

No. 741,646.

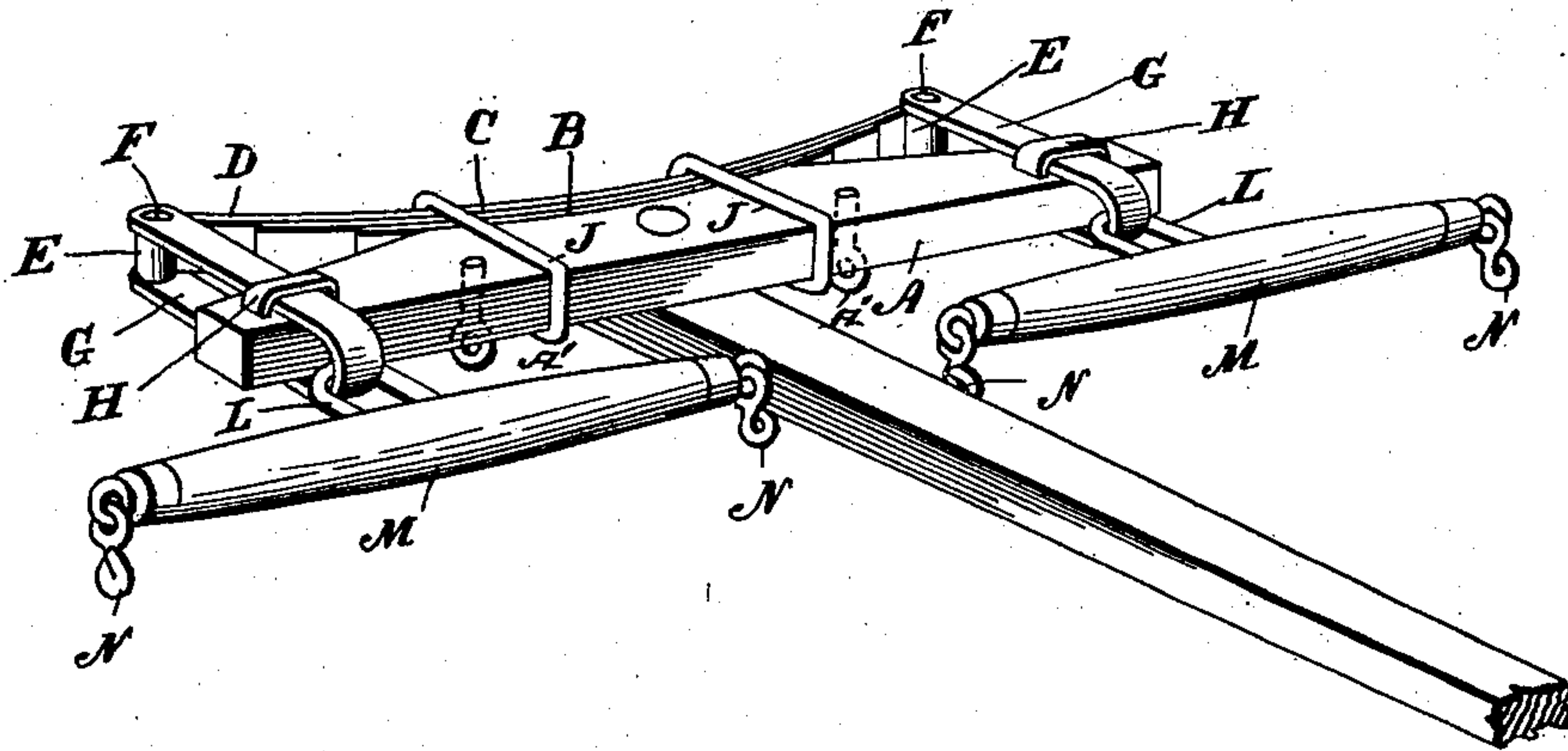
PATENTED OCT. 20, 1903.

B. FIREBAUGH.  
DRAFT EVENER.

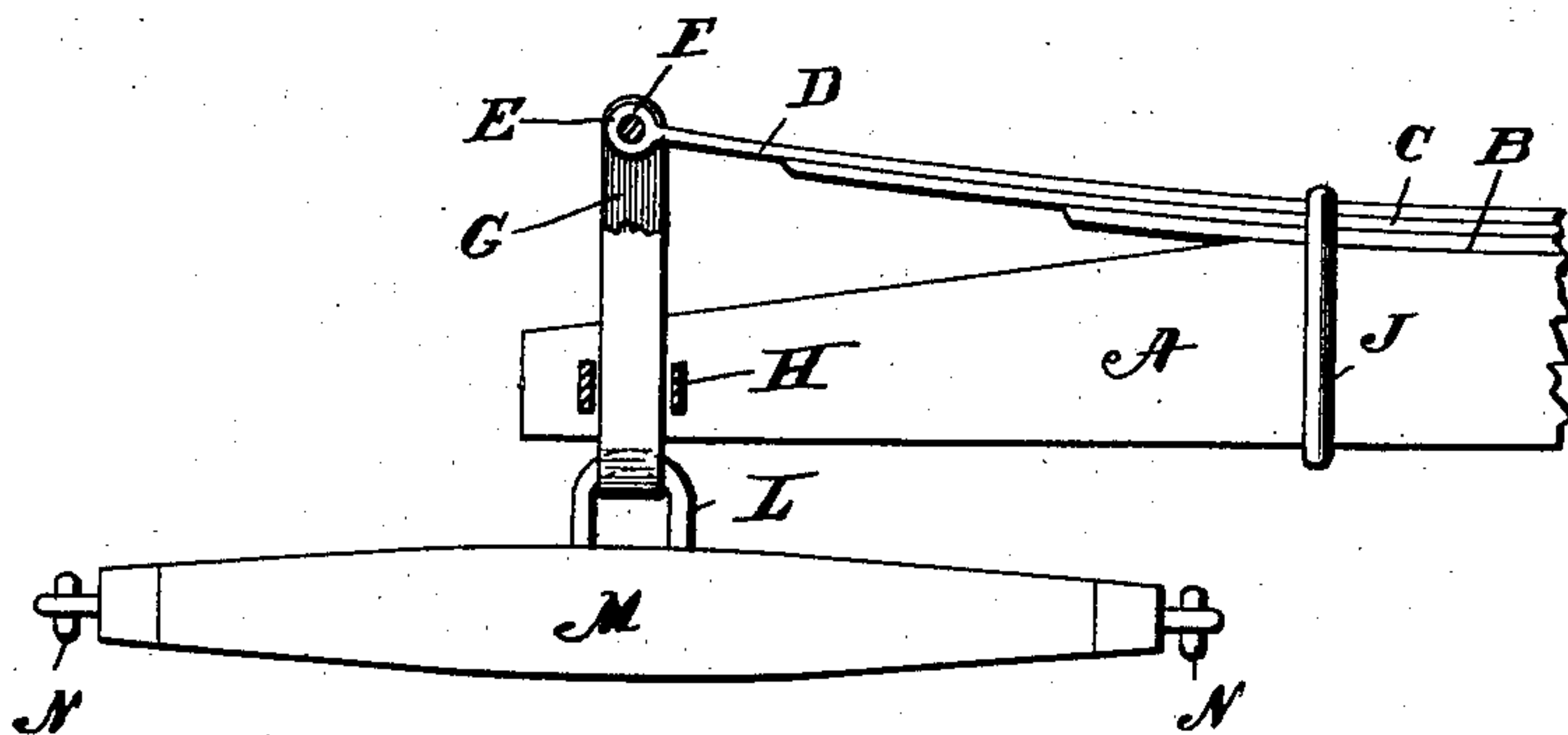
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 9, 1903.

NO MODEL.

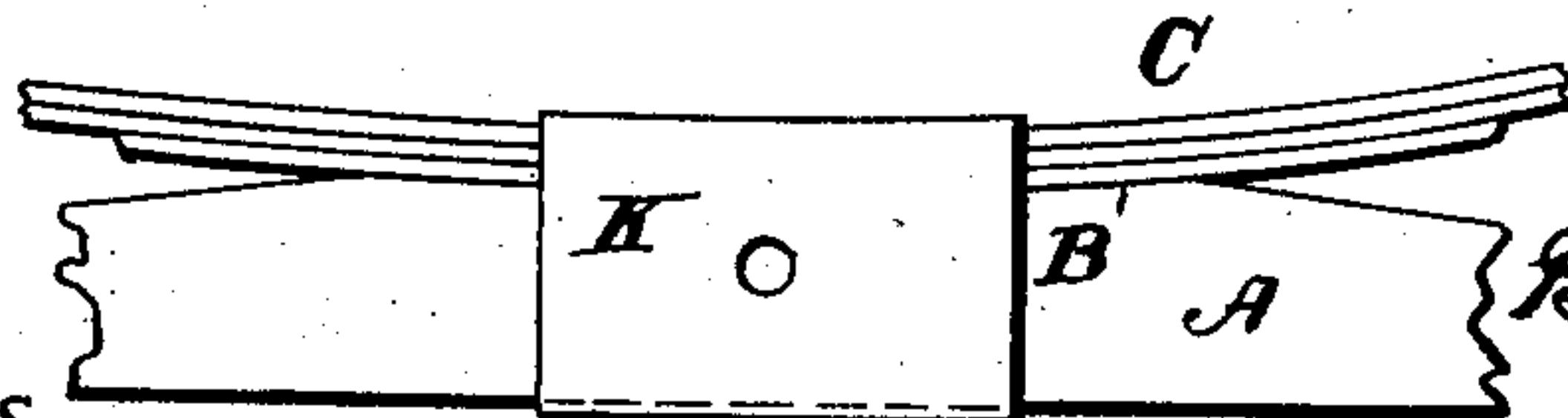
*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



WITNESSES

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENTON FIREBAUGH, OF BUSHNELL, ILLINOIS.

## DRAFT-EVENER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 741,646, dated October 20, 1903.

Application filed March 9, 1903. Serial No. 146,967. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENTON FIREBAUGH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bushnell, in the county of McDonough and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Draft-Eveners, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in draft-eveners, and refers particularly to an evener or equalizer for use with two horses; and the object of my invention is the provision of a draft-evener which will insure an easy starting of the horses, which will distribute the strain of the draft equally, and which will be inexpensive of production, durable, and practical in every respect.

With this object in view my invention consists of a draft evener or equalizer embodying novel features of construction and combination of parts, substantially as disclosed herein.

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of my complete draft-evener, and Fig. 2 represents a plan view with parts broken away to show details of construction.

In the drawings the letter A designates a whiffletree or doubletree, which is connected to the pole or which may be free and connected by draft-eyes A', and the rear face of the whiffletree is concaved to form a seat B, in which fits the spring C, composed of a series of leaves of gradual sizes or lengths, the outer or longer spring or leaf D having its ends formed with loops or eyes E, which surround pintles F, mounted in the inner bifurcated ends of clevises G, said clevises fitting over each end of the whiffletree and guided thereon by the clips H. The spring is secured in the seat of the whiffletree by means of the pair of clips J, or the whiffletree may carry

the overlapping securing band or strap K, and to the outer closed ends of the clevises are attached the loops L, carried by and arranged centrally of the pair of swingletrees M, each having the trace-hooks N for connection with the traces on the harness.

From the foregoing description, taken in connection with the drawings, it will be seen that I produce a draft device which will accommodate two horses and which will entirely remove the jolt, jar, and strain incident to starting a heavy load or when drawing a load over a rough or hilly road, and also that the spring is so arranged as to hold the parts in proper position and guide the swingletrees, and that the device is of extremely simple, durable, and inexpensive construction and can be easily applied to wagons or agricultural implements.

I claim—

The two-horse draft-evener herein shown and described, consisting of the pole, the cross-piece pivoted centrally to the pole and having a rear concaved seat, a spring fitting in said concaved seat, a flat band or strip passing around the spring and cross-piece for securing the spring in the seat, the bails connected to each end of the spring, the guides for securing and guiding the bails, the pair of swingletrees connected to the bails, and the draft-eyes secured to the under face of the cross-piece.

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

BENTON FIREBAUGH.

Witnesses:

G. H. McELVAIN,  
A. M. SEARLE.