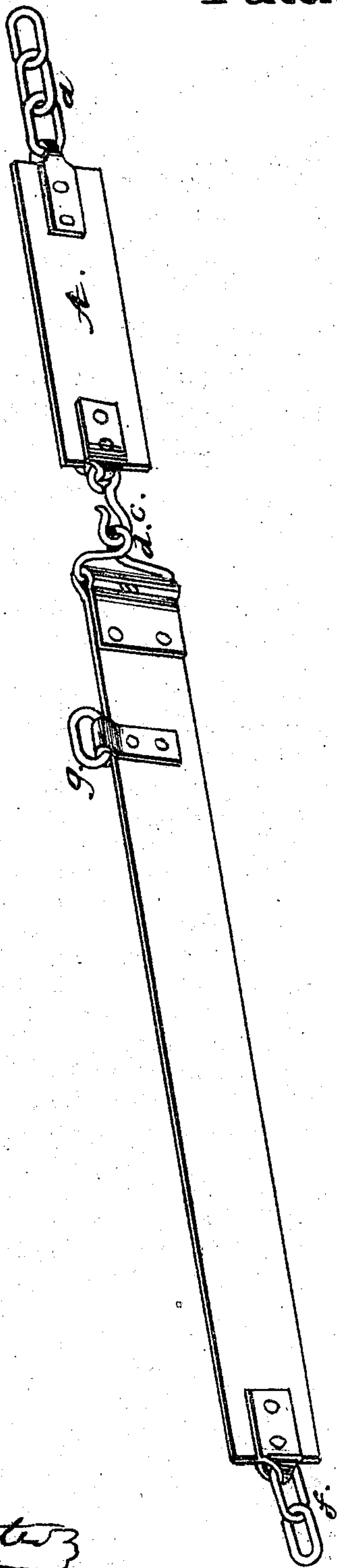


R. J. Steele Jr.

Harness-Trace.

N^o 75593

Patented Mar. 17, 1868



Witnesses;

W. C. Ashkett

J. A. Graser

Inventor;

R. J. Steele Jr.

per Munniff

Attorneys

United States Patent Office.

ROBERT J. STEELE, JR., OF ROCKINGHAM, NORTH CAROLINA.

Letters Patent No. 75,593, dated March 17, 1868.

IMPROVED HARNESS-TRACE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, ROBERT J. STEELE, Jr., of Rockingham, in the county of Richmond, and State of North Carolina, have invented a new and improved Harness-Trace; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable those skilled in the art to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification.

This invention consists in constructing a trace entirely of iron, steel, or other suitable metal, and in such a manner as to supersede leather, or leather and chains combined, which have hitherto been exclusively used.

The accompanying drawing represents a perspective view of my invention.

A represents the hames portion of the trace, commonly termed the hames-tug, which is constructed of a piece of metal, (iron will probably be most generally used,) in the form of a flat bar. The front end of A is attached to the hames by means of a chain, *a*, and a loop, much in the same way as the ordinary leather hames-tugs are attached. The rear end of A has a loop or eye, *b*, securely riveted to it, in which a hook, *c*, is fitted, said hook passing through an eye, *d*, attached to the front end of the other part or main portion B of the trace. The eye *d* is constructed of a piece of wire or rod, bent and passed through a loop, *e*, formed on the front end of B, by bending over B and riveting the bent portion to the other part, as clearly shown in the drawing. The rear end of B has one or more links *f* attached to it, by which it is connected to the whiffle-tree. A loop, *g*, to receive the breeching-strap is attached to the upper edge of B near its front end.

Traces constructed on this plan for heavy harnesses may be galvanized or coated with paint. Those designed for light harnesses may be covered with thin leather. They may be constructed at a much less cost than the usual leather traces, and be far stronger and more durable. In certain cases where necessary, a chain may be substituted for the part B.

I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A harness-trace, A B, made of flat bars of metal coated or covered with any suitable material, the extremities of the trace being provided with links *a f*, and the parts A B being coupled together by means of the hook *c* and eye *d*, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

ROBERT J. STEELE, JR.

Witnesses:

W. W. J. FOWLKES,
MARTIN V. TERRY.