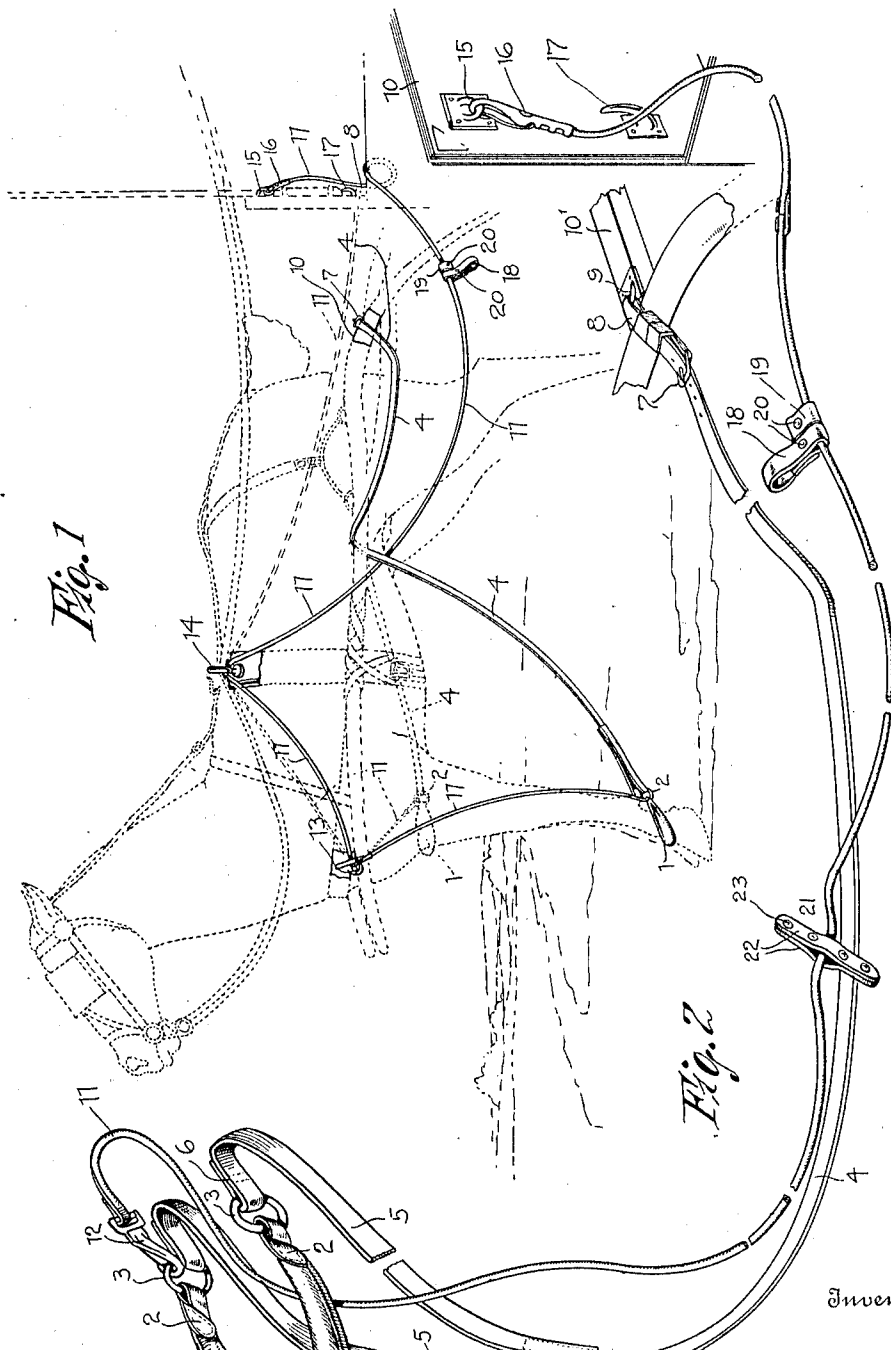


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HITCHING STRAP.
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Inventor

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HITCHING-STRAP.

1,061,247.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS LOTHERINGTON, a naturalized citizen of the United States, residing at Little Rock, in the county of Pulaski and State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Straps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawing.

10 This invention relates to hitching straps and especially has for its object the production of an efficient hitching device which will not necessitate the tying of the horse to some stationary object.

15 Another object of this invention is the production of an efficient hitching device which, under ordinary circumstances may be so carried by the horse as to be out of the way, and yet may be dropped at a moment's notice to such a position as to prevent the horse from running away.

20 With these and other objects in view this invention consists of certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

25 In the drawings:—Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the hitching device as applied to a horse. Fig. 2 is a semi-diagrammatic perspective view of the hitching device detached.

30 Referring to the drawings by numerals 1 designates the hobble which is adapted to fit around the front leg of the horse and consists of a substantially U-shaped member which is padded so as to prevent any injury to the horse. The hobble 1 is provided with lip portions 2 at its inner end for straddling the connecting rings 3. A holding strap 4 is provided with a pair of hobble engaging members 5 which hobble engaging members are provided with loops 6, which loops engage the rings 3 of the hobble. The inner end of the strap 4 is provided with a buckle 7, which buckle engages the strap 4 as indicated in Fig. 2, thereby forming a loop 8 for engaging the ring 9 carried by the cross-bar 10 of the shaft. By means of this strap 4, it will be obvious that the same will prevent the horse from moving his front foot to any great extent, that is to say, when the hobble is in its operative position.

35 A controlling or supporting strap 11 is provided with a snap-hook 12 which snap-hook 12 engages one of the rings 3 as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 2, and this strap ex-

tends through a ring 13 secured to the trace near the shoulder of the animal and from thence the strap 11 passes through the gig saddle ring 14, and from there to the dash-board 10. The inner end of the strap 11 is secured to the ring 15 by means of a snap hook 16. A hook 17 is also carried by the dash-board 10 near one side thereof, and is adapted to be engaged by the loop 18 for supporting the hobble 1 in an inoperative position as will be hereinafter described. An auxiliary loop 19 is secured to the strap 11 and acts as a stop for the loop 18 for preventing the longitudinal movement of said strap 18 upon the strap 11 in one direction. The loop 19 is securely held against movement upon the strap 11 by means of the rivets 20.

40 A supporting cleat 21 is carried intermediate the ends of the strap 11 and consists of a pair of sections 22 being connected together by means of rivets 23. These sections are firmly clamped upon the strap 11 so as to prevent the longitudinal movement of the supporting cleat 21 upon the strap 11. This cleat 21 is adapted to rest upon the eye 13 and prevent the hobble 1 from slipping off the animal's foot after the same has been dropped to the desired position.

45 When the device is in an inoperative position, and while the animal is traveling, the hobble 1 is placed upon the animal's front leg, near its shoulder, in the position as shown in dotted lines and the loop 18 is placed over the hook 17, thereby keeping the hobble out of the way and preventing the same from interfering with the travel of the animal. If it is desired to hitch the animal while leaving the vehicle, or prevent the animal from running away, the loop 18 is released from the hook 17, thereby causing the hobble 1 to readily drop to the ankle of the horse's fore-leg, and as this occurs, it will be obvious that the animal will be prevented from walking or running away in view of the fact, that his fore-leg will be tied through the medium of the strap 4, since this strap is fixedly secured to the eye 9 of the cross-bar of the shaft.

50 From the foregoing description, it will be obvious that a very simple and efficient horse hitching device has been produced which is simple in construction, efficient in operation, and consists of a comparatively small number of parts. It will further be obvious that a very simple and efficient device has been

produced whereby the horse may be hitched instantly without dismounting from the carriage or vehicle, merely by releasing the loop 18 from the hook 17 and causing the hobble 1 to drop to its operative position. It will be further obvious that in view of the fact that the hobble is supported upon the horse near its shoulder that the same will not be inconvenient for the horse while traveling.

10 What is claimed is:—

A hitching strap comprising a U-shaped padded hobble to engage the animal's limb, terminal loops on said hobble, a holding strap attached to the shafts and engaged by

said loops, a supporting strap having a snap 15 hook, rings on said hobble one of which is engaged by said snap hook, a trace ring near the animal's shoulder through which said strap passes, said strap also passing through the saddle ring, its end engaging a ring 20 on the dash board and the loop on said strap adapted to engage a hook on the dash board.

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

THOMAS LOTHERINGTON.

Witnesses:

OTTO WEISE,

HAYES BALLARD.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D. C."