No. 816,987. PATENTED APR. 3, 1906.

F. J. MARTIN.

DRAFT ATTACHMENT FOR HAMES.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 20, 1905.

Fig. 1.

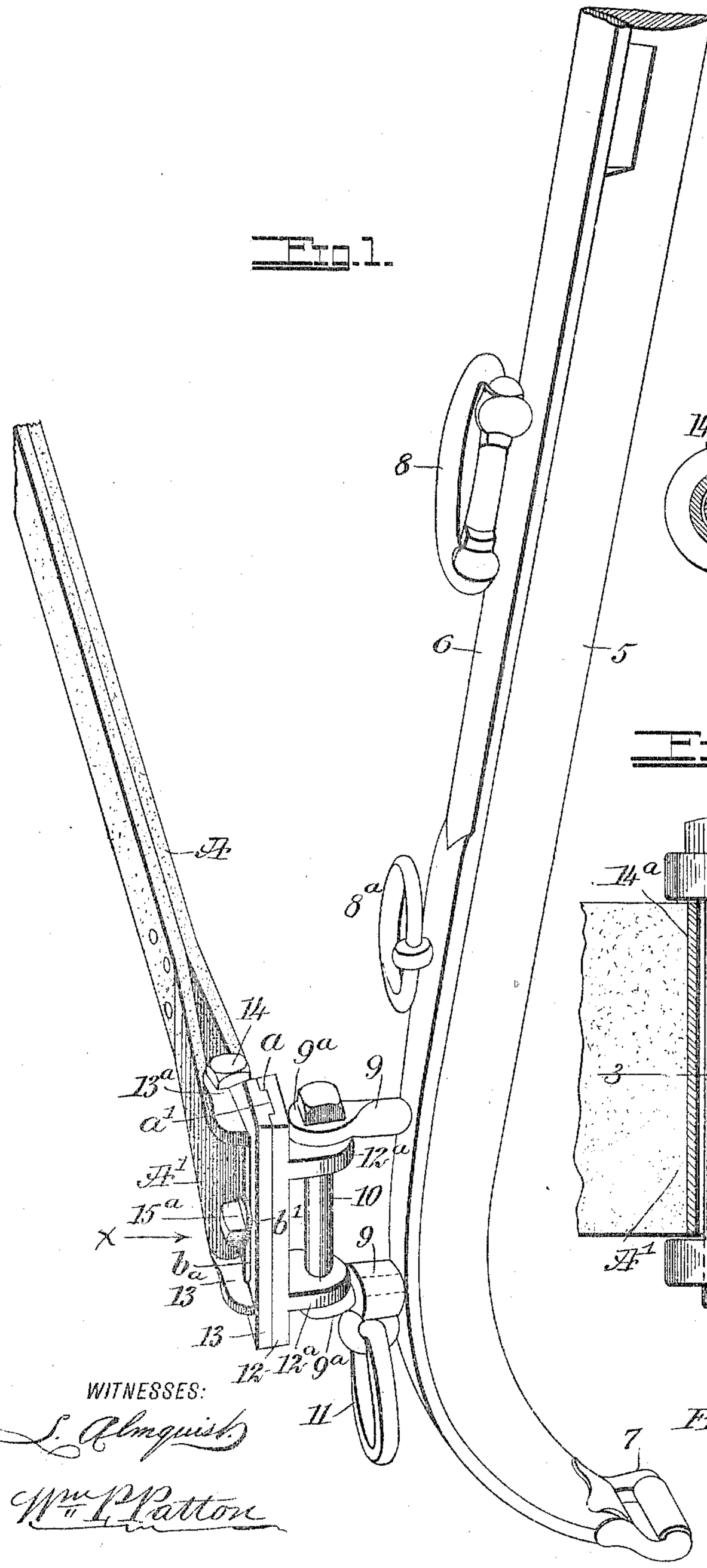


Fig. 3.

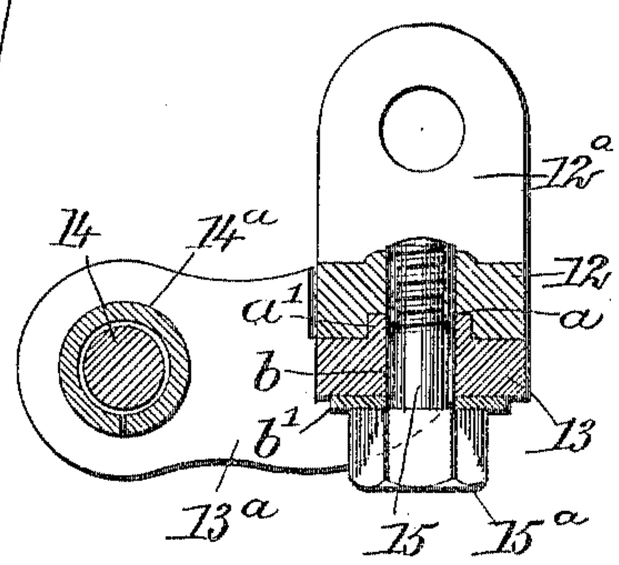
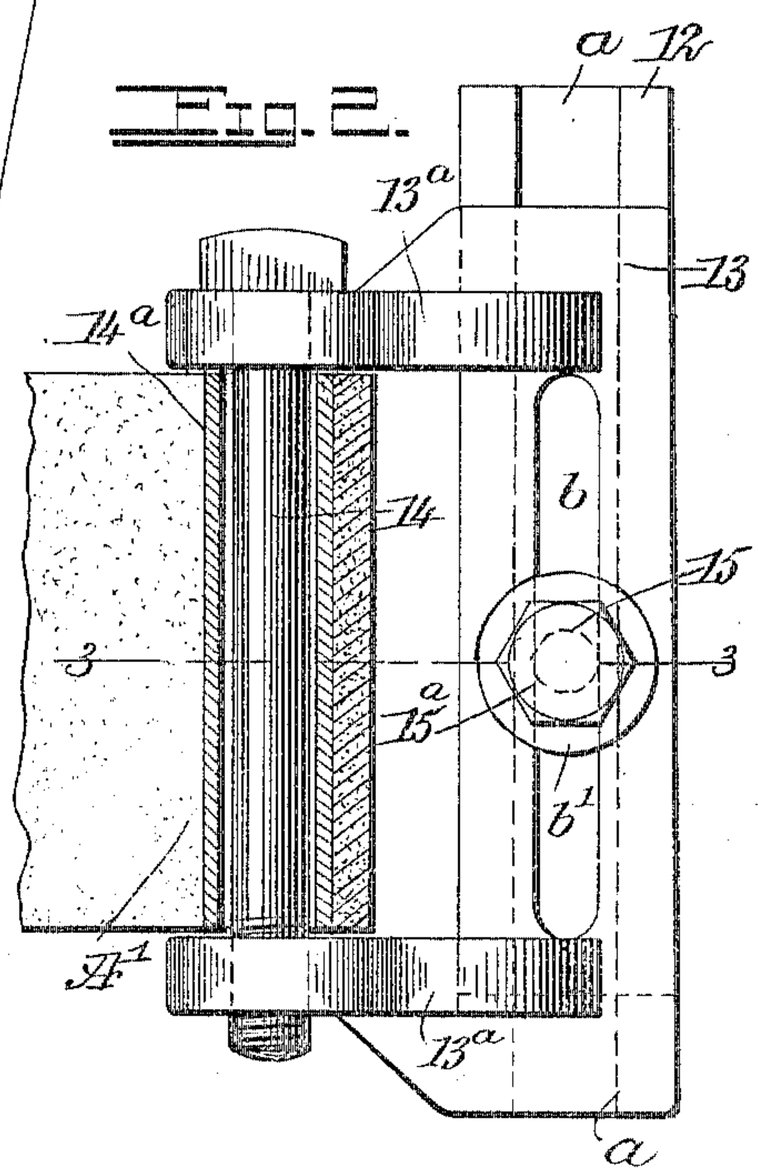


Fig. 2.



INVENTOR
Frederick J. Martin.

BY Munn & Co.

ATTORNEYS

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK J. MARTIN, OF PUTNEY, VERMONT.

DRAFT ATTACHMENT FOR HAMES.

No. 816,987. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented April 3, 1906.

Application filed June 20, 1905. Serial No. 266,096.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK J. MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Putney, in the county of Windham and State of Vermont, have invented a new and Improved Draft Attachment for Hames, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates more particularly to improved means for connecting the tug straps or ends of traces with the hames for heavy harness.

It is well known to harness-makers and horsemen that in animal-harness the point of draft strain should be at a proper distance above the strap connection between the lower ends of the harness, so that such strain is imposed upon the padding of the collar at a point that insures a proper pressure of the latter upon the shoulders of the draft-animal, and this point for imposing pressure varies in different animals. To enable a convenient change to be made and to adapt the harness for comfortable service, I have devised the improved attachment for connecting the front ends of tug-straps with the harness.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described, and defined in the appended claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved draft attachment mounted upon a hame and connecting a tug-strap therewith. Fig. 2 is an enlarged, partly-sectional, front view of the improved draft attachment seen in the direction of the arrow x in Fig. 1; and Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view substantially on the line 3 3 in Fig. 2.

In the drawings, which show the construction and application of the improvement, 5 indicates the main portion of one of a pair of hames having the usual form, made of hard wood, and reinforced on the front edge by a metal strap-plate 6, which is shaped as a clip at the lower end of the hame-body and holds a buckle-frame 7, loosely secured thereon, which in service is engaged by a strap connection that couples the lower ends of a pair of the hames together. The hame is furnished with the usual ring connections 8 and 8^a, that are loosely secured on the strap-plate 6 for an engagement therewith of portions of a leather harness, (not shown,) and as these details are not a portion of the invention a further description of the same is omitted.

While different means for mounting the improved draft attachment upon harness may be employed, it is here shown as loosely mounted upon the ordinary tug-strap connection that is affixed upon the hame 5, as shown in Fig. 1, and comprises the following details. Two eyebolts 9 9 are affixed in or upon the body 5 of the hame at a suitable distance above the buckle-frame 7, said bolts, which are spaced apart and disposed so that their eyes 9^a are alined, receiving in the latter a pintle-bolt 10, that is removably secured in place and ordinarily affords means for detachably connecting one end of a tug-strap with a hame. Furthermore, a breast-ring 11 is usually mounted loosely upon the lower eyebolt 9 for service in the ordinary way.

The improved means for loosely securing one end of a tug-strap, such as A, upon a hame, so as to rock freely, is constructed essentially as follows: A bracket-plate 12 is provided with two ears 12^a, which are projected from the same side thereof and spaced apart sufficiently to slide loosely between the adjacent faces of the ring-eyes 9^a, and in said ears alined perforations are formed, which receive the pintle-bolt 10, thus hinging the bracket-plate upon the eyebolts 9 9. In the face of the bracket-plate 12 opposite that whereon the ears 12^a are placed a longitudinal channel a is formed at its center of width. In the channel a is loosely fitted a flat tongue a', formed on the otherwise flat surface of one side of a complementary bracket-plate 13, from which project laterally two similar lugs 13^a, each having a perforation near its free end, these perforations in the lugs being axially alined. In the perforated lugs 13^a is secured a coupling-bolt 14, whereon is mounted a tubular lining-sleeve 14^a between the lugs 13^a, said sleeve serving as an antifriction roller or lining that engages the bight A′ of the looped end of a trace or tug-strap A.

In the bracket-plate 13 a longitudinal slot b is formed, wherein is loosely fitted a clamping-bolt 15, screwed into a threaded perforation in the bracket-plate 12, formed near its center of length, a washer b' being strung upon the clamping-bolt, so that its head 15^a will bear upon the washer when the bolt 15 is adjusted for clamping the bracket-plate 13 upon the bracket-plate 12.

It will be seen that by means of the improvement the draft strain from a pull on the tug-strap A will be at a normal point when the bracket-plate 13 is flush at its ends with corresponding ends of the bracket-plate 12. If, however, it is found necessary to alter the line of draft strain to either raise or lower it on the collar whereon the hames are mounted, this can be quickly and accurately effected by slackening the bolt 14 and slidably adjusting the bracket-plate 13 on the mating bracket-plate 12 to cause the line of draft to be positioned as the collar and draft-animal may require for a proper engagement of the collar with the shoulders of the beast, this point of adjustment being secured by a clamping adjustment of the coupling-bolt 14.

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

1. A hame attachment, comprising a bracket-plate, means for securing said plate on a hame, a mating bracket-plate having lugs thereon, means for holding the plate having the lugs adjusted endwise on the mating plate, and means for rockably securing the end of a tug-strap or the like upon the lugs.

2. A hame attachment, comprising a bracket-plate, having a channel formed longitudinally in one flat face, a mating bracket-plate having a tongue on one face, that loosely occupies said channel, means for holding the plates secured together and permitting longitudinal adjustment of one plate on the other, means for loosely connecting one of said bracket-plates with a tug-strap or the like, and means for securing the other bracket-plate on a hame.

3. The combination with a hame, a reinforcing metal strap-plate thereon, a pair of spaced eyebolts projected from the strap-plate and a pintle-bolt engaging the eyes of said bolts, of a bracket-plate grooved in one side and having ears projected from the other side thereof, said ears having perforations engaged by the pintle-bolt, a mating bracket-plate having a tongue engaging the groove and a longitudinal slot in the tongue and body of said plate, a clamping-bolt engaging the slot and screwing into the grooved bracket-plate, lugs projecting laterally from the slotted bracket-plate and having alined perforations therein, and a coupling-bolt passing through the lugs and engaging the looped end of a tug-strap.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

FREDERICK J. MARTIN.

Witnesses:
F. L. HOUGHTON,
A. J. AYER.