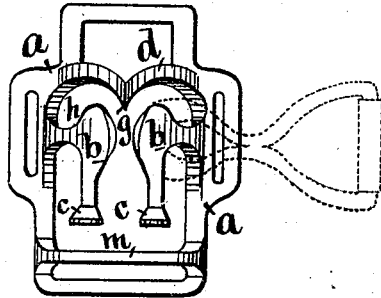


W. E. DIPPERT
Trace-Carrier.

No. 197,724.

Patented Dec. 4, 1877.



Witnesses:

M. Shuck,
P. C. Kempton.

Inventor:

William E. Dippert,
By Thomas G. Orrig,
Attorney.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM E. DIPPERT, OF DES MOINES, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO THOMAS G. ORWIG, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRACE-CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **197,724**, dated December 4, 1877; application filed June 4, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM E. DIPPERT, of Des Moines, in the county of Polk and State of Iowa, have invented an Improved Trace-Carrier, of which the following is a specification:

The object of my invention is to furnish a trace-carrier complete in one piece, that will readily admit the cockeyes of harness-traces, to allow the free ends of the traces to be hooked up and securely retained while the harness remains on the horse, whether running or at rest, and also while the harness is being stripped off and hung up.

It consists in forming, arranging, and combining two elbow-formed and wing-shaped keepers, a beak-formed keeper, and an elevated guard with a base-ring, in such manner that there will be curved throats and eccentric cavities, and five distinct obstructions, to prevent each cockeye from escaping, all as hereinafter fully set forth.

My drawing is a top view of my trace-carrier, and illustrates its construction, form, and operation.

a a represent a base-ring, that has loops at its sides and ends, to which straps are attached in a common way. It may vary in size and shape, as desired. *b b* are elbow-formed and wing-shaped keepers formed integral with the base-ring. They rise from the inside top edges of the sides of the base-ring, and then bend and taper backward to terminate in knobs *c c* of conoidal form. *d* is a beak-formed keeper rising from the base *a* in front of the keepers *b*, to span across the base in an elevated position. It is curved to produce a beak or point, *g*, in a central position relative to the elbows of the keepers *b*, and two eccentric cavities, *h*, into which the cockeyes can be readily introduced. *m* is a guard rising from the rear end of the base-ring *a* to the same elevation occupied by the knobs *c c*, and in such a position relative to those knobs that the cockeyes can pass vertically in and out of the trace-carrier between the guard and the knobs. It prevents the lines from catching in the trace-carrier, and aids in retaining the cockeyes in the carrier.

In the practical operation of my invention, a trace is doubled upward, and the cockeye on its end inverted and passed into the trace-

carrier, between the guard *m* and one of the knobs *c*, to allow it to pass forward over the elbow *b*, and then downward through a curved throat into an eccentric cavity, *h*, as indicated by the right-hand figure in broken lines. The cockeye thus introduced and placed will allow the trace to hang over the horse's hips in a graceful and natural way, and no motion or action of the animal can free a trace when hooked up and secured in this manner.

There are five points of obstruction that will aid in retaining the cockeye in the carrier. No. 1 obstruction is the swell on the front and top portion of each elbow *b*. No. 2 is a swell and obstruction on the under side of each elbow *b*. No. 3 is the point of the beak-formed keeper *d*. No. 4 is the knob or head on the end of each elbow-formed keeper *b*. No. 5 is the guard *m*.

In order to get a cockeye out of the carrier it must be turned and twisted repeatedly in various directions; but it can be readily accomplished by the operator in one motion, while the intermittent motion occasioned by the running of the horse or the stripping off and handling of the harness will never cause the cockeye to pass all of the obstructions, and the trace to fall and strike the horse or the person handling the harness, as frequently occurs in the use of imperfect and defective trace-carriers.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a trace-carrier, the elbow-formed and wing-shaped keepers *b*, having heads or knobs *c* on their ends, and standing out from the base *a* parallel to each other, so as to form the eccentric cavities *h*, substantially as and for the purposes shown and described.

2. The base-ring *a*, the elbow-formed keepers *b*, and the beak-formed keeper *d*, arranged and combined to operate substantially as set forth.

3. As an improved article of manufacture, a trace-carrier composed of the base *a a*, the elbow-formed keepers *b b*, the beak-formed keeper *d*, and the guard *m*, substantially as and for the purposes shown and described.

WILLIAM E. DIPPERT:

Witnesses:

ARTHUR STIMSON,
GEO. P. RUSSELL.