





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## HORSE-DETACHING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 668,411, dated February 19, 1901.

Application filed June 30, 1900. Serial No. 22,187. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES NELSON MORGAN, of Holdrege, Phelps county, Nebraska, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Detaching Devices; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of the specification.

My invention relates to improvements in devices for detaching horses from vehicles, and has for its object the production of an appliance which is adapted for attachment to existing vehicles and possesses advantages in point of simplicity and cheapness of construction and efficiency and reliability in operation.

The nature of my invention will be readily comprehended, reference being had to the following detailed description and to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a plan view of a horse-detaching device embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an enlarged detail view of the coupling-clamps and releasing means. Fig. 3 is a further enlarged view of one of the coupling-clamps.

Referring to the drawings by letter, A denotes the axletree of the vehicle, toward each end of which is a coupling-clamp B, secured thereto by any suitable means—as, for instance, the clip shown. Each clamp consists of a fixed jaw *b*, the outer end *b'* of which is of half-spherical form, and a movable jaw *b*<sup>2</sup>, pivoted at its inner end to the fixed jaw by a pin or bolt *c* and having an outer end *b*<sup>3</sup> of half-spherical form. The movable jaw is provided at its upper side with a flange *b*<sup>4</sup>, which rests on the fixed jaw and affords a support for the movable jaw. The half-spherical ends of the jaws when the latter are closed provide sockets which receive shoulders *d d* on the ends of the thills or pole-yoke D, which shoulders may be spherical, as shown, or of

other form. The jaws are locked in closed position by arms *e e*, which are moved at right angles to the path of the movable jaws to engage the latter and hold them against opening movement. The arms are connected to or form extensions of a rod *e'*, which is supported to turn in apertured lugs *f f*, secured to the axletree. *g* denotes an arm which is fixed to the rod *e'* and extends rearwardly therefrom under the axletree. The outer end of the arm *g* is apertured for attachment to one end of a chain *h*, the other end of the chain being carried to a point where it is readily accessible.

With the parts in the position shown in Figs. 1 and 2 the thills are attached and are not liable to accidental disengagement. By pulling on the chain the arm *g* is raised and the arms *e e* depressed, thereby releasing the thills. Both thills are released at the same instant, as the arms *e e* are movable together.

The device is very simple in construction, may be cheaply made and readily attached, is very efficient and reliable in action, and will not get out of order in ordinary use.

I claim as my invention—

1. In a horse-detacher, the combination of coupling-clamps adapted to receive the thill ends, each clamp comprising a fixed jaw and a laterally-movable jaw, and rock-arms movable across the paths of the movable jaws to lock and release the latter.

2. In a horse-detacher, the combination of the thills having shoulders at their inner ends, coupling-clamps each comprising a fixed and a movable jaw between which is confined a thill end, and a rod mounted to rock and having at its ends arms movable across the paths of the movable jaws to lock and release the same, and having between its ends an arm by which the rod is rocked.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES NELSON MORGAN.

Witnesses:

E. W. REED,

OLEVIA ERICKSON.