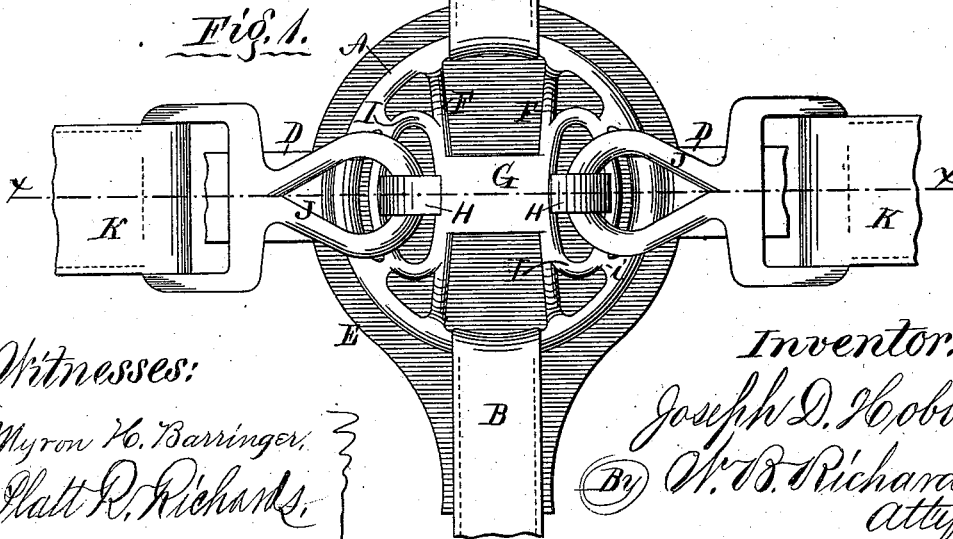
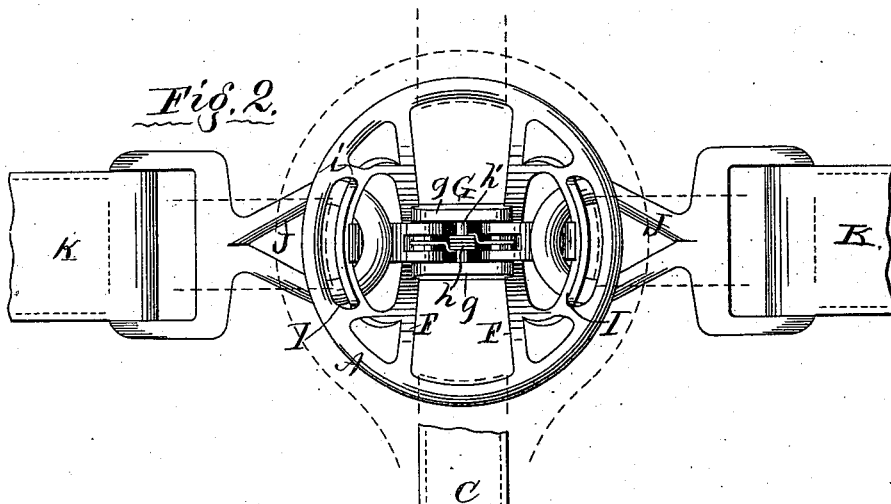
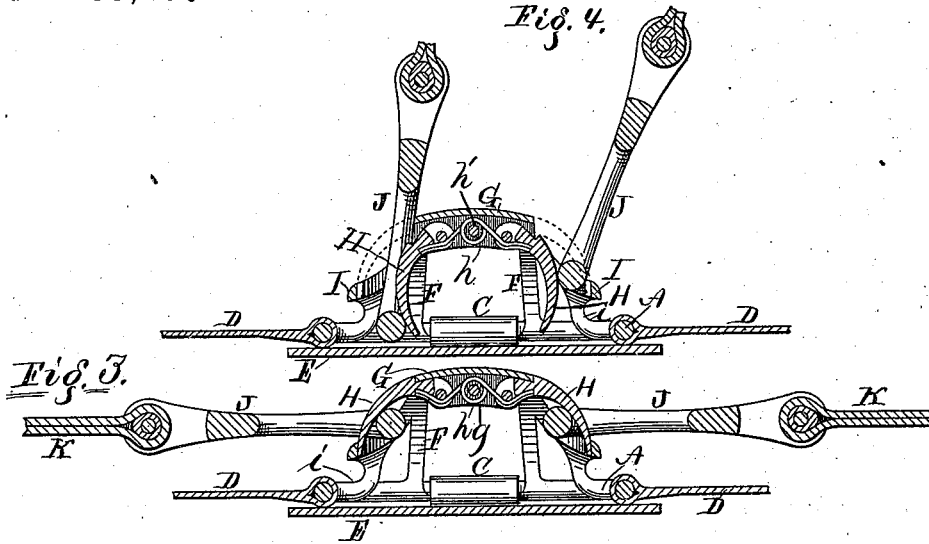


J. D. HOBBS.
TRACE-CARRIER.

No. 183,263.

Patented Oct. 17, 1876.



Witnesses:

Myron W. Barringer,
Matt R. Richards.

Inventor:

Joseph D. Hobbs,
By W. B. Richards,
Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

JOSEPH D. HOBBS, OF MEDIAPOLIS, IOWA.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRACE-CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **183,263**, dated October 17, 1876; application filed August 23, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH D. HOBBS, of Mediapolis, in the county of Des Moines and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Carriers; 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 which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

The nature of my invention relates to improvements in devices for supporting or carrying the ends of harness-traces when on the draft-animal and unhitched from the vehicle; and the invention consists in the construction and combination of parts, as set forth in the claims hereto annexed.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a top-plan view of my invention and adjacent parts of a set of harness. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a sectional view in the line *xx* of Fig. 1. Fig. 4 is a section in the line *xx* of Fig. 1, but showing the trace-eye in different positions.

Referring to the parts by letters, letter A represents a ring forming the base of the device, and to the anterior side of which is attached the end of the ordinary harness back-strap B, and to the posterior side of which is attached the ordinary crupper body-strap C, and to the sides of which are attached the hip-straps D, and beneath which is the rump-leather E. F F represent parallel arches rising from the ring A, and supporting between them a plate, G, having side flanges *g* on its under sides, and between which the hooks H are pivoted at one end, and held outward at

their distal ends by a spring, *h*, coiled on a shaft, *h'*, and its ends resting against said hooks H. I I are curved bars attached to the ring A and bars F, and braced by the bars *i*, as plainly shown at Fig. 1. The lower ends of the hooks H are pressed outward against the lower side of the bars I by the spring *h*. J J represent ordinary trace or tug eyes attached to the rear end of tugs or traces K.

Figs. 1, 2, and 3 show my invention in place, and the eyes J engaged with the hooks H H, for supporting the ends of the traces K. The right-hand side of Fig. 4 shows the position in which to place the eye J, in order to enter and engage with the hook H, and the left-hand side of Fig. 4 shows the position in which to place the eye J, in order to press the hook H back and permit the eye J to be withdrawn.

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

1. In a trace-carrier, the bridge-plate G, constructed as described, and supported between the bars F, rising from the ring A, and arranged to operate with the hooks H, bars I, and eyes J, substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

2. A trace-carrier consisting of ring A, bars F and I, plate G, hooks H, and spring *h*, all constructed and arranged substantially as described, and for the purpose specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JOSEPH D. HOBBS.

Witnesses:

M. H. BARRINGER,
SAML. N. GROSE.