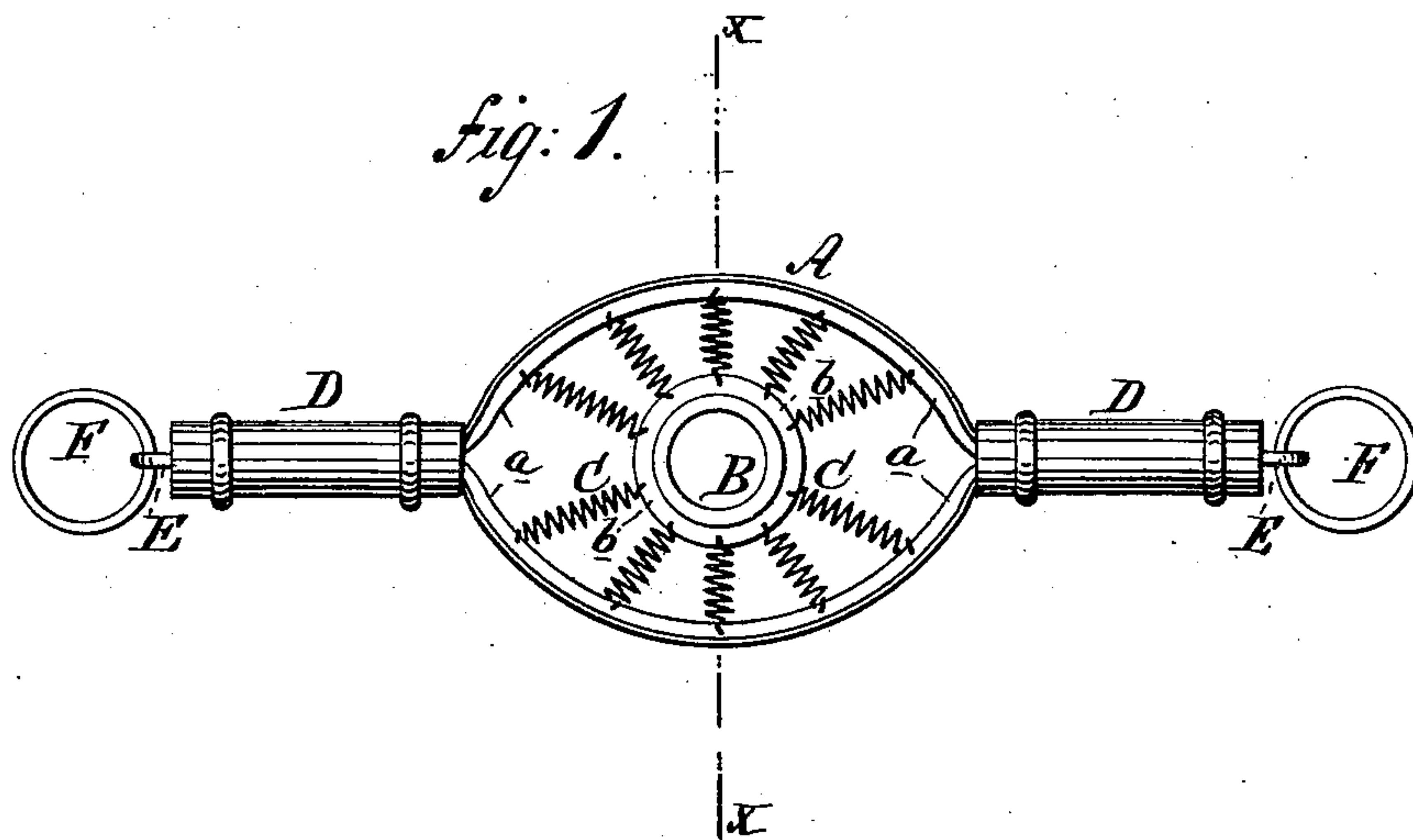


(Model.)

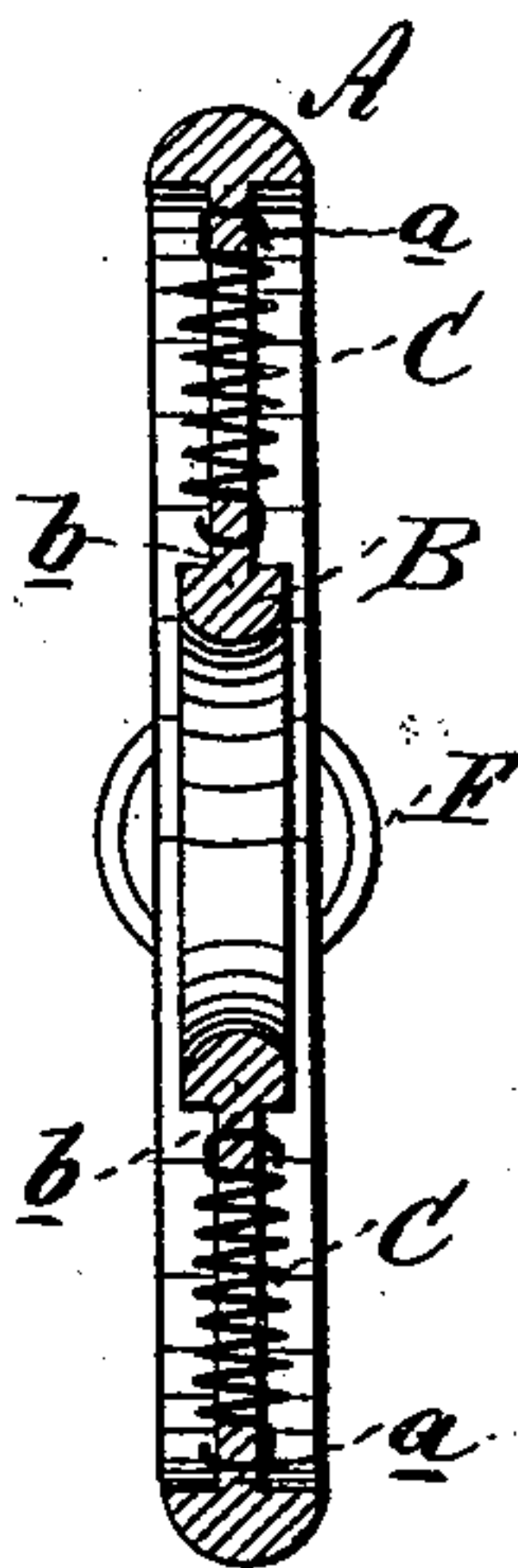
J. W. BARTON.  
Neck Yoke.

No. 234,940.

Patented Nov. 30, 1880.



*Fig. 2.*



WITNESSES:

*A. Schehl.*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN W. BARTON, OF EMPORIA, KANSAS.

## NECK-YOKE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 234,940, dated November 30, 1880.

Application filed October 19, 1880. (Model.)

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, JOHN W. BARTON, of Emporia, Lyon county, Kansas, have invented a new and Improved Neck-Yoke, of which the following is a specification.

Neck-yokes, as heretofore made, generally consist of a rigid bar of wood, having suspended at the middle part an eye or link, in which the end of the tongue or pole of the vehicle is held and supported.

The object of this invention is to provide an elastic support within the neck-yoke for securing and holding the tongues of all kinds of vehicles, including reapers, mowers, and other machines.

This invention consists in making the central part of the neck-yoke in the form of an open frame, within the middle of which is placed the eye or link that receives the tongue or pole of the vehicle, the said eye being attached to and held in its place within the frame of the neck-yoke by means of spiral springs, substantially as hereinafter described, whereby any movement of the pole or tongue, whether vertical or longitudinal, will be resisted by the springs, and a yielding pressure upon the neck-yoke will be effected, thus relieving the necks of the animals from the bad effects of the sudden blows or jerks to which they are subjected under the use of the ordinary neck-yoke.

The invention consists, further, in constructing the inner eye, through which the tongue of the reaper or mower is passed, with a peripheral flange, and the outer ring or frame with an inner flange for the attachment of the springs.

Figure 1 is a plan of the device, and Fig. 2 is an enlarged sectional elevation of the same on line X X of Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

In the drawings, A represents the outer frame, which may be round, oval, or of any other desired shape, provided with an inner strengthening-flange, *a*, having suitable perforations for the engagement of ends of the springs C, that radiate from the inner eye, B. This inner eye, B, may also be of any desired outline, and is provided with an outer flange, *b*, to which are secured the other ends of the springs C, so that the said eye B is held sus-

pending by said springs C centrally within the frame A and in the same plane therewith. The eye B is preferably circular, for better adaptation to the shape of the tongue that passes through it, and it is provided with the outer flange, *b*, that the spring-connections may not come in contact with or interfere with the tongue of the vehicle.

To opposite extremities of the frame A, which in this instance is of oval form, are secured straight rigid arms D D, and at the outer extremities of these arms D D are loops and rings E F, respectively, the rings F playing loosely in the loops E, and serving as a means of suspension of the neck-yoke from the horse-collar.

In the improved neck-yoke herein shown and described the springs C form an elastic support and cushion that in a great measure takes up or corrects the usual jerking and swaying of the tongue, and, by imparting elasticity to all motions of said tongue, affords great relief to the animals.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a neck-yoke constructed substantially as herein shown and described, with a frame carrying a pole-eye supported within the same by springs, as set forth.

2. In a neck-yoke, the combination, with the frame A, of the eye B and springs C, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby a yielding pressure on the neck-yoke results from any movement of the pole or tongue, as set forth.

3. In a neck yoke, the eye B, constructed with outer flange, *b*, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby the inner ends of the springs are held out of contact with the pole, as set forth.

4. In a neck-yoke, the frame A, constructed with inner flange, *a*, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby said frame is strengthened and outer ends of springs secured, as set forth.

JOHN W. BARTON.

Witnesses:

CHARLES D. HOLMES,  
JAS. D. HOLDEN.