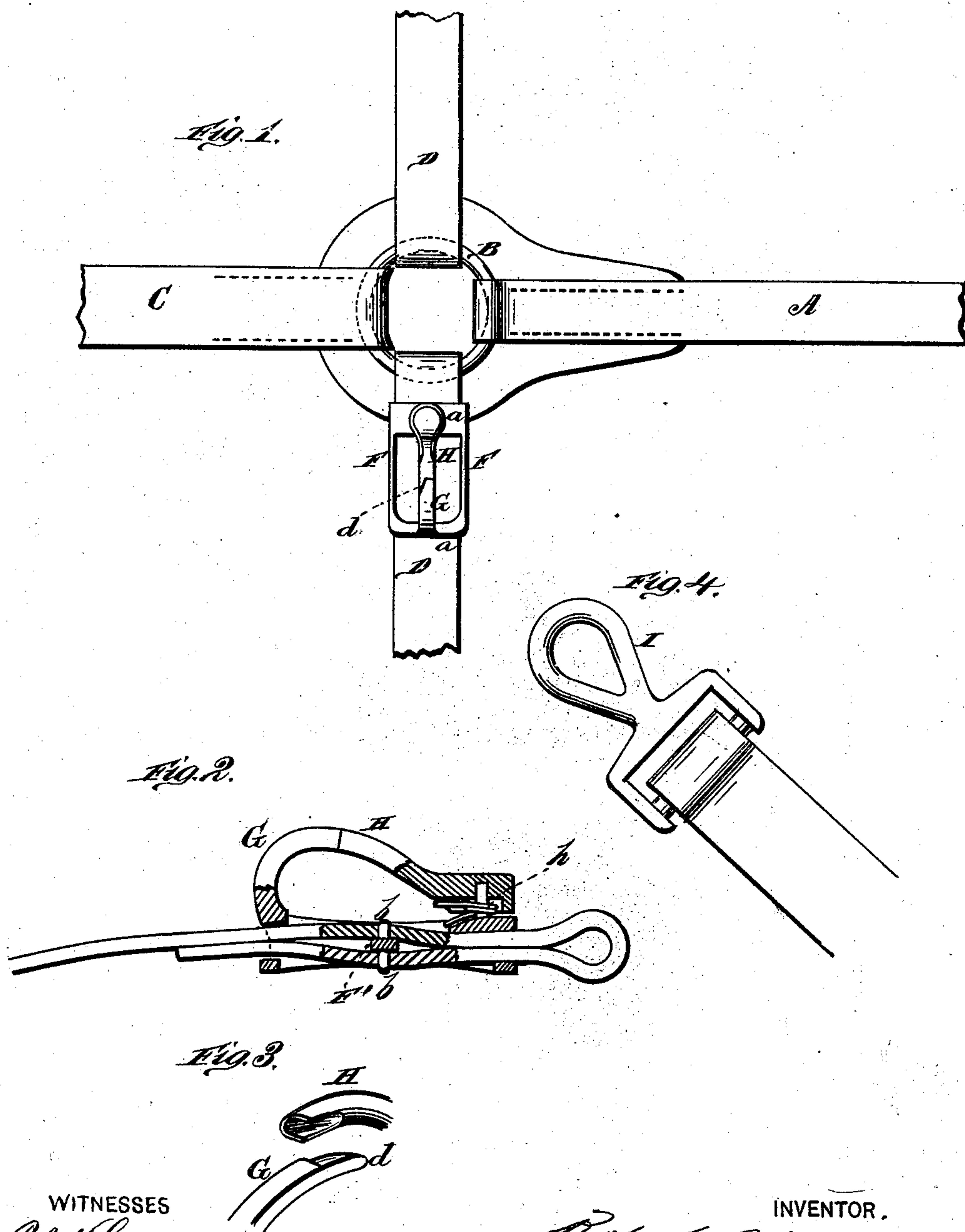


R. R. HART.
Trace Carrier.

No. 201,779.

Patented March 26, 1878.



WITNESSES

Robert Everett
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ROBERT R. HART, OF ODELL, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN TRACE-CARRIERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **201,779**, dated March 26, 1878; application filed February 23, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ROBERT R. HART, of Odell, in the county of Livingston and State of Illinois, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Trace-Carriers; 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 of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a plan view of part of a harness showing my trace-carrier. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal vertical sectional view. Fig. 3 is a perspective detail of trace-carrier, and Fig. 4 is a perspective view of the trace.

The nature of my invention consists in the construction and arrangement of a trace-carrier, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

The annexed drawings, to which reference is made, fully illustrate my invention.

In the drawings, A represents the back-strap of a harness, connected by a ring, B, to the crupper-piece C. D D are the hip-straps, connected to the ring B, one on each side, as shown.

My trace-carrier, which is, in fact, a combined buckle and trace-carrier, consists of two parallel side bars, F F, connected at each end by two cross-bars, *a a*, forming between them, as it were, a slot for the passage of the hip-strap. The two side bars F F are also connected by a central cross-bar, F', having a tongue, *b*, projecting from both the top and bottom thereof. From the lower front cross-bar *a* of the buckle extends an upwardly-curved hook, G, and on the upper front cross-bar is pivoted an arm, H, which is arranged to close against the end of the hook G. At the end of the arm H is a projecting lip, *d*, which lies in a corresponding recess in the side of the hook G at the end. The pivoted or upper end of the arm H is arranged with a

spring, *h*, to hold said arm against the hook, or, in other words, to form a snap with a side movement.

The hip-strap D is passed through the buckle, above or on the outside of the cross-bar F', and the outer tongue on said bar is passed into a hole in said strap. The end of the hip-strap is then passed through the ring B, and carried through behind the main part of the strap and on the inner or under side of the cross-bar F', the inside tongue *b* entering another hole in the strap. The hip-strap is thus easily attached in place, and cannot come loose unless taken out.

When the trace is removed from the single-tree the cockeye I at the end of the trace is put into the snap and held by the hook G, where it will remain, both when the harness is on or off the horse, and it cannot come off unless taken off, which can be easily and quickly done when desired.

At times hip-straps are dispensed with, and in such cases the trace-carriers can be connected to short straps and fastened in the ring B, in the same manner as described for the hip-straps.

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

The within-described combined buckle and trace-carrier, consisting of the side bars F F, center cross-bar F', with the tongues *b b* in opposite directions, the end cross-bars *a a*, hook G, and snap or spring-arm H, with lip *d*, all constructed substantially as and for the purposes herein set forth.

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

ROBERT R. HART.

Witnesses:

MARCELLUS E. WRIGHT,
G. B. WOODBURY.