(No Model.)

G. C. HALE.

HITCHING STRAP.

No. 346,906. Patented Aug. 10, 1886.

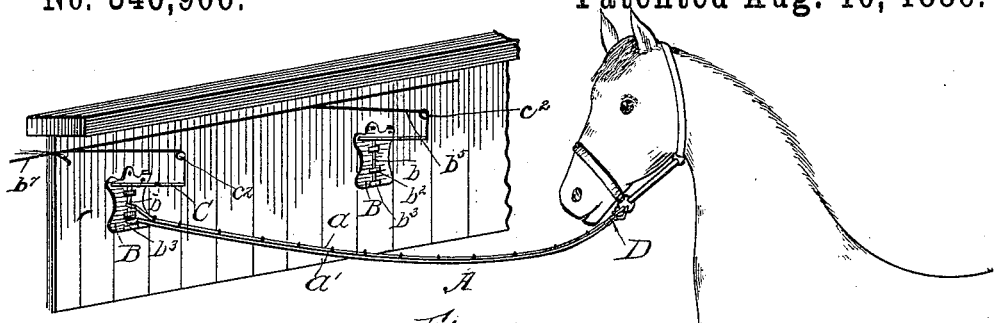

Fig. 1

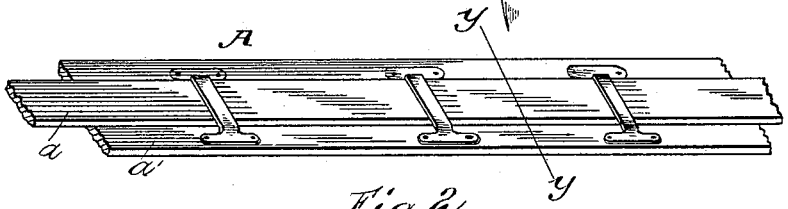

Fig. 2.

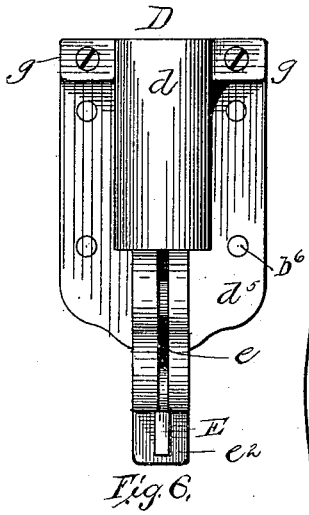

Fig. 6.

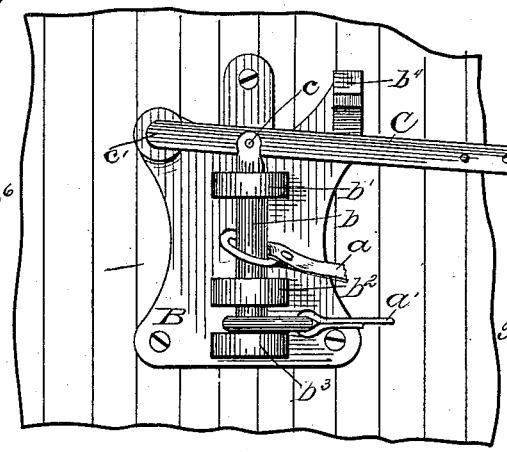

Fig. 3.

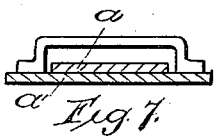

Fig. 7.

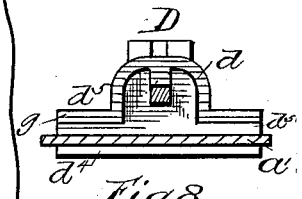

Fig. 8.

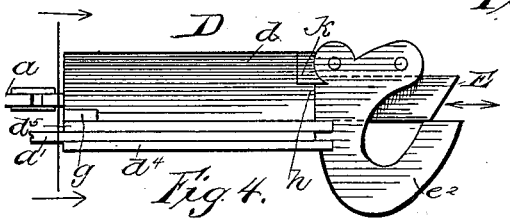

Fig. 4.

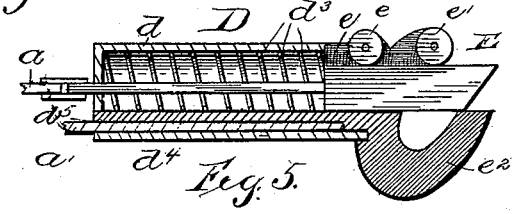

Fig. 5.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. HALE, OF KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI.

HITCHING-STRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 346,906, dated August 10, 1886.

Application filed March 2, 1886. Serial No. 193,783. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. HALE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kansas City, in the county of Jackson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Hitching-Straps, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to releasing devices, and has for its object the provision of a device which shall be simple and durable in construction, cheap of manufacture, and, which is a great desideratum in this particular class of inventions, is efficiently and quickly operated; and to these ends the invention consists in the construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, substantially as herein shown and described, and more specifically pointed out in the claims.

The invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device practically applied. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of part of the strap portion thereof. Fig. 3 is an elevation of the means employed for securing the straps at one end. Figs. 4 and 5 are enlarged detail views in elevation and longitudinal section, respectively, of the catch which holds the ring of the halter or bridle. Fig. 6 is a top plan view of the catch. Fig. 7 is a section of the strap on the line *y y* of Fig. 2; and Fig. 8 is a section of the strap portion, looking in the direction indicated by the arrows in Fig. 4.

Referring to the drawings, A designates my hitching-strap, consisting of two straps, *a a'*, each provided with a ring at one end, the strap *a* being undetachably and the strap *a'* being detachably secured by means of a pin, *b*, which is guided and held in place by projecting lugs b' b^2 b^3 on the face of said plate. This pin *b* has upward and downward movement, being operated by a lever, C, to which said pin is pivoted at *c*. The lever C is pivoted to a plate, B, at *c'*, and its vertical play is limited by the outwardly-projecting portion b^4 of plate B. The function of this part b^4 is to allow the lever C to lift the pin *b* just far enough to clear the space between the lugs b^2 b^3, and thus free the ring at the end of the strap *a'*. At the end of the lever C is attached a cord or wire, b^5, which passes over a pulley, c^2, and thence joins a general cord or wire, b^7, designed for operating a number of such devices. This cord may be operated by hand, electricity, or otherwise. The strap *a* is of greater length than the strap *a'*, thus allowing the strain to come entirely upon the latter, which may be thicker or wider, when the same is secured at both ends. The strap *a* is guided and held in position by brackets or keepers fastened on strap *a'*, and permitting of the free action of the strap, as seen in Fig. 2.

D designates the catch for the halter or bridle ring, and consists of the shell *d* and bar E, actuated by the spring d^3 inside of said shell. The catch is secured to the strap *a'* by any suitable means, preferably by rivets b^6, which pass through the plate d^5, which is cast with the part c^2, thence through the strap *a'* down through a plate, d^4.

e designates a longitudinal slot for the passage of the bar E, the upper surface of which bears against anti-frictional rollers *e' e'*.

e^2 designates the hook, between which and the bar F rests the halter-ring.

The shell is secured in place by any preferred means; but I have shown lateral and longitudinal lugs *g h* for that purpose, the former transmitting screws which enter the plate d^5, and the latter passing under projections *k*.

To hitch a horse in a stable, the strap is attached at one end to the bridle or halter ring by means of the catch D, the opposite end of the strap *a'* being secured on the pin *b* of the plate B, attached to the wall of the trough or stall. When an alarm is struck, the same electric current which gives the alarm may be used to pull the cord or wire b^7, and by means of cord b^5 lift the lever C and pin *b*, releasing the ring of the portion *a* of the strap, and thus throwing the entire weight thereof upon the strap *a'*, which, pulling directly upon the bar E of the catch, frees the bridle-ring, and the horse is unhitched.

The strap *a* may be kept from lateral displacement upon the strap *a'* by means of brackets or keepers, as shown in Fig. 2.

Modifications in details of construction may be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages of my invention,

the essential features of which will be readily understood from this specification, when taken in connection with the drawings.

What I claim is—

1. A compound hitching-strap consisting of two parts which are connected together, but each having independent longitudinal movement, the distal end of one part being detachably secured and the proximate end of the other part attached to a releasing-catch, whereby the releasing of the distal end of one part serves to release the proximate end of the other part by means of the weight of the strap or the pull of the horse thereon, as and for the purpose set forth.

2. A hitching device consisting of a strap composed of two parts, one of which can be moved longitudinally independent of the other, in combination with a releasing-pin, to which the distal ends of both parts are secured, one detachably and the other undetachably, and a catch attached to the opposite ends of the strap, and adapted to engage with a ring and be detached therefrom by releasing one of the distal ends of the strap, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In a hitching device, the combination of the strap A, composed of the parts *a a'*, having rings at one end, and catch D, having a spring-actuated bar, E, and hook e^2 at the other end, plate B, having lugs $b' b^2 b^3 b^4$, pin *b*, lever C, and cord or wire b^5, substantially as described.

4. A hitching-strap composed of two parts, one sliding upon the other, the parts at one end being attached to a catch and spring-actuated bar in said catch, respectively, and the other ends being provided with rings, substantially as described.

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

GEORGE C. HALE.

Witnesses:
D. P. HUNTER,
A. VAN PATTEN.