

No. 776,909.

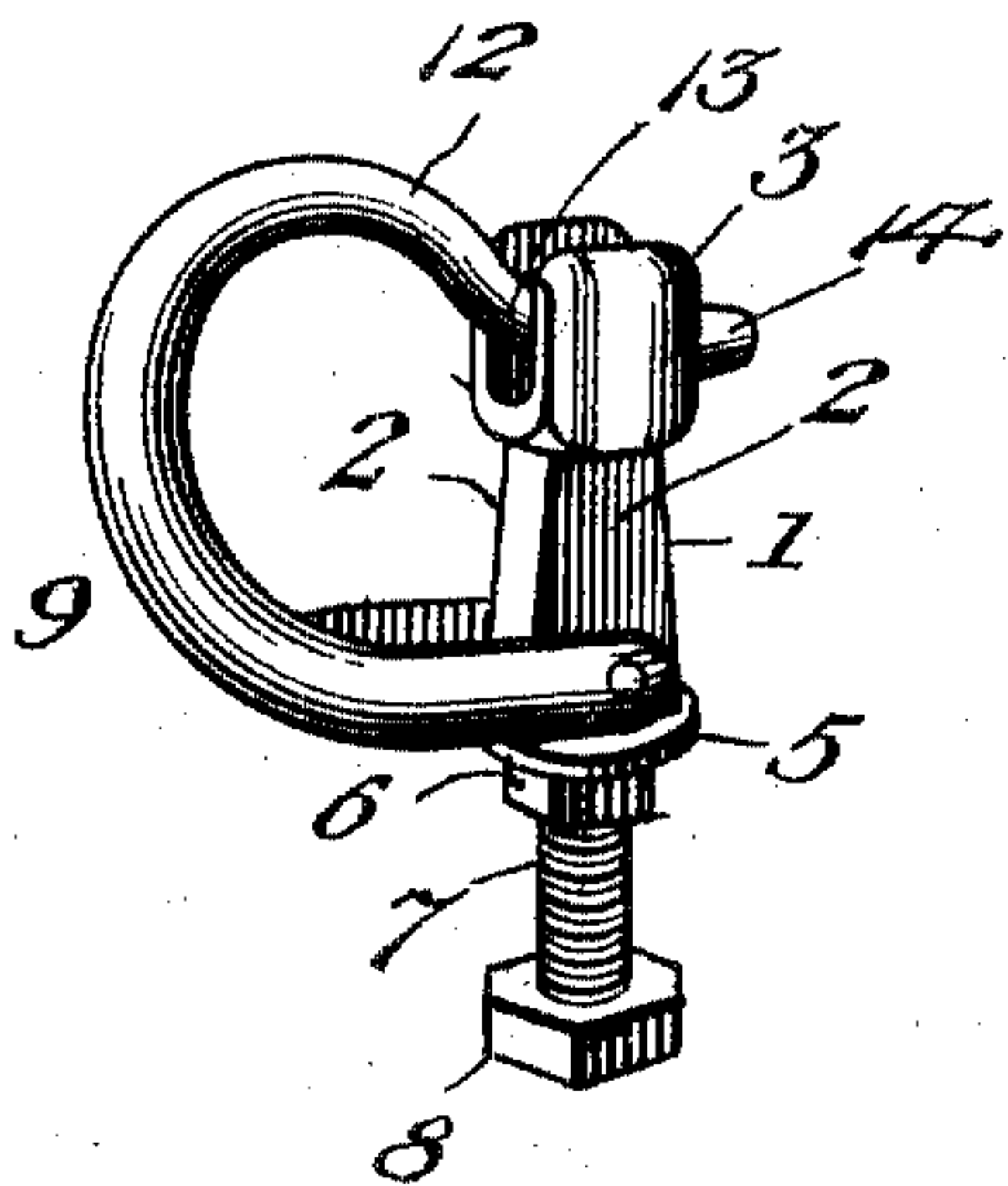
PATENTED DEC. 6, 1904.

C. I. HOEFFEL.  
CHECK HOOK.

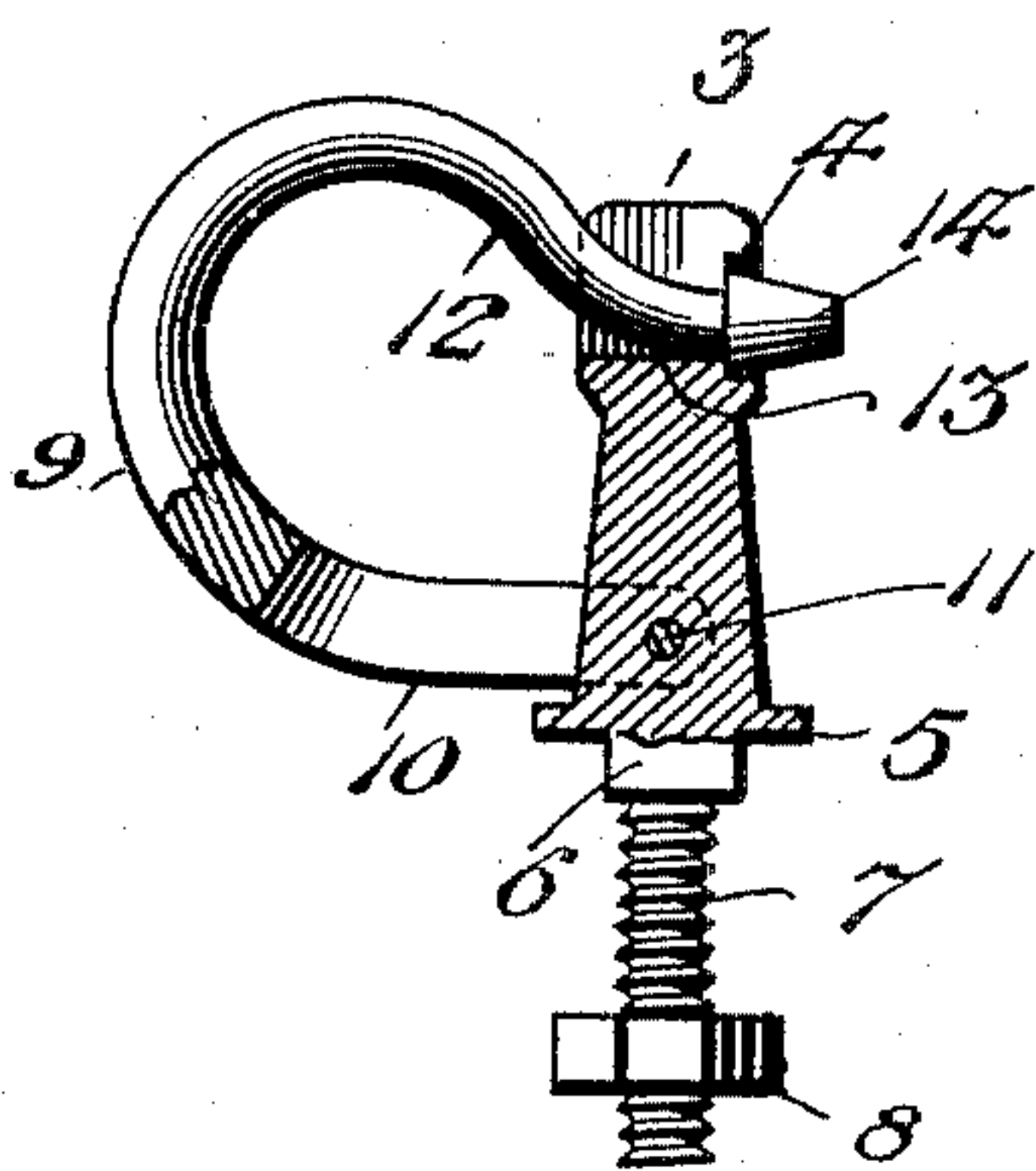
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 1, 1904.

NO MODEL.

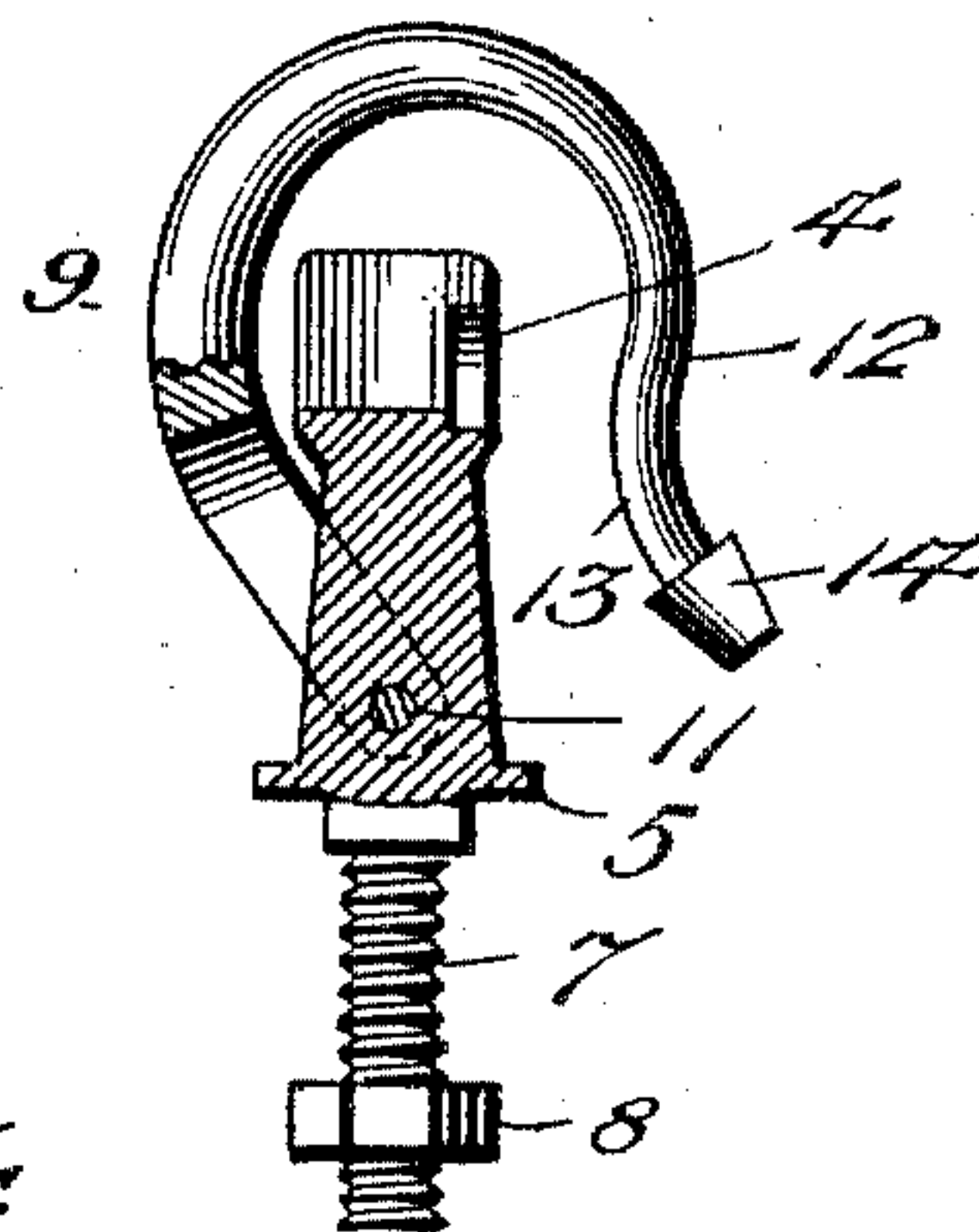
*Fig. 1.*



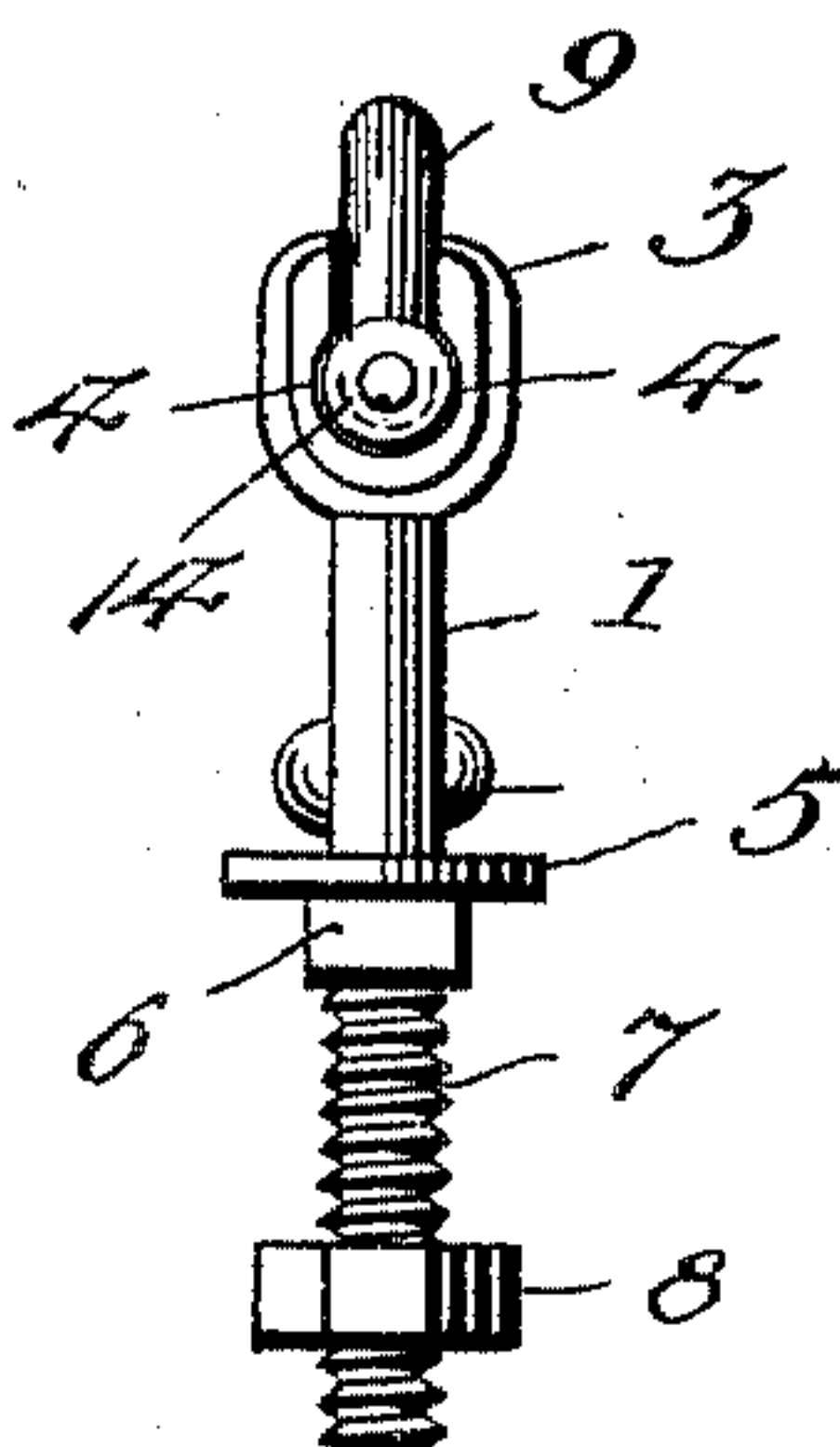
*Fig. 2.*



*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



Witnesses

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## UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## CHECK-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 776,909, dated December 6, 1904.

Application filed March 1, 1904. Serial No. 195,997. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES I. HOFFEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Defiance, in the county of Defiance and State of Ohio, have invented new and useful Improvements in Check-Hooks, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to check-hooks for use on gig-trees and harness-saddles; and the primary object of the same is to provide a simple and effective organization of elements, including a pivoted hook member, which may be readily operated to apply and release a checkrein, the device also having features of construction which will obstruct accidental disengagement of the rein therefrom.

The invention consists in the construction and arrangement of the several parts, which will be more fully hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a check-hook embodying the features of the invention and showing the hook closed. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the hook broken away in part and showing the hook member in closed position. Fig. 3 is a view similar to Fig. 2, showing the hook member open. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation of the hook.

Similar numerals of reference are employed to indicate corresponding parts in the several views.

The numeral 1 designates a post having opposite flat sides 2 and an upper longitudinally slotted or bifurcated head 3, with recesses 4 in the rear edges thereof extending downwardly into the base of the head to provide a curved seat for a purpose which will be presently set forth. At the lower terminal of the post 1 is a horizontal flange 5, from the center of which depends a squared or angular retaining member 6, continuous with a depending screw-shank 7, having a nut 8 thereon. A hook member 9 is attached to the post and formed with a lower bifurcated extremity 10, which embraces the flat sides 2 at the base of the post and is movably attached to the latter by a pivot-pin 11. The upper

extremity 12 of the hook member is curved downwardly and reduced, as at 13, to freely pass through the bifurcated head 3 and terminates in a rear shouldered enlargement 14 to engage the seat provided by the recess 4.

In opening the hook the hook member 9 is forced rearwardly and turns to disengage the shouldered enlargement 14 from the seat in the head 3 and also to cause said member to move over the head, as shown by Fig. 3, and establish an open space between the free extremity of the said member and the post for the insertion or withdrawal of a checkrein. After a checkrein has been placed in the hook member the latter will be forced forwardly, either by a manual operation or the tension exerted thereon by the checkrein, and the enlargement 14 will enter the seat-recess in the head 3. The checkrein will be free to move over the hook member in advance of the post, but cannot become accidentally detached no matter what the upward pressure exerted thereby on the upper extremity of the hook member may be; but when it is necessary to detach the checkrein the hook can be quickly operated to arrive at the result sought in the manner heretofore explained.

By having the shouldered enlargement 14 engage the seat-recess in the head 3 the upper reduced extremity of the hook member is reinforced and bending thereof resisted by the upward pressure on the checkrein thereagainst. Moreover, the pivot connection of the hook member is relieved of considerable strain by the use of the shouldered enlargement and the seat-recess when upward strain is exerted on the said member.

It will be understood that the improved checkrein may be applied to either a gig-tree or a harness-saddle, and the parts thereof may be suitably plated or otherwise ornamented. Suitable metal will be used in constructing the several parts, and the proportions and dimensions thereof may be varied at will.

Having thus fully described the invention, what is claimed as new is—



A check-hook, comprising a post formed at its upper end with a slot extending across the same, and with a seat formed at the sides and base of the slot near one end, and a hook member pivoted to the post, and curved upwardly and rearwardly in the plane of the slot, the free extremity of said hook being adapted to enter the slot on forcing the hook forwardly,

and provided with means for engaging said seat. 10

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

CHARLES I. HOEFFEL.

Witnesses:

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