(No Model.)

A. C. DAVISON.

THILL LOOP FOR HARNESS.

No. 301,691. Patented July 8, 1884.

Fig. 1.

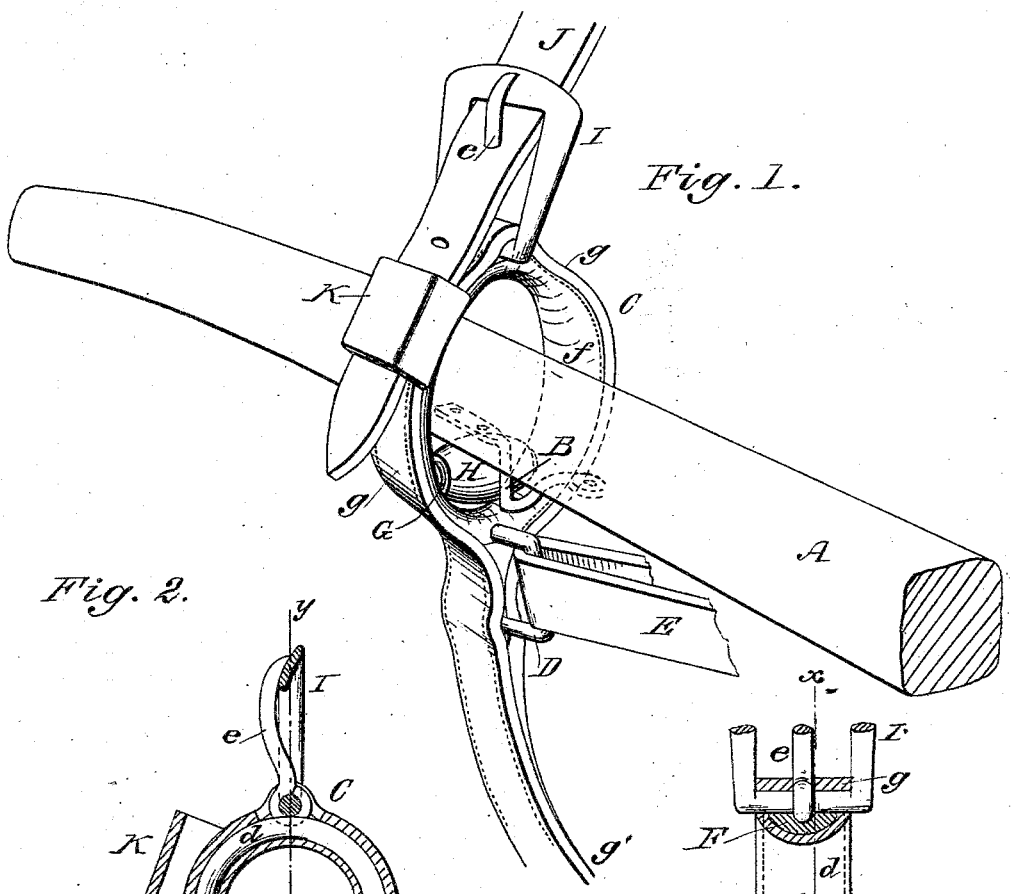


Fig. 2.

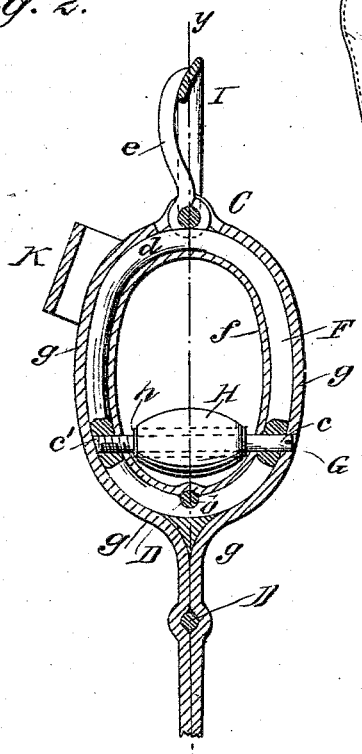
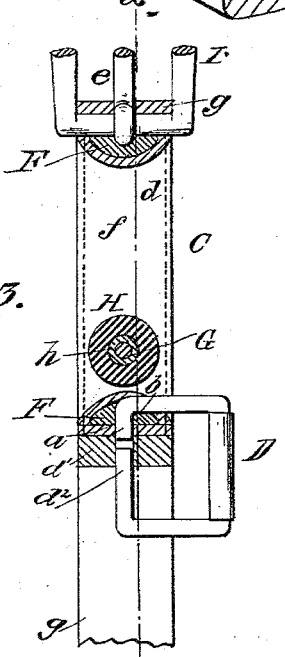


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

James G. Deemer

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER C. DAVISON, OF JEFFERSON CITY, MISSOURI.

THILL-LOOP FOR HARNESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 301,691, dated July 8, 1884.

Application filed December 12, 1883. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER C. DAVISON, of Jefferson City, in the county of Cole and State of Missouri, have invented a new and Improved Thill-Coupling for Harness, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention consists, principally, of the construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my new and improved thill-loop as it appears when in use holding the thill of a vehicle. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation of the loop taken on the line *x x* of Fig. 3, and Fig. 3 is a sectional elevation of the loop taken on the line *y y* of Fig. 2.

A represents the thill, which is provided with the holdback stop or shoulder B; and C represents the thill-loop, which is provided with the buckle I, for attaching the loop to the back-strap J of the harness, and has attached to it, or formed with or into it, the holdback-ring D, for receiving the holdback-strap E, as shown in Fig. 1.

In making the loop C, I employ the metallic ring F. This is elliptical in form, D-shaped in cross-section, perforated and cut away at *a b* to receive the bent end *d'* of the holdback-ring D, and perforated at *c*, and screw-tapped at *c'* to receive the bolt G, on which is placed the rubber or wooden roller H. At *d* ring F is also cut away to clear the eye of the tongue *e* of the buckle I. The ring F, thus perforated and cut away and provided with ring D, is then covered with the inner leather strip *f*, and outer strap, *g*, which latter holds the said buckle I at the top of the loop, and is elongated below the loop to form the belly-band billet *g'*, as will be understood from Fig. 1. Where the outer strap, *g*, meets below the ring F, the strap is stitched at one edge within the ring D, so as to inclose the bent end d^2 of the said ring, as shown clearly in the drawings, thus making the attachment of the ring D to the thill-loop strong and perfectly secure. The ring F being covered, the inner and outer coverings, *f g*, are punctured for the passage of the bolt G through the orifice *c* and into the screw-tap *c'*, and this bolt is then passed through said orifice *c* and roller H, and is screwed into the said screw-tap *c'*, which completes the thill-loop, the keeper K, for the end of the strap J, being stitched in place at the time of stitching the edges of the leather covering *f g* around the ring F. When the roller H is made of rubber or other soft material, it will have the metallic bushing *h* fitted in it to prevent too rapid wear; but when made of wood or other hard material such bushing may be omitted, if desired. The roller H serves to support the thill in the loop C, so that the holdback stop or shoulder B will not interfere with the ring D, and it prevents unnecessary friction between the thill and loop C, and it comes fairly against the shoulder B, for holding back the vehicle, thus relieving the loop C from all direct wear. By attaching the holdback-strap E of the harness directly to the ring D, attached to the thill-loop C, the trouble of attaching the holdback-strap to and detaching it from the thills in hitching up and unhitching the horse is avoided, and the danger incident to such attachment of the holdback-straps to the thills in case of fright or viciousness of the horse is also avoided. Besides, this arrangement is perfectly practical, cheap, durable, and strong, and permits the horse to move more freely than by the old method of attaching the holdback-straps.

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

The thill-loop C, consisting of the metallic core provided at its lower end with the anti-friction supporting-roller H, and a perforation below said roller for one arm of the loop D, an inner covering for the core, and an outer covering passing around the core and securing the buckle I to the top of the core, and the loop D to the lower part of the same, substantially as set forth.

ALEXANDER C. DAVISON.

Witnesses:

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P. ELSTON.