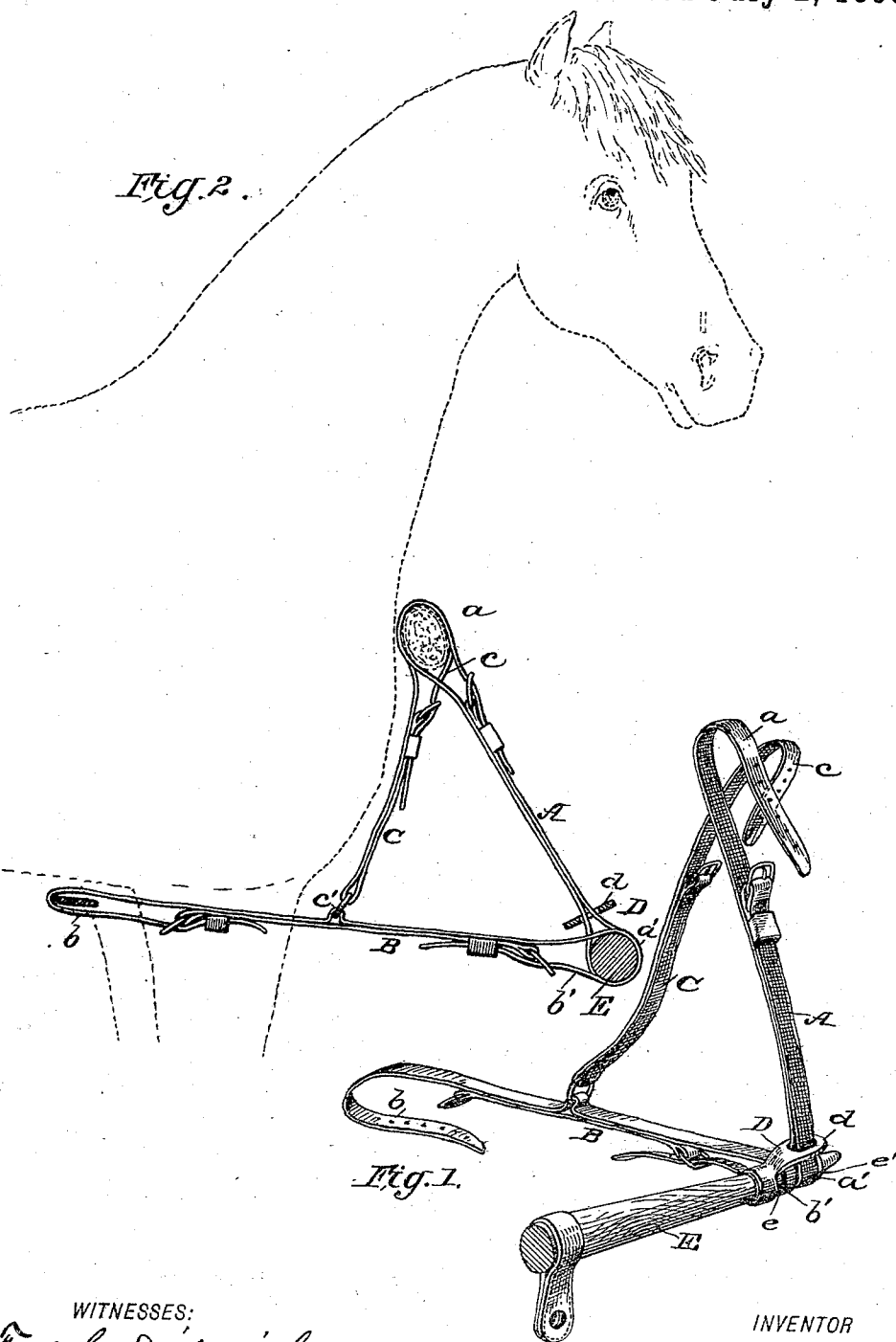


(No Model.)

B. J. SYKES.
NECK YOKE ATTACHMENT.

No. 542,119.

Patented July 2, 1895.



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BENJAMIN J. SYKES, OF TROUTVILLE, PENNSYLVANIA.

NECK-YOKE ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 542,119, dated July 2, 1895.

Application filed February 11, 1895. Serial No. 537,926. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN J. SYKES, of Troutville, in the county of Clearfield and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Neck-Yoke Attachments, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my invention is to provide a neck-yoke attachment for double teams which shall always hold the neck-yoke in proper relation to the neck of the team.

In the ordinary neck-yoke a strap passes from the neck-yoke to the collar, and serves to hold the pole; but in going downhill such single connection allows the neck-yoke to ride up under the horse's nose, much to the inconvenience of the team, throwing the collar up and making it difficult for the animals to hold back the vehicle. My invention is designed to provide an attachment which will obviate this difficulty by steadily holding the neck-yoke and pole to the proper position; and to that end it consists in the special combination and arrangement of straps, as will be hereinafter fully described.

Figure 1 is a view in perspective, and Fig. 2 is a side view of the same applied to a horse.

In the drawings, E represents the neck-yoke, and A B C represent the neck-yoke attachment. A is the ordinary neck-yoke holdback-strap, which has a loop *a'* at its lower end that encircles the neck-yoke, and another loop *a* at its upper end that encircles the lower bend of the collar, a buckle being employed in this loop to permit it to be opened and closed or adjusted as to length.

B is a horizontal strap whose rear end *b* passes between the horses' legs and is formed with a loop having a buckle and adjustable end, through which loop is passed the belly-band of the harness. The front end of this strap is also provided with a loop *b'*, which encircles the neck-yoke, and is also provided with a buckle and adjustable end.

C is a third strap occupying a triangular relation to the straps A and B. This strap C has its lower end fastened to the belly-band strap B, about midway its length, by a metal ring or keeper *c'*, or by stitching or otherwise.

This strap has at its upper end a loop *c*, with buckle and adjustable end, which loop is designed to encompass the lower bend of the

collar. This upper end of strap C may, however, be buckled or otherwise secured directly to the strap A without passing around the collar, if desired.

D is a tongue, made of leather or any other suitable material. This tongue is permanently secured by nails, screws, or otherwise to the neck-yoke at the inner end, and its outer end is provided with a slot *d*, through which the lower end of strap A is passed before being looped over the end of the neck-yoke. This slotted tongue thus holds the strap on the neck-yoke, so that it cannot accidentally slip over the end of the same. The end of the neck-yoke is provided with two recessed seats *e e'*, or one elongated seat long enough to receive side by side both the loop *b'* of strap B and loop *a'* of strap A, and in putting these loops around the neck-yoke the loop *b'* of strap B is first slipped over the end of the neck-yoke, then loop *a'* of strap A is passed through the slotted tongue D and afterward slipped over the end of the neck-yoke outside of the loop *b'*. The parts are now all firmly and securely connected, for strap A locks strap B on the neck-yoke and slotted tongue D locks strap A on the neck-yoke, so that none of them can be accidentally detached.

With the attachment as thus described the strap A performs its ordinary function of pulling back on the neck-yoke. Strap B co-operates with it to also aid in pulling back, but prevents the neck-yoke and pole from rising in going downhill, while strap C serves to hold strap B up and in a horizontal position, so that when the belly-band is removed from loop *b* and the neck-yoke from loops *a'* and *b'* the whole attachment will still be suspended by the collar, and will not drop down under the horses' feet.

If desired, the two straps A and C may be permanently connected together at their upper ends and the two straps A and B may also be permanently connected at their front ends, in which case there would be but a single loop at the top of the triangle and a single loop at the front lower end of the triangle.

I am aware that it is not new to provide a whiffletree with a slotted tongue through which a trace is passed before being hooked

over the end of the whiffletree, and I make no claim to such construction broadly.

It will be understood that my invention is equally as well adapted to use in connection with a breast-strap as it is for use with a collar, as shown.

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

10 1. A neck yoke attachment comprising three straps; a hold-back strap extending from the collar to the neck yoke, another strap extending from the neck yoke to the belly band, and the third extending from the intermediate position on the belly band strap to the upper end of the hold-back strap, substantially as
15 and for the purpose described.

2. A neck-yoke attachment, consisting of three triangularly arranged straps, one being
20 a hold-back strap with loops at both ends and extending from the collar to the neck yoke and embracing the same; another being a

belly band strap having loops at both ends and extending from the neck yoke to the belly band and embracing the same; and the third 25 strap being permanently attached to and extending from an intermediate position on the belly band strap to the upper end of the hold back strap and having a loop at its upper end for embracing the collar substantially as and 30 for the purpose described.

3. The combination with the neck yoke; of a slotted tongue D attached to the neck yoke, a belly band strap B having a loop at its forward end encircling the neck yoke, and a hold-back strap A extending through the slot of 35 the tongue D and encircling the neck yoke outside of the loop of the belly band strap substantially as and for the purpose described.

BENJAMIN J. SYKES.

Witnesses:

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