T. W. Murphy,

Horse-Collar Machine.

No. 51,341. Patented Dec. 5, 1865.

Fig. 1.

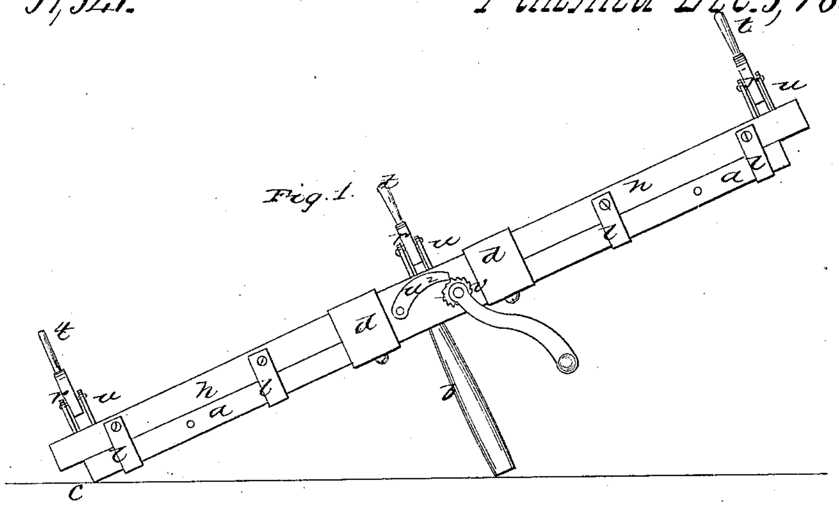
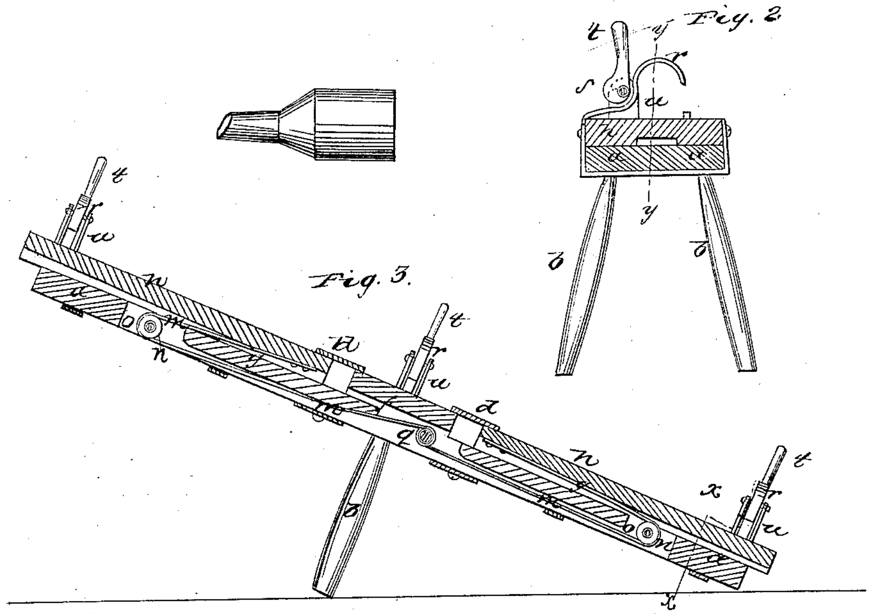
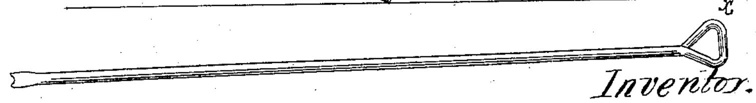


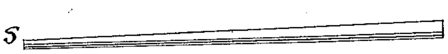
Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.





Witnesses



Inventor.

T. W. Murphy

By Munn & Co

Atty

J. W. Coombs

Wm. Trewin

N. PETERS, PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHER, WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

T. W. MURPHEY, OF NEW EGYPT, NEW JERSEY.

IMPROVEMENT IN MAKING HORSE-COLLARS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **51,341**, dated December 5, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THEODORE W. MURPHEY, of New Egypt, in the county of Ocean and State of New Jersey, have invented a new and Improved Apparatus for Making Harness-Collars for Horses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The present invention consists in a novel arrangement of devices in and by which a harness-collar for horses can be with great dispatch, facility, and ease stuffed or filled with any of the ordinary materials—such as hay, straw, &c.—used therefor, while, at the same time, the collar is held with the requisite degree of tension, it being accomplished within a very short time and before the leather of which the collar-casing is made can become dry, the advantages of which are self-evident to all conversant with their manufacture.

In accompanying plate of drawings my improvements are illustrated, Figure 1 being a side elevation of the apparatus in position for being used; Fig. 2, a transverse section of the same, taken in the plane of the line *x x*, Fig. 3, which is a central vertical section taken in the direction of its length and the plane of the line *y y*, Fig. 2.

a a in the drawings represent the frame or bench of the apparatus supported by two legs, *b b*, on its center, and when in position resting at one end, *c*, upon the ground or floor of the room, platform, or any other suitable place. This bench or frame may be made of iron or other metal, wood, or any other suitable material, and has secured to it at or near its center, by clasps *d d* at each end or in any other proper manner, a fixed center piece or plate, *f*, corresponding to which in thickness, and at each end of it for the remaining portion, *g*, of the bench, is a sliding frame or plate, *h h*, each kept in position by clasps *l l*, attached to it, passing around and under the bench. At or near the inner end of each of these sliding pieces *h h*, and upon their under sides, is secured one end of a common belt, *m*, passing around frictional rollers *n n*, hung in the apertures *o o* of the outer end of the bench, and through a slot in the cross-shaft *q*, hung and turning in the bench, and having a winch-handle upon one end of it, as plainly shown in Fig. 2, so that by turning the said handle either to the right or left the said belt is wound upon its shaft, thus causing the pieces or plates *h h* each to move out and away from the fixed center piece of the bench, spiral or other suitable springs being attached to them to draw them back to their original positions against the fixed piece when the hand is removed from the winch.

Upon the center-piece, and at or near the outer ends of each sliding piece, are hung similar-shaped semicircular jaws or clasps *r r*, in vertical planes, against the upper edges of which, when so desired, the cam-shaped ends *s s* of levers *t t*, hung upon fulcrums in fixed standards *u u* of the bench, are brought to bear by simply pulling down upon their outer ends, thus causing the jaws to be not only brought down and upon the bench but to be held there.

When the apparatus is to be used the clasps or jaws are first all sprung up from the bench-slides and center-piece, to which they are secured, as described, and as plainly shown in Fig. 2, and the casing of the collar laid upon the apparatus, under the jaws, and secured at each end by bringing the jaws or clasps thereat down and upon the same with the cam-levers. The winch-handle is then turned in the proper direction to cause the slides to move outward and away from the fixed center-piece, thus drawing the casing to a tension, which can be either more or less, as may be desired, where it is retained by interlocking the pawl n^2 of the bench with the teeth of the ratchet-wheel *v* of the winch-shaft. The center clasp is then sprung down and over the collar-casing, when it is ready to be stuffed or filled with any of the ordinary materials used for such a purpose to the requisite degree of hardness, which having been completed the collar is removed from the apparatus and bent or formed into shape in any proper manner.

By means of my improved apparatus it is manifest that horse-collars can be stuffed with great rapidity and facility, and while at the same time they are held at the requisite tension, and that, furthermore, it can be accomplished in so short a time that when the collar is removed from the machine it will be still sufficiently wet or moist as to preclude any possibility of the leather cracking while being bent

or formed into shape, it being, as is well known, necessary to moisten the leather in order to stretch it to any degree of tension.

More than three jaws can be used, if so desired, but I deem that number to be sufficient for all practical purposes; and, furthermore, there are other ways in which the sliding pieces of the bench can be operated other than that described.

I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

The combination of the bench *a a g g*, mounted near its center upon two legs, *b b*, the stationary center-piece *f*, slides *h h*, extension apparatus *m q u² v*, clamps *r*, and cam-levers *s t*, all constructed and arranged to operate as and for the purposes specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 1st day of August, 1865.

T. W. MURPHEY.

Witnesses:

ALBERT W. BROWN,

M. M. LIVINGSTON.