G. STAFFORD
Velocipede.

No. 205,921. Patented July 9, 1878.

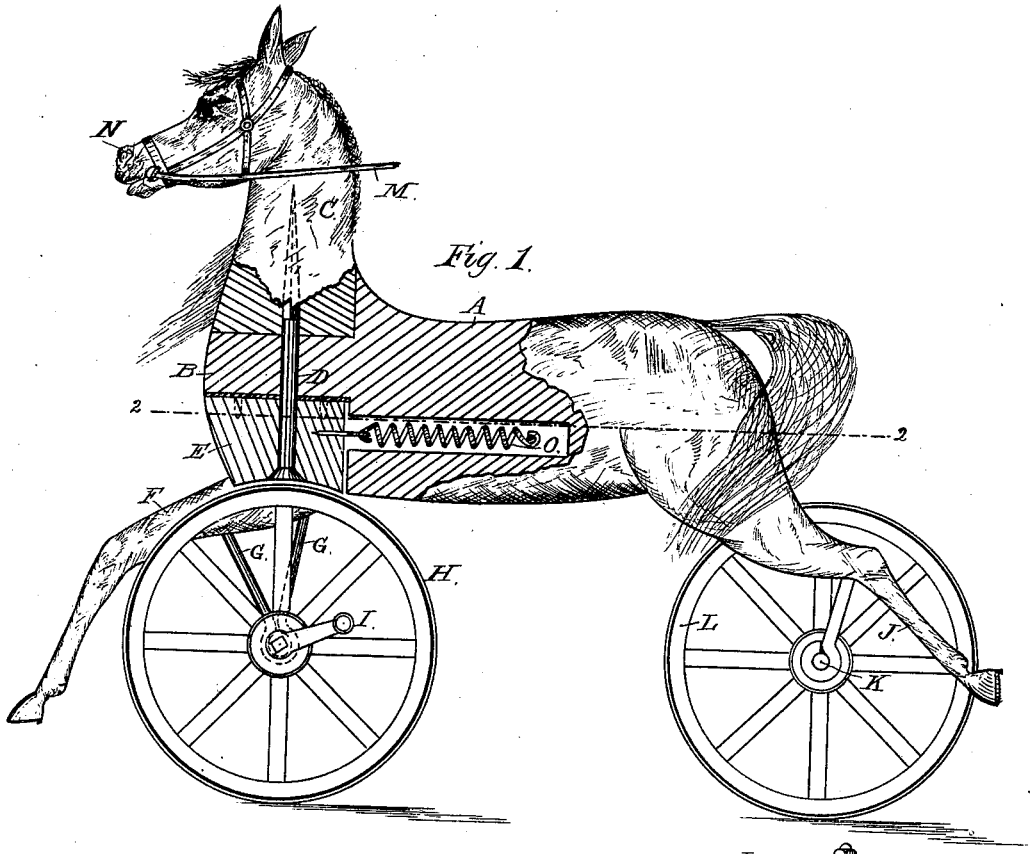

Fig. 1.

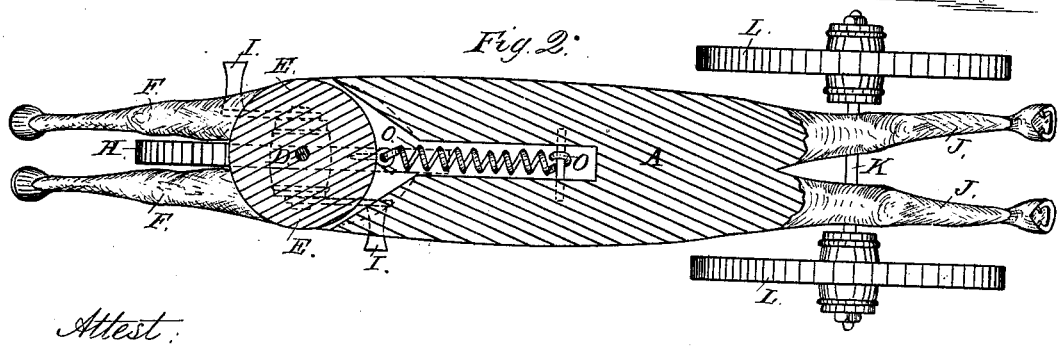

Fig. 2.

Attest:
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE STAFFORD, OF WASHINGTON, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

IMPROVEMENT IN VELOCIPEDES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **205,921**, dated July 9, 1878; application filed June 10, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE STAFFORD, of Washington, in the District of Columbia, have invented a new and Improved Velocipede-Horse, of which the following is a specification:

Carriage-velocipedes have heretofore been made with a guiding-wheel in front, turned by means of cords simulating reins, and connected with the head of the vertical shaft, which deflects the said front wheel for guiding the carriage, and this vertical shaft has been connected with the representation of a horse's neck and head, so that the guiding of the carriage could be effected by reins attached to the horse's head.

My improvement consists in constructing a velocipede in the form of a horse, on which the user may ride, and connecting the driving-wheel (which is operated by cranks after the manner of an ordinary velocipede) with the pivoted neck of the horse, and having the head project horizontally forward, so that the guiding of the velocipede may be more readily and effectively accomplished by the deflection of the wheel, on which the weight of the rider is chiefly supported.

My invention further consists in the combination of a spring with the vertical shaft of a combined driving and guiding wheel, so that the said spring may counteract the deflecting action of the cranks under the alternate pressure of the feet, and may thus steady the wheel against wabbling motion.

My invention further consists in arranging the fore legs of the horse to project horizontally forward on both sides of the guiding-wheel, so as to form an effective guard therefor.

In order that my invention may be fully understood, I will proceed to describe it, with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the velocipede partly in section. Fig. 2 is a horizontal section on the line 2 2, Fig. 1.

The body A of the velocipede is formed to resemble the body of a horse with stationary shoulders B, which form a bearing for the neck C to turn upon, the said neck being connected by a vertical shaft, D, with the breast E, to which the fore legs F are attached, and in which the pedestals G of the front guiding-wheel H are mounted.

The horizontal shaft of the said guiding-wheel is provided with cranks I for propelling the velocipede with the feet in customary manner. The hind legs J are attached to the stationary shaft K, on which the rear wheels L turn freely.

The turning of the velocipede is effected by means of a bridle, M, attached at each side to the animal's mouth, so that the horizontal projection of the head N affords leverage in turning, which leverage increases as the head is brought round.

O represents a spring, concealed within the body of the animal, and connected to the back part of the breast E, so as to restore it and the attached guiding-wheel to a central position when released, and also to counteract the horizontal pressure of the rider's feet on the cranks I I, thus steadying the guiding-wheel and preventing wabbling.

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

1. The combination of the driving-wheel H, cranks I I, breast-piece E, pivoted neck and head C N, connecting-shaft D, and spring O, as and for the purpose specified.

2. The combination, with the driving-wheel H, of the front legs F F, projecting forward on each side of said wheel, so as to form laterally and in front thereof, as shown, guards therefor.

GEORGE STAFFORD.

Witnesses:
OCTAVIUS KNIGHT,
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