(No Model.)

C. A. BRADFORD.

DEVICE FOR CHECKING HORSES.

No. 310,872. Patented Jan. 20, 1885.

Fig. 1.

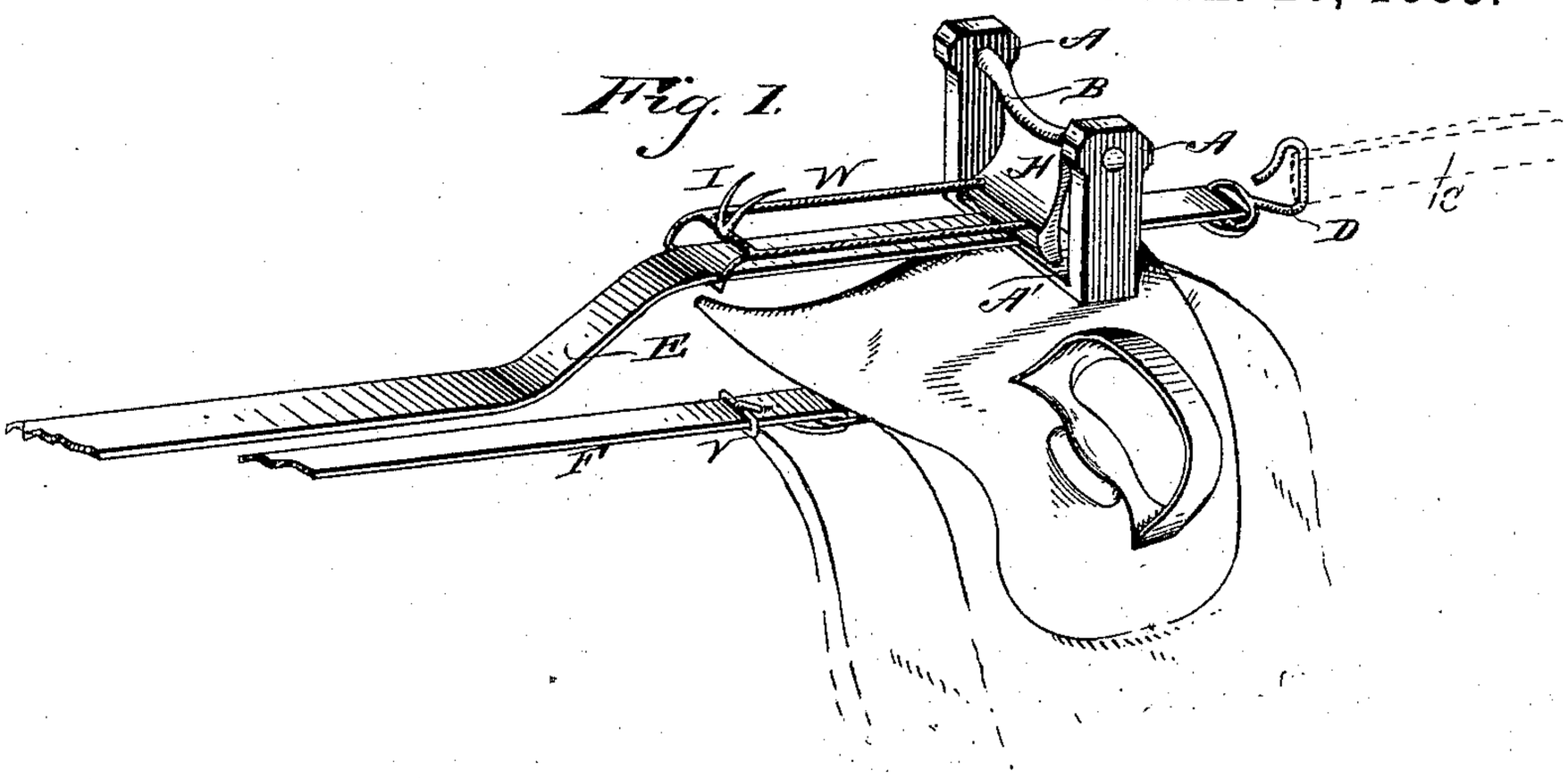
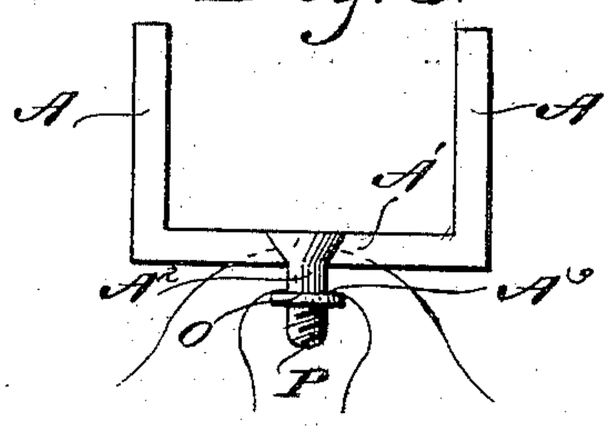


Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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CHARLES ALVARUS BRADFORD, OF PERU, NEW YORK.

DEVICE FOR CHECKING HORSES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 310,872, dated January 20, 1885.

Application filed October 18, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. BRADFORD, a citizen of the United States, residing at Peru, in the county of Clinton and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Devices for Checking and Unchecking Horses, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

My invention has relation to devices for checking and unchecking horses; and it consists in the construction and novel arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a view in perspective of a checking and unchecking device embodying my improvements. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view, and Fig. 3 is an enlarged detail view showing the manner of attaching the clamp to the saddle of the harness.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, A A designate the arms of the clamp-frame, the base A′ of which is provided with a threaded shank, A^2, which screws into a threaded seat, A^3, in the harness-saddle. An arm, B, is journaled in the arms A A, and is provided with a check-dog, H, beneath which the check-strap E passes.

To the check-dog H is pivoted a wire or double lever, W, having the fork I at its rear end. At its forward end the check-strap E is provided with a check-hook, D, for the attachment of check-rein C. F designates the crupper or back strap, connected by a buckle, V, with the saddle, and arranged in the usual manner. The rear end of the check-strap E is doubled over or under to provide a looped attachment for the bifurcated hook J, and is then secured to the sliding loop K, which loosely encircles the "crupper" or back strap, as seen in Fig. 2. The slide or loop K is arranged forward of the hook J, and when the horse is unchecked the action of drawing the head down to drink causes the slide to be drawn forward along the back-strap to about the point of the buckle V. The slide can be returned to its original position, as will be presently described.

The design of the arm or lever W is that the weight of the check-strap E shall keep the check-dog continually on the strap E, and thereby obviating the necessity of a spring to accomplish said object.

To uncheck the animal, the knotted whip is placed in the fork I and is pulled gently backward, which pull has the effect of raising the check-dog and permitting the check-strap E to move forward as the horse lowers its head. When the horse has finished drinking, to check up insert the whip-tip into the bifurcated hook J and draw the slide K back along the crupper-strap F to its former position, this action causing the check-strap E to be drawn through the clamp-frame, and when the check-rein is sufficiently tight the tendency of the check-dog will be to bind the check-strap. It will be observed that the driver can readily draw the check-strap through the clamp-frame to its original position, and when it has reached that place the motion of the horse's head will serve to tighten the connection—that is, bring the check-dog to bear thereon. The peculiar pivoting of this check-dog allows free back movement of the strap E, but automatically acts to prevent forward movement until the lever W has been operated to disengage the dog from the strap.

The check-strap E is about three-fourths of an inch wide and one-eighth of an inch thick, of harness-leather. The clamp should be wide enough to just receive the check-strap E. The distance between the side arms of the double lever W is just enough to bring them between the arms A A of the clamp-frame.

To apply my improved device to old harness, remove the bolt of the style of hook worn and insert the bolt P of the improved device and tighten the nut O. The check-hook D should be three-fourths of an inch inside, to receive at the point *x* the ordinary check-rein, C, and is nearly triangular in form. The under side of the clamp-frame, when made of cast-iron, can be hollowed somewhat to better fit the ordinary harness-saddle, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 3.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination, with the clamp-frame and check-dog, of the double frame W, having fork I, and the check-strap E, having hook D, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the clamp-frame

with check-dog, the double frame W, having fork I, and the check-strap E, having hook D, of the back-strap F, slide K, and hook J, substantially as specified.

3. The combination, with the clamp-frame and check-dog, of the frame or lever W, formed with a projection and connecting with the dog, the check-strap E, passing through the frame and clamp-frame beneath the said dog, and the check-rein connecting with the strap E, arranged and operating so that by placing a whip or like article in the projection of the frame W the latter is drawn backward to raise the check-dog from the check-strap and allow the horse to lower his head, as set forth.

4. The back or crupper strap, in combination with the check-strap having a sliding loop at its rear end, working on the back-strap, a projection or loop, J, connected to the check-strap, and the check-dog and check-rein, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES ALVARUS BRADFORD.

Witnesses:
HENRY CLARK,
S. H. CLARK.