

No. 708,906.

Patented Sept. 9, 1902.

H. D. MCKINNEY.
CHECKING DEVICE FOR HARNESS.

(Application filed Apr. 30, 1901.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

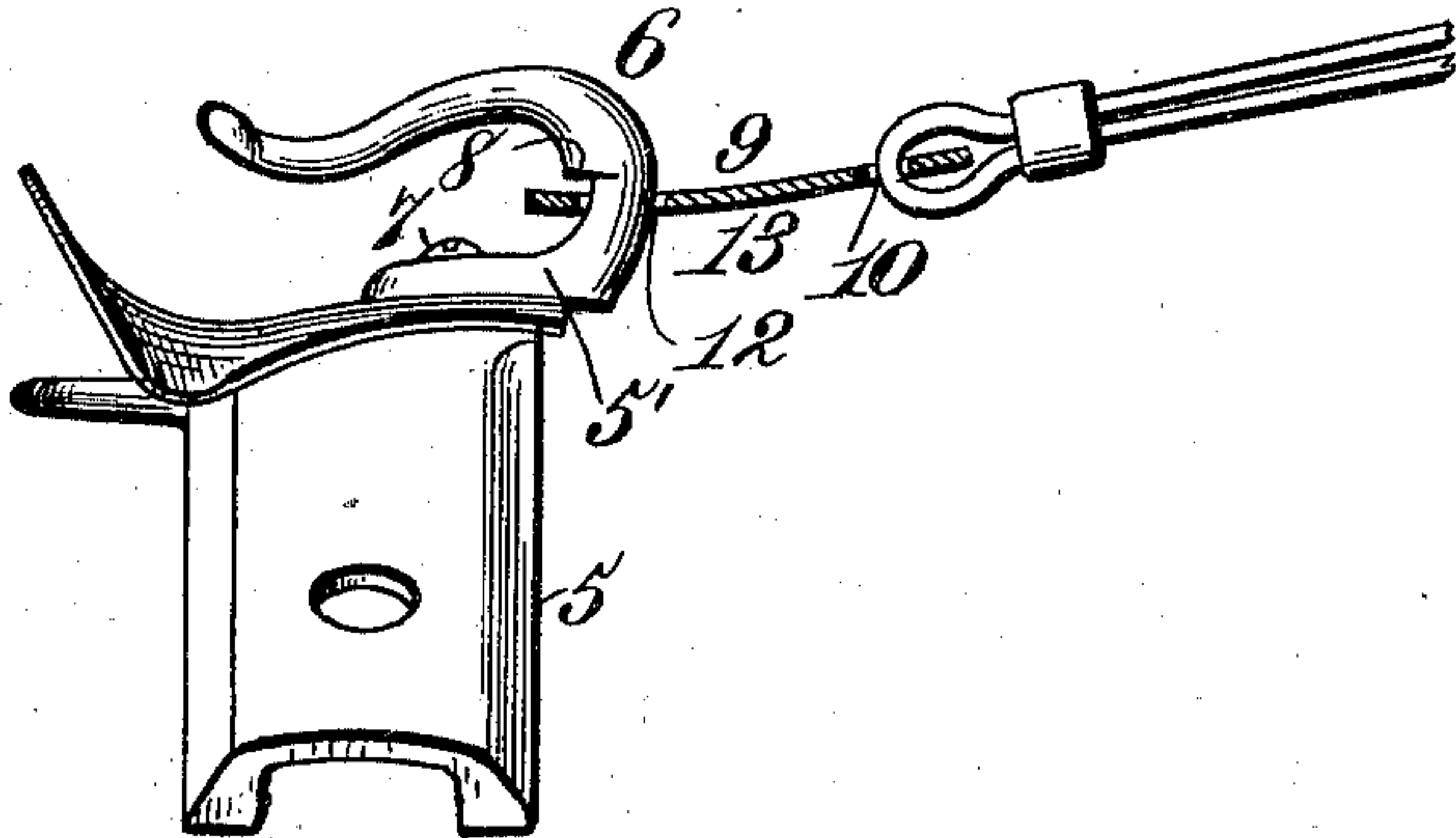


Fig. 2.

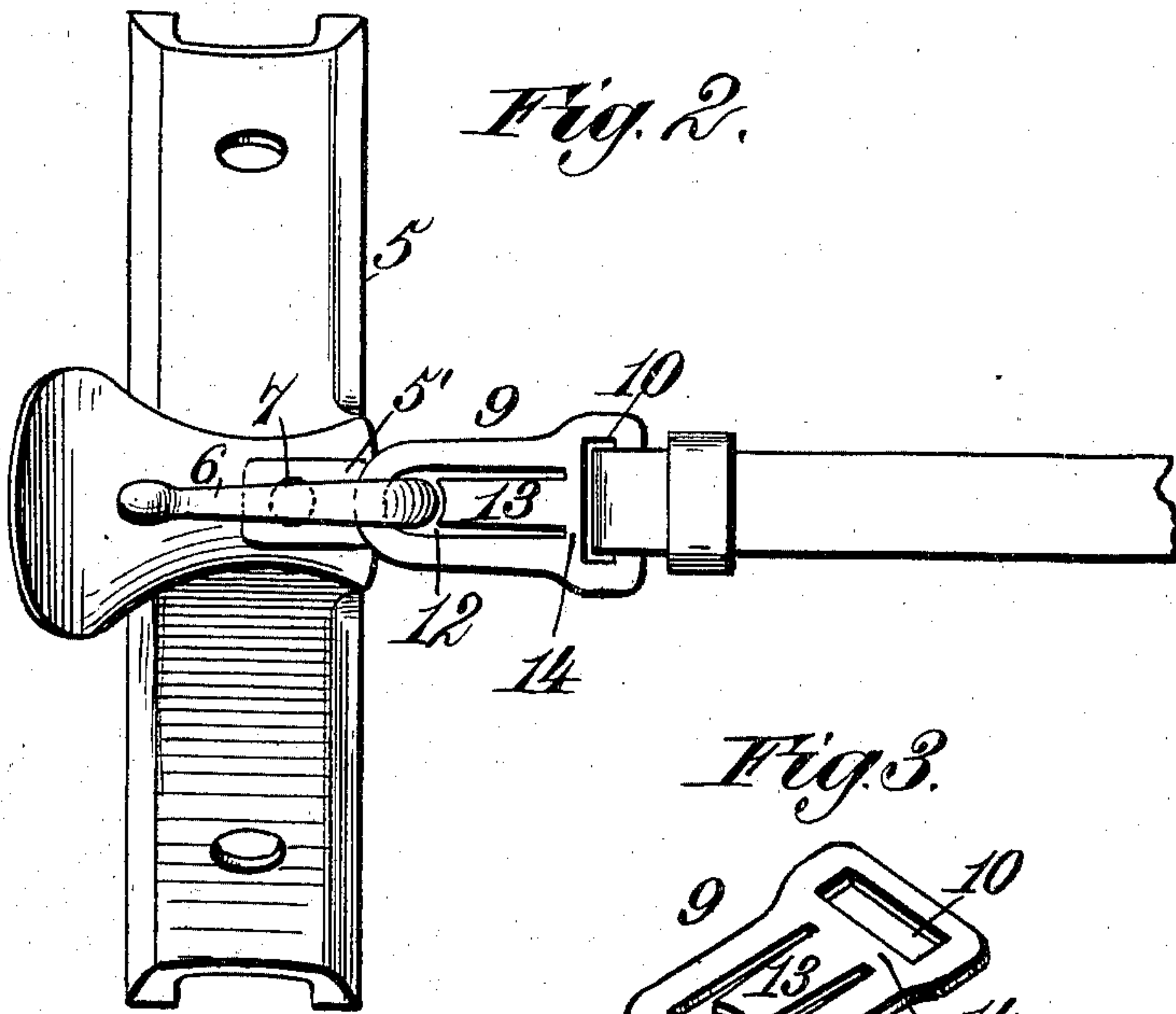
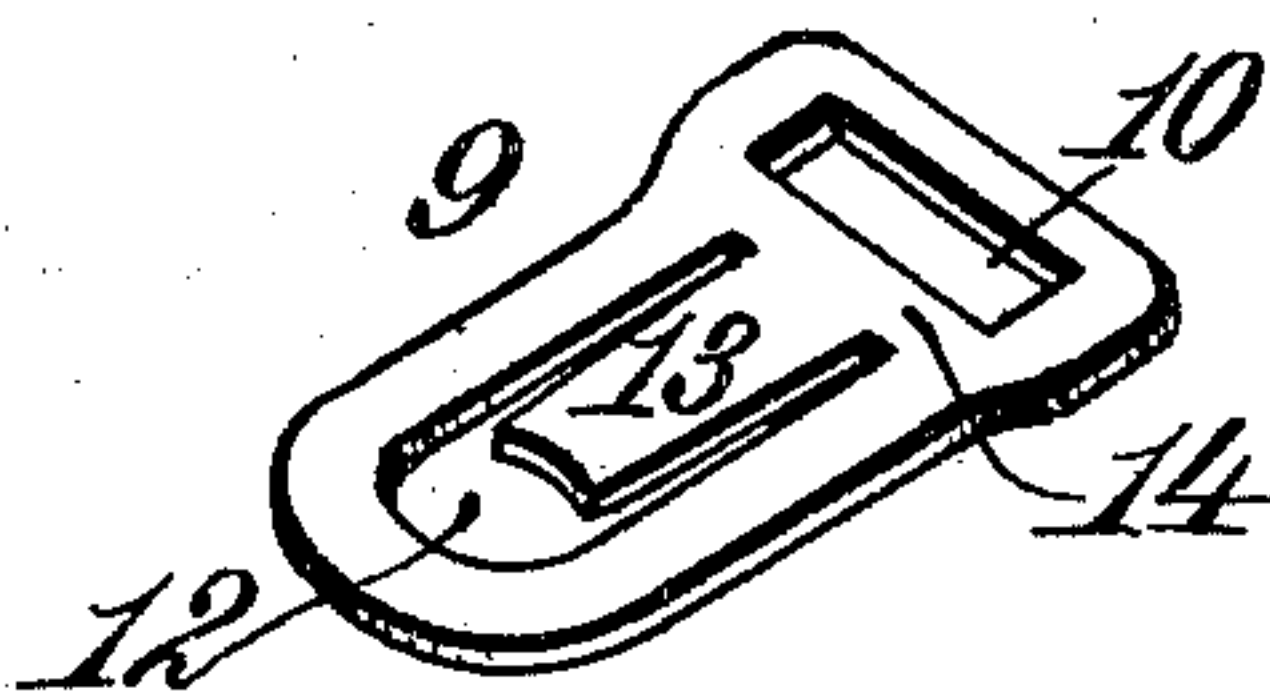


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY D. MCKINNEY, OF JANESVILLE, WISCONSIN.

CHECKING DEVICE FOR HARNESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 708,906, dated September 9, 1902.

Application filed April 30, 1901. Serial No. 58,174. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY D. MCKINNEY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Janesville, in the county of Rock and State of Wisconsin, have invented new and useful Improvements in Checking Devices for Harness, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a checking device for harness; and the object of the invention is to provide a simple and efficient device of this character which is so constructed as to permit the ready removal by hand of the checkrein for any purpose and as to prevent such rein from being accidentally withdrawn by the horse as he throws his head, while at the same time such motion is in no wise obstructed.

The checking device includes in its construction a hook having a shoulder on the inner side thereof and a loop detachably engaging the hook and normally disposed under the shoulder, so that said shoulder serves as a stop to prevent the accidental displacement of the loop to which the checkrein is connected as said rein moves forward and backward or laterally. The hook may be of the usual construction, while the loop specified consists, preferably, of a flat frame engaging the hook and having a resilient tongue, the free end of which is adapted to abut against the forward surface of the hook, and said loop may be made of sheet metal, sole-leather, or any other suitable material, and for cheapness, strength, and simplicity I prefer to form the said resilient tongue in one piece with the body of the loop.

The invention is clearly illustrated in the accompanying drawings, which, with the figures of reference marked thereon, form a part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 is a sectional side elevation of a checking device including my present improvements and showing the manner of using the same. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the loop detached from the hook and rein.

Like characters refer to like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

Referring now to the drawings, the numeral 5 designates a saddle of known construction, and 6 the checkrein-hook, the latter being upwardly and rearwardly curved

from a base or body 5', which is horizontally disposed and sustained upon the saddle and is held thereon by a rivet, as 7, although it is evident that other means may be employed for securing the same in place. The hook 6 has on the rear side of its bight a shoulder or projection 8, shown as formed integral therewith, although this is not essential, and the under face of this shoulder is represented as being straight, and said shoulder serves to retain the checkrein-loop in place against accidental displacement, which might be caused by the horse suddenly throwing his head either forward, backward, or sidewise. The checkrein-loop, which embraces and freely turns on the hook, is denoted in a general way by 9, and it may be formed of sheet metal, sole-leather, or any other desirable material, and it has preferably integral therewith a resilient tongue, hereinafter described, which is adapted to frictionally engage the forward side of the hook 6 and prevent the withdrawal of the loop and consequent unchecking of the horse upon the usual motions of the checkrein as the horse jerks his head. The loop 9 consists of a substantially rectangular flat frame having at one end a transverse slot 10, to which the checkrein may be connected, so that the loop forms in effect a permanent part of the said rein. The loop 9 has an enlarged elongated slot 12, in which the resilient tongue 13 lies, said tongue extending rearwardly from the cross-piece 14 of the loop and being normally in line with the body of the loop. The free end of the tongue and the rear wall of the slot bear against the hook, and such bearing portions are rounded to agree with the cross-sectional curvature of said hook, whereby the loop as a whole can readily turn upon said hook. As the free end of the spring-tongue bears against the forward side of the checkrein-hook and as the loop is underneath the shoulder 8 said spring-tongue will prevent the retractive motion of the loop sufficiently as to carry the rear wall of the slot 12 clear of the shoulder 8 as the loop oscillates with the checkrein. To disconnect the loop from the hook, it is simply necessary by a slight pressure of a finger to force the spring-tongue 13 either up or down far enough that the loop may be moved back sufficiently to carry the rear wall of the slot 12 beyond

the shoulder 8. When this is done, the loop can be readily withdrawn. To apply the loop, it must be slipped on the hook and along the same until the shoulder 8 is reached, and continuing the motion downward the tongue will be slightly elevated until the loop is under the shoulder, at which time the said tongue will at once spring into a position in line with the remainder of the loop and into engagement with the hook. To facilitate the upward motion of the tongue in the manner just indicated, the outer surface of the shoulder is inclined.

Having described the invention, I claim—
15 In a checking device, a rounded hook having a shoulder near its base on the inner side thereof combined with a loop detachably en-

gaging the hook and arranged to normally lie under said shoulder, and the loop having a slot and a spring-tongue inside said slot, 20 the rear wall of the slot being rounded and the free end of the tongue being correspondingly rounded and such rounded portions being contiguous to and of a curvature corresponding with said hook below said shoulder, 25 and the loop consisting of sheet metal in one piece and lying in a single plane.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

HENRY D. MCKINNEY.

Witnesses:

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