

G. C. EASTMAN.

Shaft-Supporters for Carriage-Harness.

No. 199,148.

Patented Jan. 15, 1878.

Fig. 1.

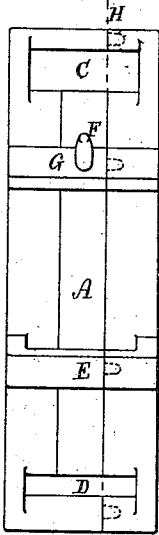


Fig. 2.

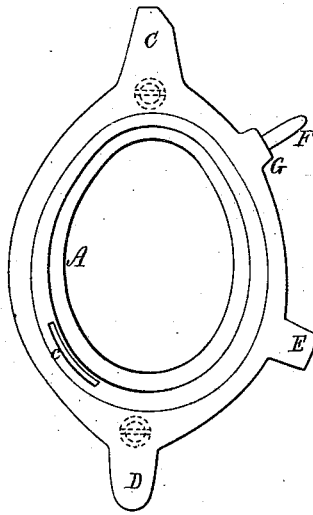


Fig. 4.

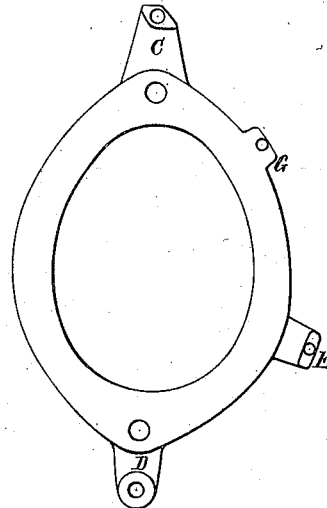


Fig. 3.

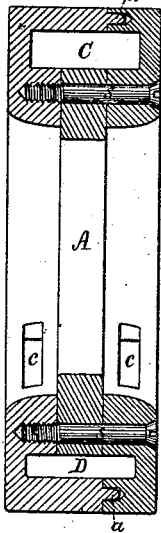
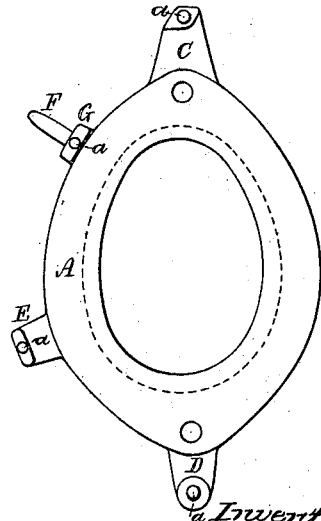


Fig. 5.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE C. EASTMAN, OF LEWISTON, MAINE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN SHAFT-SUPPORTERS FOR CARRIAGE-HARNESS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,148**, dated January 15, 1878; application filed June 9, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE C. EASTMAN, of Lewiston, of the county of Androscoggin, of the State of Maine, have invented a new and useful Carriage-Shaft Supporter; and do hereby declare the same to be described in the following specification and represented in the accompanying drawings, of which—

Figure 1 is a side view, Fig. 2 an edge elevation, and Fig. 3 a longitudinal and transverse section, of it. Figs. 4 and 5 are hereinafter explained.

The said shaft or thill supporter is provided with an elastic packing, projected within it in manner as shown, such packing being to receive a carriage-shaft, and while in use prevent it from contact with, and being worn by, the metallic body of the supporter. The packing also prevents the noise that would result were such packing not so used.

This thill-supporter is specially constructed for receiving and sustaining such packing. Besides, it has extending through it, and arranged as represented, two slots for receiving a breeching-strap. It also has two eyes at top and bottom, a single intermediate loop, and a single buckling-stud, and a ridge or bridge for supporting the latter, all being arranged as represented.

In the drawings, the annular packing is shown at A as arranged in the middle of the metallic body of the shaft-supporter. The eyes are represented at C D, the intermediate loop at E, the buckling-stud at F, and its sustaining ridge or bridge at G, such bridge being extended across the annular packing.

The body, with the eyes, bridge, and loop, is divided in two separate parts, in a plane indicated by the line H H, Fig. 1, such parts being shown in Figs. 4 and 5 in edge view. From one of them dowels *a* are projected to enter corresponding holes in the other.

The two parts of the body are held together and against the packing by screws *s s*, extended into one and screwed into the other. The breeching-strap slots are shown at *c c*. One only would suffice for each thill-supporter; but in order to enable the article to be used for either shaft, I make such article with two of the slots arranged in it, as represented.

By buckling the breeching-strap of a harness to the thill-supporter, the latter, by bearing against the holdback, will serve with such holdback all the purposes of the latter, and enable the horse, when the traces become detached from the whiffletree, to go free of the shafts, without first requiring detachment of the breeching from the holdbacks.

Without the bridge or ridge, the single stud could not be used at the middle of the thill-supporter.

In my improved article I employ but one stud, F, and one loop, E. By means of the bridge or ridge, the strap, in going over it, becomes so raised off the body as to be more easily seized for being unbuckled. Furthermore, the ridge is advantageous in other respects.

I claim as of my invention as follows:

1. A shaft-supporter provided with the bridge G, the buckling-stud F, the eyes C D, and the loop E, arranged as set forth.

2. A shaft-supporter provided with one or more eyes or slots, *c*, applied to it or arranged in it as represented, for reception of a breeching-strap, as set forth.

3. A shaft-supporter constructed in two sections, and provided with an annular packing, A, arranged between them as specified, and having such sections and packing held in place by screws, arranged in them as set forth.

4. A shaft-supporter made in two separate parts, and having a packing between them, and also having a stud-supporting bridge extending from one to the other of them, and across the packing, such parts and packing being screwed together by screws, and all being essentially as shown and described.

5. A shaft-supporter body constructed in two separate sections, connected by screws, as described, and formed to receive and hold between them the said sections, an annular packing, and provided with eyes, an intermediate loop, and a bridge and buckling-stud, all being substantially as explained.

GEORGE C. EASTMAN.

Witnesses:

R. H. EDDY,  
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