(No Model.)

W. W. DAVISSON.

CHECKREIN FOR HARNESS.

No. 444,975. Patented Jan. 20, 1891.

Fig. 1.

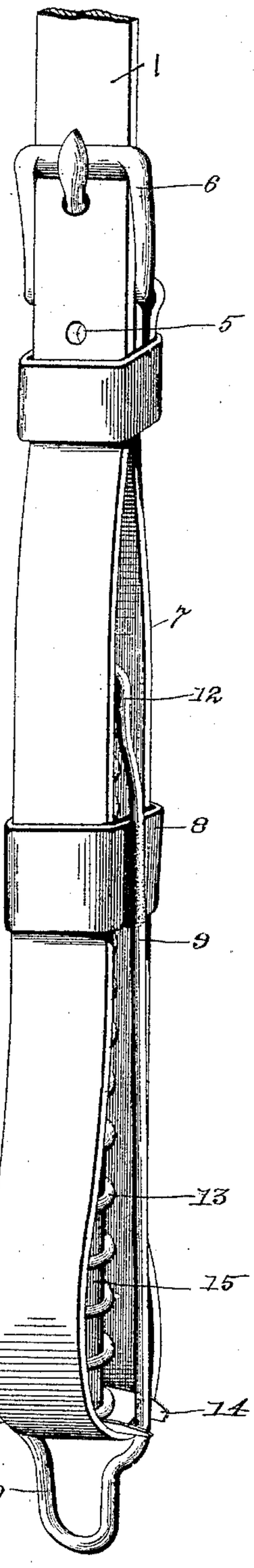


Fig. 3.

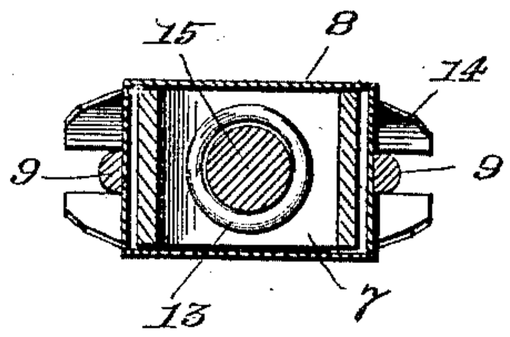
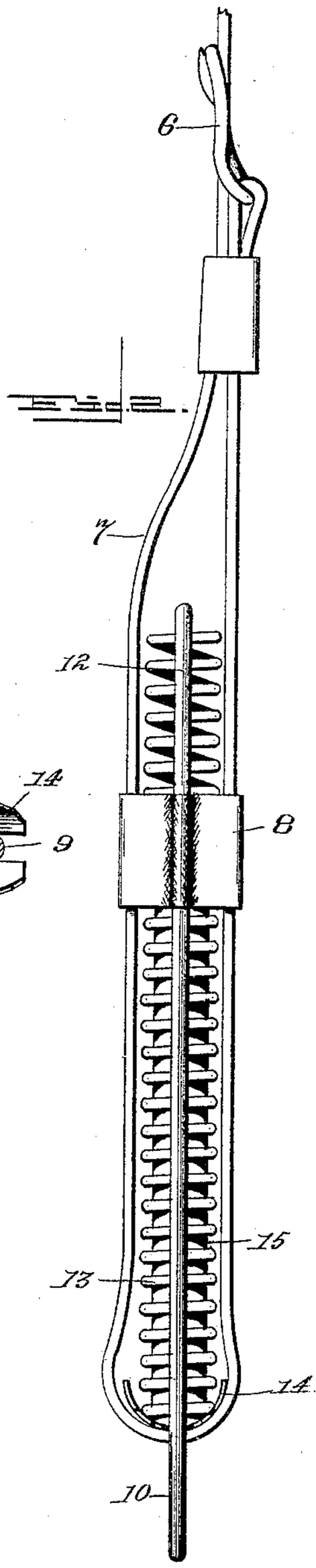


Fig. 2.



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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM W. DAVISSON, OF MINERAL POINT, WISCONSIN.

CHECKREIN FOR HARNESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 444,975, dated January 20, 1891.

Application filed September 9, 1890. Serial No. 364,397. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. DAVISSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Mineral Point, in the county of Iowa and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Checkreins for Harness, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in checkreins for harness; and it has for its object to provide an improved checkrein which is adapted to yield or give to the motions of the horse's head and to exert a strong pull on the bit should a strong pull be exerted on the checkrein by the violent motions or shaking of the head.

With this and other ends in view my invention consists in the peculiar construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter fully described, and more particularly pointed out in the claims.

To enable others to understand my invention, I will now proceed to a detailed description thereof in connection with the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a checkrein constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view in side elevation of my improvement. Fig. 3 is a sectional view through the devices illustrated in Fig. 2.

Like numerals of reference denote corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings, referring to which—

1 designates a checkrein, which is constructed in the usual manner, to be connected to a bit at one end and the other end of which is provided with my improvement. The strap is perforated with holes 5 intermediate of its length and at its free end it is provided with a buckle 6, the tongue of which is fitted in one of the series of holes 5, thus forming a loop 7 in the end of the checkrein or strap, as shown. A band, sleeve, or ring 8 is placed over the strap which forms the loop 7, and to this sleeve, band, or ring are rigidly secured the sides of a bail 9, which is arranged longitudinally of the strap-loop and exteriorly of the same. The one end of the bail is extended beyond the end of the strap-loop and it is formed into the eye 10, which is adapted to take or be adjusted over the checkrein-hook and to be firmly attached thereto, while the opposite free ends of the bail are bent inward into the strap-loop 7 to form the hooks 12, which hooks take over and into one end of the coiled spring 13. This coiled spring 13 is arranged within the strap-loop 7 in the checkrein, and one end thereof passes through the band, ring, or sleeve 8, while the other end of the coiled spring operates against a sliding or movable plate 14, which plate is likewise arranged within the strap-loop 7, but transversely to the axis of the coiled spring. This sliding plate is curved transversely to snugly fit against the bend or curve in the strap which forms the strap-loop 7 therein, and the ends of the said sliding plate are notched, recessed, or otherwise constructed to fit loosely on the bars or slides of the bail, as shown, whereby the plate is guided on the bail as the plate moves back and forth in the manner presently referred to.

Within the coiled spring is arranged a longitudinal guide-rod 15, which is attached at one end either to the spring or to the curved sliding plate.

When the device is in use, the eye of the bail is connected to the checkrein-hook, which thus provides a firm connection for the strap to pull against and compress the spring. As the checkrein or strap is drawn upon by the motion of the horse's head the loop which forms a part of the strap slides in the bail and thus moves the sliding plate toward the fixed sleeve, ring, or band 8 on the bail, thereby compressing the spring; but when the pull or strain is slackened on the strap the reactive force of the spring asserts itself and thus forces the sliding plate and the strap-loop back to their normal positions. It will thus be seen that the checkrein is capable of yielding or giving to the motions of the horse's head somewhat; but should the strain or pull be too sudden or severe on the checkrein the spring will be strongly compressed and thus exert a very strong or powerful pull on the bit and cause the animal to hold the head up properly.

By providing the loop in the strap and arranging the spring within the loop I am enabled to house and protect the spring, and the construction of the parts is reduced to a

minimum and simplified and thereby the cost of manufacture is reduced.

The device is effective and reliable in operation, and the checkrein can be connected with the checkrein-hook with the same ease and facility as the ordinary checkrein.

Slight changes in the form and proportion of parts and details of construction can be made without departing from the spirit or sacrificing the advantages of my invention.

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

1. The combination of a checkrein folded or doubled upon itself, forming the loop 7, and having means, as a buckle, for rigidly connecting the free end of the strap with the body thereof, the stationary band or sleeve arranged exteriorly on said loop, the bail adapted to be connected to a check-hook and rigid with the sleeve or band, a sliding plate arranged within the loop 7 and guided by the bail, and the cushion-spring housed within the loop 7 and operating between the sliding plate and the bail, substantially as and for the purpose described.

2. The combination of a checkrein folded or doubled upon itself and having its free end rigidly secured to the body of the strap, as by a buckle, to form the loop 7, the stationary sleeve or band fitted on said loop of the strap, the longitudinal bail rigid with the sleeve or band and having one end terminating within the loop of the strap and its other end provided with an eye 10, adapted to engage a check-hook, the notched plate arranged within the loop of the strap and fitted between the sides of the bail, the longitudinal rod attached to the sliding plate, and the coiled spring fitted around said rod and operating between the sliding plate and the inner end of the bail, substantially as described.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

WILLIAM W. DAVISSON.

Witnesses:

JOHN F. GRACE,

C. I. WINN.