus preventing a possible serious injury to him.

15 I claim as my invention—

1. The combination with a seat or device, and a support for the same, of attaching means for said device comprising parts secured to said device and to said support and 20 having interlocking portions which are engaged and disengaged by sliding one of said parts on the other part, and a latch slidably mounted on one of said parts and releasably engaging said other part to hold the parts from 25 disengagement, substantially as set forth.
2. The combination with a seat or device, and a support for the same, of attaching means for said device and support comprising parts secured to said device and to said 30 support, one of said parts having a wedge-shaped socket and said other part having a wedge-shaped projection slidably engaging in said socket, and a latch releasably connecting said parts to hold said wedge-shaped projection from sliding out of said wedge-shaped 35 socket, substantially as set forth.
3. The combination with a seat or device, and a support for the same, of attaching means for said device and support comprising 40 parts secured to said device and to said support, one of said parts having a wedge-shaped undercut socket, and said other part having a wedge-shaped flanged projection slidably engaging in said socket, and a movable spring-pressed latch releasably connect- 45

ing said parts to hold said projection from sliding out of said socket, substantially as set forth.

4. The combination with a seat or device, and a support for the same, of attaching 50 means for said device and support comprising parts secured to said device and to said support, one of said parts having a wedge-shaped horizontal socket, and said other part having a wedge-shaped projection adapted to 55 slide horizontally into and out of said socket, and means which act to force said wedge-shaped projection lengthwise into said socket, substantially as set forth.

5. The combination with a figure or seat, 60 and a support for the same, of an attaching device for said figure or seat comprising a part secured to the figure or seat and a part secured to the support, one of said parts having a wedge-shaped projection which detachably 65 engages in a correspondingly-shaped groove in the other part, and a spring-pressed latch pivotally connected to one of said parts and adapted to releasably engage a hook on the other part, substantially as set forth. 70

6. The combination with a figure or seat, and a support for the same, of an attaching device for said figure or seat comprising a part secured to the figure or seat and having a wedge-shaped groove, and a part secured to 75 said support and having a wedge-shaped projection which detachably engages in said groove, a swinging latch slidably connected to said first-mentioned part and engaging a hook on said other part, and a spring confined in a pocket on the first-mentioned part for holding said latch in releasable engagement with said hook, substantially as set forth.

Witness my hand this 10th day of July, 85 1904.

JAMES W. ARMITAGE.

Witnesses:

R. S. PATTEN,
J. M. PATTEN.