## J. C. AVERILL.

CHECKREIN LOOP. APPLICATION FILED MAY 4, 1903. NO MODEL. Fig. 6. 150g. 4. Wittesses, John Carrill,

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## United States Patent Office.

## JOHN C. AVERILL, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## CHECKREIN-LOOP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 770,449, dated September 20, 1904.

Application filed May 4, 1903. Serial No. 155,596. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, John C. Averill, a citizen of the United States, residing in Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Checkrein-Loops, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to checkrein-loops, and more particularly to a form of loop which requires a peculiar manipulation to attach or detach from the check-hook, and also to a guard adapted to cooperate with said loop and more effectively prevent the accidental disengage-

ment of the loop from the hook.

simple and inexpensive checkrein-loop which may readily be attached to the ordinary checkrein and to the check-hooks commonly used and at the same time provide a loop which cannot be accidentally detached from the hook, but must be manually separated therefrom in a particular manner.

My invention in its preferred form is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in

25 which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the harness-saddle and check-hook secured thereto, showing my improved check-loop in position to be attached. Fig. 2 is a similar view showing the check-loop in operative position. Fig. 3 is a view of another form of check-hook, showing my improved check-loop with guard in relative position and illustrating the manner in which the guard operates to confine the loop to an inseparable position on said hook. Fig. 4 is a plan view of the loop-body with guard in operative position as seen in an inverted position. Fig. 5 is a plan view of the guard. Fig. 6 is a sectional view of the loop without the guard, taken on line 6 6, Fig. 4.

Similar numerals refer to similar parts in

all the views.

Referring to the drawings in detail, 1 designates the ordinary harness-saddle; 2, the check-hook; 3, the check-loop; 4, the check-rein, and 5 the guard.

The loop (designated 3) is made of metal, preferably in one piece, and in the form shown has a cap-like appearance, comprising the crown or wall portion 6, with the bill or cres-

cent-shaped flange 7 projecting from one side thereof. The opposite side of said loop, or that portion to which the checkrein is attached, is preferably straight and of reduced depth, as will be seen at 8, Figs. 2 and 3, and 55 is formed into a cross-bar 9. 10 designates a second cross-bar extending parallel with the cross-bar 9 and adjacent thereto and forming the slot 11, which receives the checkrein It also forms one side of the main open- 60 ing 12, which is adapted to receive the checkhook 2, it being understood, of course, that the top and bottom of the loop-body are open. The laterally-opposite portions of the loop between the ends of the crescent-shaped flange 65 and the ends of the bar 10 are comparatively thin, of the same depth as the loop proper, and nearly straight in cross-sectional form in order that the loop may be engaged with the hook when turned on its side, so as to bring 7° the thin portion opposite the narrow opening 2', as shown in Fig. 1, and thereafter passed through the opening into the position shown in Fig. 2. It will be observed that the loop cannot be disengaged from the hook without 75 being turned on its side and shifted laterally forward until the thin portion of the wall has been brought opposite the opening 2', which is just wide enough transversely to permit the passage of that portion of the loop-wall 80 through it.

The guard (designated 5) is made of leather or analogous flexible material and in the form shown consists of a piece of leather substantially conforming in outline to the outline of 85 the loop 3, as seen in Fig. 5. At one end thereof is provided a slot 13, adapted to register with the slot 11 in the loop-body when used in connection therewith and to receive the check-rein 4, as will be more fully under- 9° stood by reference to Fig. 3. At the opposite end of said guard is formed an aperture 14, adapted to register with the forward portion of the aperture 12 in the loop-body, as shown in Fig. 4, and to receive the check-hook 2, 95 and thereby confine the loop to a certain relative position upon said hook which prevents its being turned in the manner hereinbefore described to be disengaged from said hook. Leading from the aperture 14 to the outer 100 edge of the guard is a slit 15, forming two free ends 16 and 16'. These ends being free and of flexible material may be pressed apart in such a manner as to open the slit 15 sufficiently to permit the guard being disengaged from the hook and turned back, as shown in dotted lines, Fig. 3. After said guard has been thus disengaged from the hook the loopbody may be turned on its side, as shown in Fig. 1, and shifted from the hook in the same manner as hereinbefore described.

It will be understood that the guard may be used in conjunction with other forms of loops and also that it may be used with almost any form of hook; but that the form of hook determines the manner in which the loop must be turned to be attached or detached, as will be illustrated by a comparison of the hook shown in Fig. 1 with that shown in Fig. 3.

20 In the first form the loop would be turned on

its side and passed through the opening 2'

with a horizontal movement, while in the form of Fig. 3 the loop would be inverted and passed through the opening 2' with an upwardly25 curved movement. The movement for detaching the loop from the hook is just the reverse of that for attaching it and will be readily understood from the foregoing description and reference to the drawings.

It is evident that variation from the forms shown may be made without departing from the spirit of my invention, and I do not limit myself to the particular construction shown.

I claim—

1. A checkrein-loop, comprising a pair of parallel bars arranged in the same general plane and forming one side of the loop, the remainder of the loop being approximately of horseshoe shape in plan view, one edge of the curved side of the loop being provided with an outwardly-flaring crescent-shaped flange extending in the general plane of the loop and

widest at the apex of the curve, the ends of the flange terminating coincident with the junction of the curved sides with the bars, and the 45 sides of the loop at this point being approximately straight and thin in cross-section.

2. In combination, a safety checkrein-loop, comprising a body portion adapted to be attached to a checkrein and to engage the check- 50 hook and a guard to coöperate with said loop, comprising a flexible body adapted to be attached, in register with said loop, to the checkrein, and having a hook-receiving aperture and a slit extending out from said hook-aper- 55 ture, for the purpose shown and described.

3. In a safety checkrein-loop, the combination with an open rigid loop provided with a strap-slot, of a cooperating guard comprising a flexible body in outline form similar to that 60 of said loop-body and provided with a slot and an aperture adapted to register respectively with the slot and the hook-receiving aperture in said loop-body and adapted to embrace the check-hook during the engagement of said loop 65 therewith, said guard being slotted from the hook-aperture outwardly to the margin of the guard, for the purpose set forth.

4. In combination, a detachable guard for use with a rigid attaching-loop, consisting of 70 a leather or analogous flexible flap provided at one end with means for securing it in register with the attaching-loop and provided with a divided portion adapted to embrace the support to which the loop is attached.

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5. A guard consisting of a leather or analogous flexible flap provided at one end with an attaching-aperture and apertured and divided at its opposite end.

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Witnesses:

ALBERT H. GRAVES, FREDERICK C. GOODWIN.