No. 679,188. Patented July 23, 1901.

M. W. RYLAND.

HAME TUG.

(Application filed May 5, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1

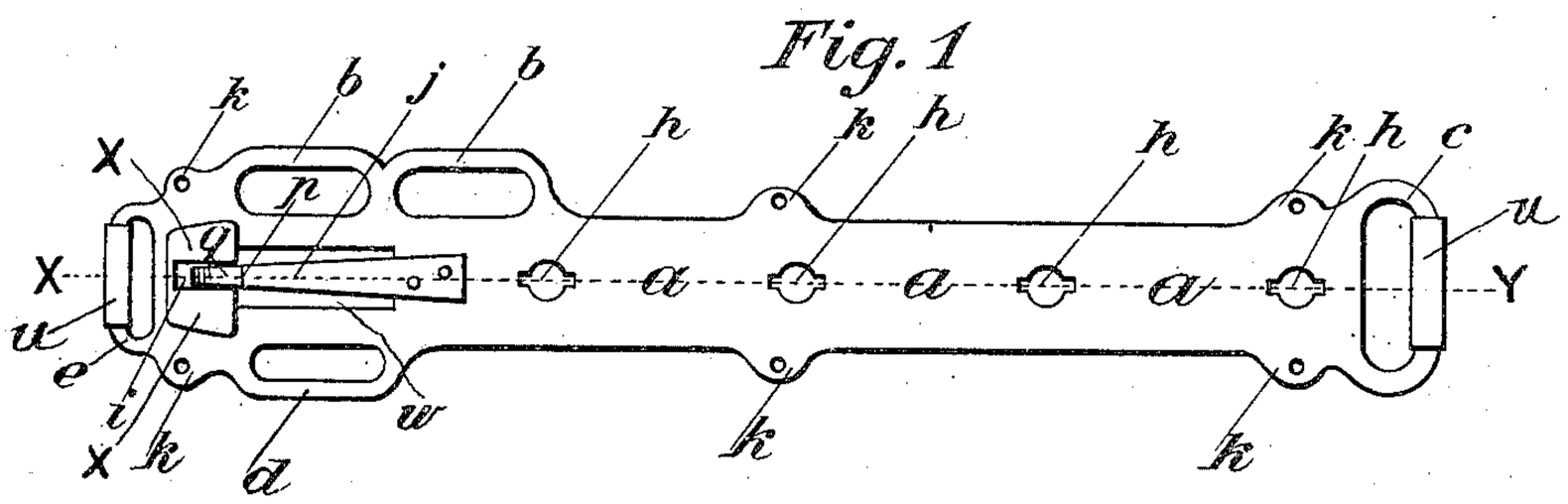
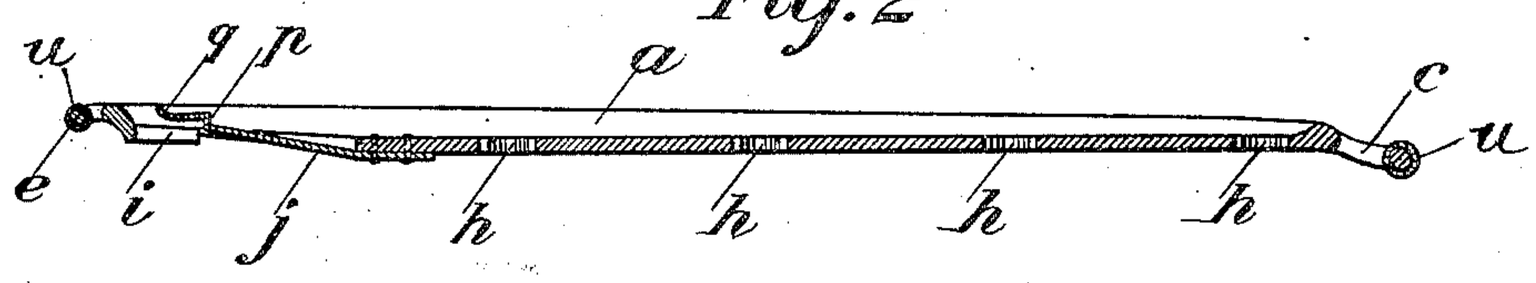


Fig. 2



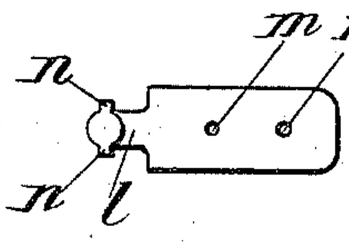


Fig. 3

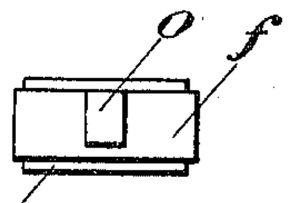


Fig. 5

Fig. 8.

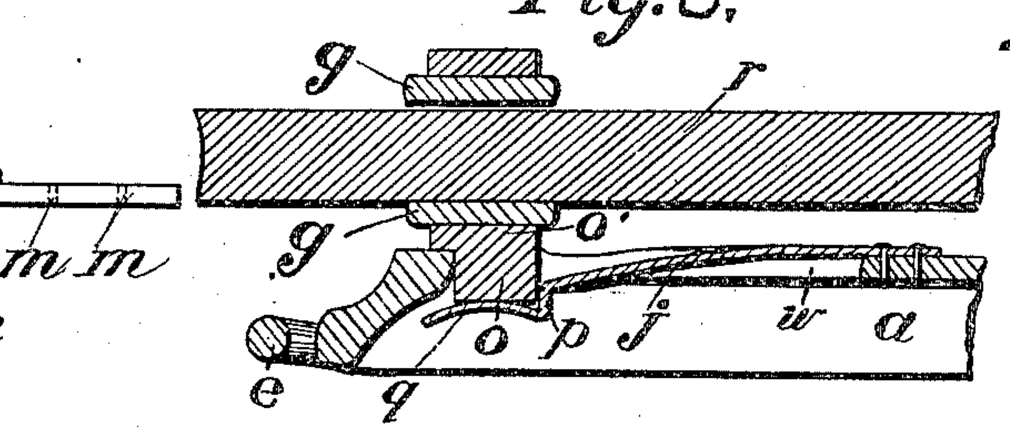


Fig. 4.

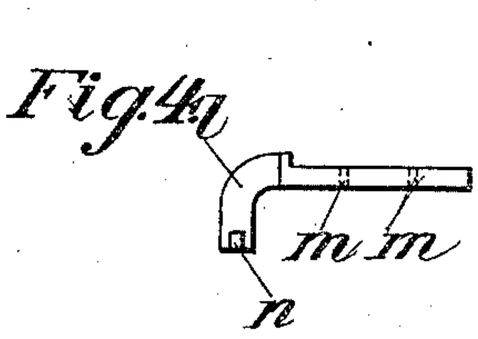


Fig. 6.

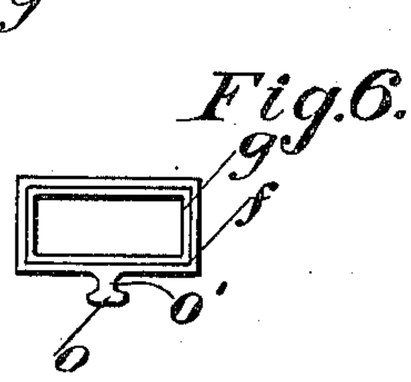


Fig. 7

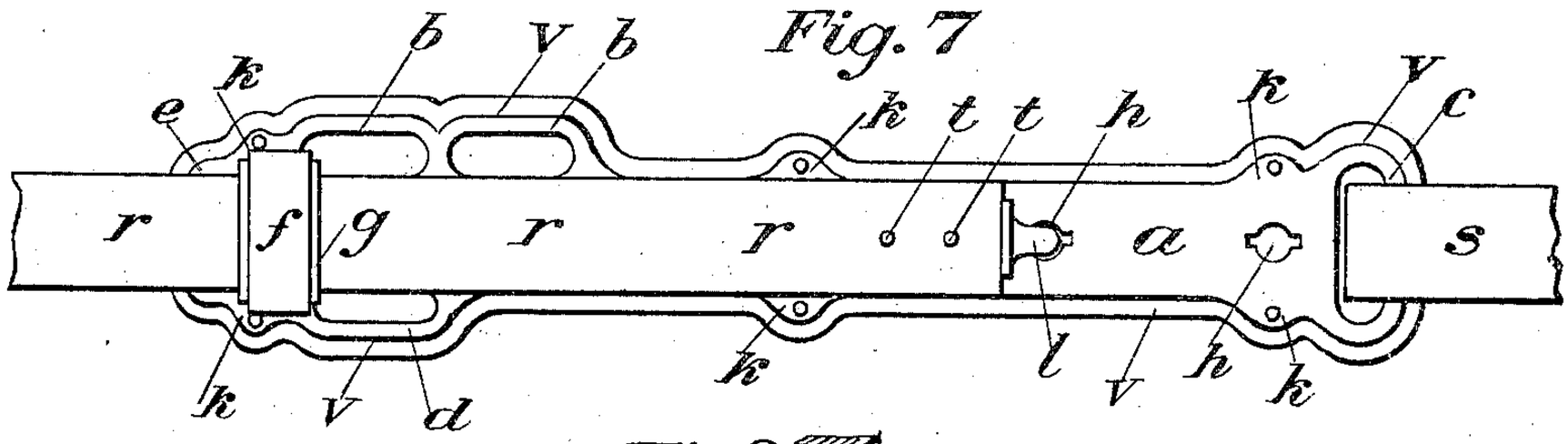
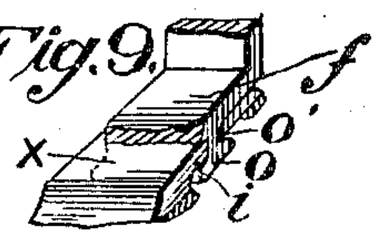


Fig. 9.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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HAME-TUG.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 679,188, dated July 23, 1901.

Application filed May 5, 1900. Serial No. 15,659. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MARION W. RYLAND, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented a new and Improved Hame-Tug (for which I have obtained a caveat bearing date January 20, 1899, and extended under date January 20, 1900,) of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to hame-tugs, and more particularly to such as are adapted for use with the trace known to the trade as the "Concord" trace.

The object of the invention is the provision of a hame-tug of improved and novel construction of the type employing a plate having a row of openings for the reception of a hook on the end or point of the trace and a steady-loop detachably connected to the plate and through which the trace passes.

My object more particularly is to provide an improved form of steady-loop and connecting means for detachably securing it to the hame-plate, whereby chafing and cutting of the trace by the loop is prevented, the trace steadied, and the connection of the steady-loop with the plate insured until the fastening means is released therefrom by hand.

Having the foregoing objects in view, the invention consists of certain improvements and combinations more fully set forth hereinafter and recited in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a view of the bottom of the hame-tug plate with the fender removed; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section on line *x y;* Figs. 3 and 4, detail views of the trace-hook; Figs. 5 and 6, detail views of the steady-loop; Fig. 7, a view of the complete device; Fig. 8, a longitudinal detail section showing the manner in which the steady-loop is secured to the hame-tug plate; Fig. 9, a broken detail view showing the engagement of the steady-loop with the lugs.

a designates the metal hame-tug plate, having ears *k* for the attachment by riveting of the leather fender *v* and provided with double keyhole-openings or hook-holes *h*. At one end of the plate *a* is a loop C, having a roller *u* to receive the strap *s*, leading to the hame. At the rear end of the plate is a similar loop *c* and roller *u* to receive a strap from the breeching. The rollers *u* are of any non-corrodible material to prevent rusting and injury to the straps. The plate *a* is provided with suitable loops *b* for connection to the back band or pad of the harness, while *d* represents a loop on the lower side of the plate to receive the belly-band or billet.

The plate *a* is provided with a longitudinal opening *w* near the rear end thereof, and said plate has lugs *x* formed on its inner face, which overhang the opening *w* at its end and are separated by a slot *i* narrower than the said opening. A spring *j* has one end secured to the inner face of the plate at the end of the opening, its free portion being inclined and extending into said opening and provided with an abrupt shoulder adjacent the ends of the lugs *x*. From this point the extremity of the spring is fashioned into a finger-hold *q*, which can be grasped through a suitable opening in the fender.

A hook *l* is fastened to the end or point of the trace *r* by rivets *t* passing through the holes *m* in the body of the hook, said hook being round in cross-section and provided with oppositely-disposed laterally-extending lugs *n*. The size of the hook and lugs is such that when the trace is at right angles to the plate *a* the hook can be entered in any of the openings *h*, and upon turning will be locked to the plate in a well-known manner.

f represents a metal steady-loop provided with a headed lug *o*, having its neck *o'* elongated and of slightly less width than the slot *i*, so that it can enter therein, but not turn after entrance. This loop is provided with a protecting lining or shield *g*, which may be of any material, such as leather, which will not injure or cut the trace passing therethrough. The trace being first provided with the steady-loop, it is held at right angles to the plate and the hook inserted in the proper hole, after which the trace is turned around into alinement with the plate. The steady-loop is then slid along the trace, with the head of the lug *o* riding on the inclined portion of the spring, until the slot *i* is reached, whereupon the neck *o'* enters the same, and the head of the lug afterward snaps past the shoulder *p* on the spring, whereupon the lug and steady-loop are locked rigidly and can-

not turn or twist in any manner nor work loose. As a consequence of the rigid holding of the steady-loop the trace is held tightly at two points (the steady-loop and the hook) to the hame-tug plate, and the wear on the trace is minimized. The steady-loop can only be detached by using the fingers to disengage the spring therefrom. The provision of a steady-loop having a protecting-lining in connection with means for holding the loop rigidly on the plate is very advantageous, as the wear on the trace is minimized.

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

1. In a hame-tug, the combination with a hame-tug plate having a longitudinal opening and lugs at one end which overhang the opening at one portion and are separated by a slot narrower than the longitudinal opening, of a leaf-spring secured to the plate and extending into the opening therein toward the lugs and provided with an abrupt locking-shoulder on its free end adjacent the lugs and terminating in a finger-hold, and a trace steady-loop having a lug provided with an elongated neck adapted to fit in the slot between the lugs and with a head adapted to abut against the inner faces of the lugs and having one end bearing directly against the shoulder on the spring, said neck on the lug being prevented from turning in the slot between the lugs by reason of its engagement with the lugs and from coming out of the slot by reason of its engagement with the shoulder on the spring.

2. In a hame-tug, the combination with a hame-tug plate having a row of hook-openings to receive the hook on the trace and provided with lugs or portions having a slot between them which is closed at one end, of a spring secured to the plate and having a free portion provided with an abrupt shoulder adjacent the mouth of the slot aforesaid and with a finger-hold for its manipulation, a trace having a locking-hook adapted for reception in the hook-openings, and a steady-loop surrounding the trace and provided with an interior lining to bear on the trace and prevent cutting or injury thereof by the loop, said loop being provided with a lug having an elongated neck adapted to fit snugly in the slot between the lugs and said lug having a head adapted to abut the shoulder on the spring after the neck has entered the slot, said shoulder holding the head against the closed end of the slot whereby the steady-loop is held rigid against twisting or turning and cannot be removed without manipulation of the spring by hand, and the trace is also held rigidly at two points to the hame-tug plate, thus minimizing the wear on said trace.

3. In a hame-tug, the combination with a hame-tug plate having lugs or portions separated by a slot closed at one end, of a spring secured to the plate and having a free portion provided with an abrupt shoulder adjacent the open end or mouth of the slot and provided with a finger-hold, and a trace steady-loop provided with a lug having an elongated neck adapted to fit snugly in the slot and having an enlarged head adapted to abut against the abrupt shoulder on the spring, said shoulder holding the head against the closed end of the slot whereby the loop is held rigidly to the plate and cannot twist or become displaced.

Spokane, Washington, April 7, 1900.

MARION W. RYLAND.

Witnesses:
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F. E. ELMENDORF.