

A. K. DIEFENBACH.  
Horse-Detacher.

No. 212,666.

Patented Feb. 25, 1879.

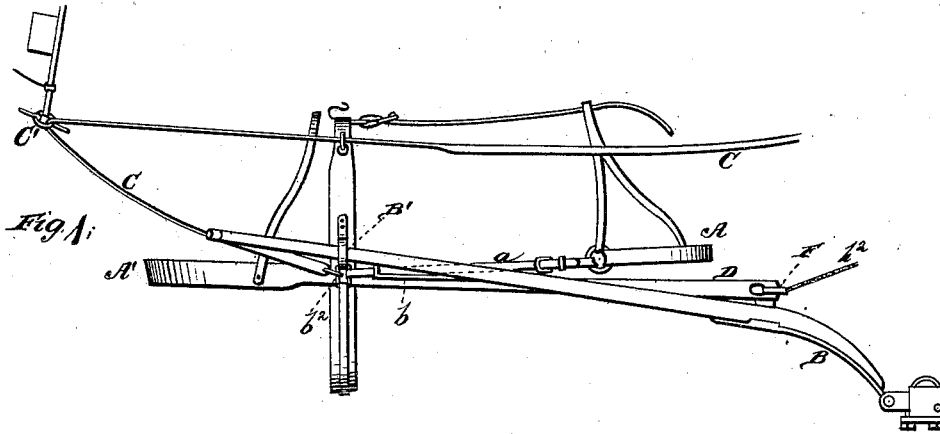


Fig. 2.

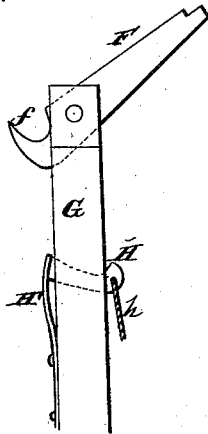
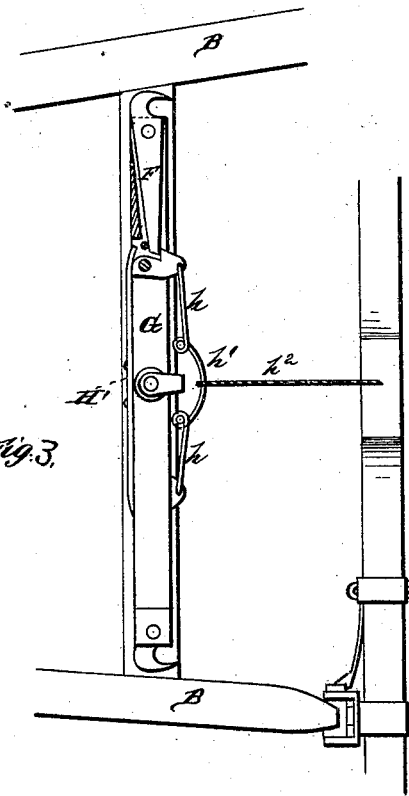


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

AMOS K. DIEFENBACH, OF WEST ALEXANDRIA, OHIO.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE-DETACHERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 212,666, dated February 25, 1879; application filed January 18, 1879.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, AMOS K. DIEFENBACH, of West Alexandria, in the county of Preble and State of Ohio, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Horse-Detachers; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a side elevation of my horse-detacher. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a top-plan view.

My invention relates to a device for releasing unmanageable horses from the vehicle to save both vehicle and occupants from injury; and the novelty consists in the construction and arrangement of parts, as will be more fully hereinafter set forth.

My invention is intimately related to and operates efficiently with the device in harness a patent for which was allowed me November 16, 1878, and I will describe them together, no claim, however, being made in this application to the harness.

In carrying out my invention I connect the draft and holdback—that is to say, the breeching and breast-strap or collar—with a suitable strap upon each side. The thills have upon their lower surface a stud or lug, which prevents the thill-loop which is connected to and suspended from the saddle from slipping backward, and acts as an efficient holdback. The driving-reins lead from a ring which is secured to the thill-loop through the bit-ring and back to the vehicle.

Nothing in the parts heretofore described is sought to be covered in this application; but it will be observed that a strain upon the reins affects both holdback and tugs, and to the whiffletree, wherein lies my invention, the tugs are secured.

The tug-hooks are made upon pivoted levers,

pivoted within the whiffletree, governed by spring-catches, and operated by a connection from the vehicle, of rope or the like, as will be more fully explained, reference being had to the drawings forming a part of this specification.

Referring to the drawings, A represents the breeching, and A' the breast-strap, connected by strap *a*. B represents the thills, *b* the stud, and B' the thill-loop. From a ring, *b*<sup>2</sup>, the reins C lead forward to and through the bit-rings C', and thence back to the vehicle. D represents the tugs or traces, which are provided with suitable eyes to engage on the hooked ends *f* of levers F, pivoted within the whiffletree G, as shown. At the inner ends of these levers are pivoted catches H, both of which are governed by a single spring, H', on the front surface of the whiffletree, and from these catches H links *h* lead to a ring, *h*<sup>1</sup>, from whence cords *h*<sup>2</sup> lead back to the vehicle.

The arrangement of the reins allows a great purchase upon the horse's mouth, and in most cases enables the driver to govern or subdue a refractory animal; but in case the horse becomes entirely unmanageable the driver slackens the reins, and by pulling the rope *h*<sup>2</sup> draws the catches out of contact with the levers F, and by properly manipulating the reins the horse is allowed to proceed, the tugs are released, the thill-loop slips off the thill, the reins dropped, and the horse liberated.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

The pivoted levers F *f* and tugs D, in combination with the catches H, single spring H', links *h*, ring *h*<sup>1</sup>, and rope *h*<sup>2</sup>, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

AMOS K. DIEFENBACH.

Witnesses:

EDGAR DININGER,  
OSCAR SHEPPARD.