(No Model.)

O. L. MYAER.

SAFETY TRACE EYE.

No. 588,347. Patented Aug. 17, 1897.

Fig. 1.

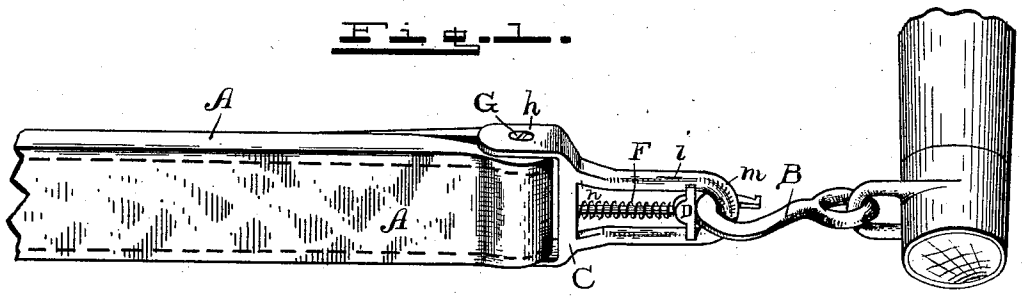


Fig. 2.

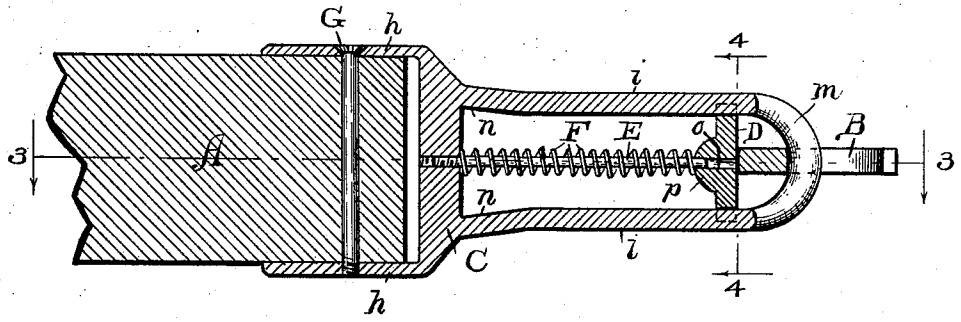


Fig. 3.

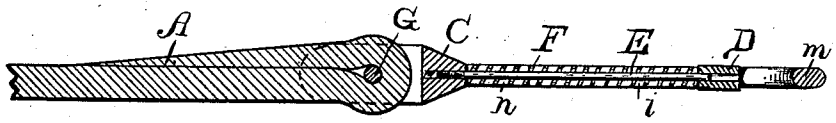
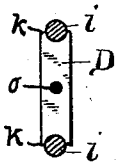


Fig. 4.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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SAFETY TRACE-EYE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 588,347, dated August 17, 1897.

Application filed December 4, 1896. Serial No. 614,408. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, OLE LARSEN MYAER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Star Prairie, in the county of St. Croix and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Safety Trace-Eyes; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention relates to improvements in safety trace-eyes of the class that are attached to the end of a harness-trace for the purpose of receiving and holding the hook of a singletree; and its object is to provide a trace-eye that will be simple and inexpensive in construction and having a means whereby the singletree-hook is held securely within the eye for the purpose of preventing it from accidentally unhitching.

The invention consists in the construction, arrangement, and combination of parts illustrated in the accompanying drawings and described in the following specification.

Figure 1 is a perspective view showing it attached to a trace and having a singletree-hook engaging the eye. Fig. 2 is a vertical sectional view taken on the line 2 2 of Fig. 3. Fig. 3 is a horizontal sectional view taken on the line 3 3 of Fig. 2, and Fig. 4 is a top end view of the slide which engages the singletree-hook.

A indicates a trace; B, a singletree-hook; C, the body of the trace-eye; D, the slide-block; E, the rod on which the block D slides; F, the spring surrounding the rod E, and G the screw-bolt which secures the trace.

The body C of the trace-eye has projecting ends *h*, which carry the screw-bolt G. The screw-bolt is of the ordinary shape and construction, and the trace A is attached in the ordinary manner. The looped portion *i*, forming the eye, is spread apart at *n*, where it joins the body portion C for the purpose of allowing the insertion of the slide D, and is of greater thickness at *m*, where it engages the hook, to withstand greater wear.

The rod E, threaded at one end and screwed into a similarly-threaded opening in the center of the body portion C, is surrounded by a coil-spring F. The edges of the slide D have semicircular depressions *k*, which come in contact with the rounded sides of the loop *i*, forming guides. The slide D has an opening *o* in the center to receive the rod E and is adapted to slide thereon. The lower end of the slide, which comes in contact with the spring F, has a projecting portion *p* around the opening *o* for the purpose of giving a greater bearing around the rod E. The rod E may be screwed into the body C a greater or less distance, as may be required to allow the hook to pass within the eye, and thus make it adjustable to different-sized hooks. In operation the slide is drawn back on the rod, which compresses the spring, the hook is inserted in the eye, and the slide released, when the spring forces the slide up against the hook and exerts a continuous pressure which prevents the accidental disengagement of the hook. It frequently happens when going downgrade or when the vehicle strikes an obstruction that the traces will become slack, allowing the hooks to drop out of the trace-eyes, and thus cause accidents and runaways. By the use of my improved safety trace-eye it will be impossible for accidents to happen from this cause.

It is obvious that the trace-eye may be manufactured in various sizes and finishes, thus adapting it to all grades of harness and vehicles.

Having described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a trace-eye, the combination of the loop *i*, of a width equal to the length of the slide-block D, and having the thickened portion *m*, at the top, the slide-block D, adapted to slide within the loop *i*, and having semicircular depressions *k*, in its edges and a central opening *o*, the rod E, threaded at the lower end, and surrounded with a coil-spring F, with the body portion C, having the projecting portions *h*, adapted to carry a screw-bolt, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination in a trace-eye of the body portion C, having a central threaded opening, the loop *i*, of a width equal to the length of the slide-block D, and having a

thickened portion at its opposite end, the rod E, threaded to enter the threaded central opening in the body portion C, and the coil-spring F, with the slide-block D, having semicircular depressions *k*, in its edges, a central opening *o*, and a projecting portion *p*, on its lower end surrounding the opening *o*, substantially as shown and described.

3. The combination with a trace-eye having a loop of the same width as the length of the slide-block D and a thickened portion *m*, at the top, of the adjustable rod E, carrying the coil-spring F, and the slide D, having the semicircular depressions *k*, in its edges, the central opening *o*, to receive the rod E, and the projecting portion *p*, surrounding said opening to form a greater bearing-surface within said opening, substantially as set forth.

4. A trace-eye consisting of a body portion, having a central threaded opening, to receive a like threaded rod, a loop forming the eye, said loop being of the same width as the length of a slide-bock adapted to slide inside of said loop, and having a thickened portion at its rounded end, a rod threaded at one end to enter the threaded opening in the body portion and surrounded by a coil-spring, a slide-block having semicircular depressions in its edges to form guides, and having a central opening, which said rod is adapted to enter, substantially as shown and described.

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

OLE LARSEN MYAER.

Witnesses:

WM. HUGHES,

S. N. HAWKINS.