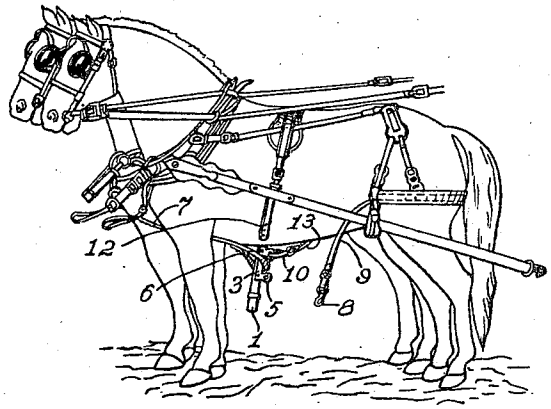
May 8, 1923. 1,454,306

L. C. WOOD

BELLYBAND CONNECTION

Filed April 14, 1922

Fig. 1.



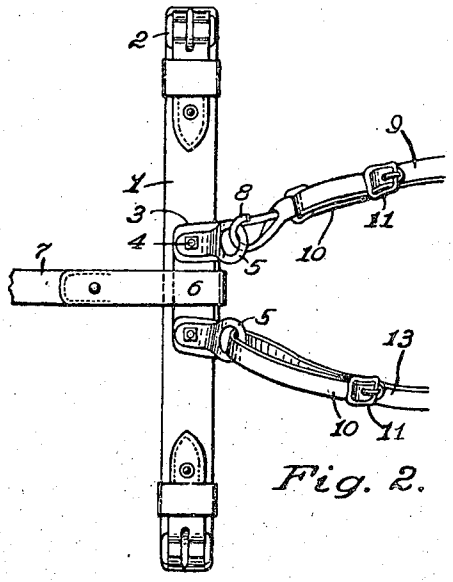


Fig. 2.

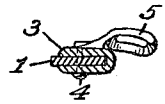


Fig. 3.

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Patented May 8, 1923. 1,454,306

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEONARD C. WOOD, OF ALDEN, IOWA.

BELLYBAND CONNECTION.

Application filed April 14, 1922. Serial No. 552,680.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEONARD C. WOOD, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Alden, Hardin County, Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bellyband Connections, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in belly-band connections for harness, and the object of my improvement is to provide a plate mounted on the middle of the belly-band having end-eyes to receive terminal fastening means on the side-straps, whereby in double harness, certain of the connections only need be separated rendering harnessing or unharnessing easier.

This object I have accomplished by the means which are hereinafter described and claimed, and which are illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Fig. 1 is a view of a team of horses equipped with harness which includes the device of my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged under plan view of a belly-band equipped with my improved plate and side-strap connections, and Fig. 3 is a medial cross-section taken through said belly-band and plate.

The belly-band 1 is of a well-known type having end-buckles 2 for connection to other parts 12 of the harness. The numeral 7 denotes the rear part of a breast-strap such as is used in double harness, and has the terminal loop 6 through which the belly-band is passed to locate said loop medially thereon. I have secured upon the middle of the belly-band 1 a rigid metal plate 3. This plate 3 may be of any desired form but I prefer to construct it as shown, doubling it longitudinally to receive the belly-band between its parallel spaced parts, and securing it to the belly-band by means of bolts 4 or other suitable fastening-means.

Projecting rearwardly from the end parts of the plate 3 are the integral eyes 5 respectively adapted to receive a snap-hook 8 on the forward end of the near-side strap 9, and a loop 10 having a buckle 11 on the off side-strap 13.

The provision of these eyes 5 on the medial plate 3 is very convenient in harnessing or unharnessing a team equipped with double harness, being accessible and readily connected and disconnected. In practice, the snap-hook 8 on the near side-strap 9 only is disconnected from the abutting eye 5, the loop 10 on the off-side strap 13 remaining connected, as shown in said Fig. 1. It is inconvenient to reach under the animal to connect or disconnect the loop 10, and by my improvement this is unnecessary, as separation of the near side-strap is all that is required in unharnessing, which saves time and much inconvenience, especially when a large number of teams have to be looked after.

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

In horse-harness, the combination with a belly-band, a breast-strap having a looped end and side straps, of a U-shaped rigid member enclosing and fastened to the middle of the belly-band, said member having rearwardly projecting spaced eyes with which the off and near side-straps may be respectively engaged, and the loop of said breast-strap being positioned on said member between its end-eyes.

Signed at Waterloo, Iowa, this 15th day of March, 1922.

LEONARD C. WOOD.