





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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DEVICE FOR LOADING AND UNLOADING RACKS FROM RUNNING-GEARS OF WAGONS.

No. 887,371.

Specification of Letters Patent.

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*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN H. ABRAMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Livingston, in the county of Park and State of Montana, have invented a new and useful Device for Loading and Unloading Racks from the Running-Gears of Wagons, of which the following is a specification.

This invention has relation to devices for loading and unloading racks or bodies from the running gears of wagons and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of its parts as hereinafter shown and described.

The object of the invention is to provide a device of the character indicated which is of a durable nature and simple construction and which may be operated with ease by the draft animals of the wagon in loading and unloading the rack when the wagon is drawn between the side members constituting the device.

In the accompanying drawing:—Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device for loading and unloading racks from the running gears of wagons. Fig. 2 is a side view of one of the supporting posts.

The device consists of two side members of like construction, therefore, a description of one will answer for both. Each side member consists of an upright or post 1 planted in the ground and provided at its upper end with a recess 2 and a guide strip 3 on its inner side. The guide strip 3 is bolted to the post below the recess and extends upwardly to the top of the post, converting the recess into an upwardly open slot. A block 4 is located at or near the lower end of the post 1 and is provided at its upper surface with a crotch 5. The beam 6 is located in the recess or notch 2 and is adapted to move longitudinally therein. The synclinal supports 7 are attached at their upper ends to the inner side of the beam 6 and come together in a point at their lower ends and rest in the crotch 5 of the block 4 on the inner side of which is fastened a guide strip 4<sup>a</sup> extending above the block 4 to overlap the lower ends of the supports 7. A pivot bolt 7<sup>a</sup> extends through the post 1, the lower ends of the supports 7 and the guide strip 4<sup>a</sup>. The braces 8 are attached at their upper ends to the opposite sides of the upper portion of the post 1. The lower ends of said braces are attached to the anchor posts 9 which are located on each side of the post 1. The braces 8 are provided upon their upper

edges with the ratchets 10 and the pawls 11 are pivoted at their upper ends to the beam 6 and are adapted to hang pendent and engage the ratchet 10 of the braces 8. A prop 12 is hinged to each end of the beam 6 and normally depends therefrom. The lower ends of the props rest on the top of posts 9 and hold the beam in horizontal position, but may be swung to one side when the beams are to be tilted.

The beams 6, 6 of the two side members are arranged parallel to each other and are spaced apart sufficiently to permit the running gear of a wagon to pass between them but are not sufficiently spaced apart to permit the rack carried by the running gear to pass between. Thus, when it is desired to unload the rack from the running gear the beams 6 are inclined toward the approaching wagon by swinging the props 12 from the descending ends of the beams. As the running gear passes between the said beams the rack is skidded or slid along the upper edges of the beams 6 which are provided with angular or curved wear-irons 13 which reduce the friction, and when the rack is wholly seated upon the beams and is in an inclined position the driver may step to the elevated end of the rack, whereby, his weight will cause the rack and the beams 6 to move into a horizontal position as the beams may rock with the supports 7, which in turn swing on the bolt 7<sup>a</sup> and in the crotches 5 of the block 4. When the beams 6 arrive at a horizontal position the pawls 11 engage the ratchets 10 and hold the beams in such position. During the swinging operation above described the wagon body has been slightly elevated with relation to the running gear and the driver may proceed through the side members of the device when the running gear will be removed from under the rack which is left perched upon the beams. The props 12, as soon as the beams reach a horizontal position, swing into place on the tops of the posts 9 and add a substantial means for holding the said beams in horizontal position. The wagon rack may be unloaded in this manner when it is filled, or partially filled, with hay and when in the elevated position as described may serve as a feed rack for stock. Thus, it will be seen that the unloading of the wagon rack is accomplished without manual exertion and is speedily performed with efficiency and precision.



Having described my invention what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters-Patent is:—

1. In a device of the character described,  
5 an upright having a guide at its upper end, a block located at the lower portion of the upright and having a crotch, a beam located in said guide, synclinal supports attached at their upper ends to said beam and resting at  
10 their lower ends in said crotch, braces attached at their upper ends to said upright and being provided with ratchets and pawls attached to said beam and adapted to engage said ratchets.

15 2. In a device of the character described, an upright having a guide at its upper end, a block located at the lower portion of said upright and having a crotch, synclinal supports

attached at their upper ends to said beam and having their lower ends located in said crotch, anchor posts located at opposite sides of the upright, braces attached at their upper ends to said upright and at their lower ends to the anchor posts and being provided with ratchets, pawls attached to the beam and adapted to engage the ratchets and supports for the beam pivotally attached to the ends thereof.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN H. ABRAMS.

Witnesses:

W. H. PETHYBRIDGE,  
RAY H. STEVENS.