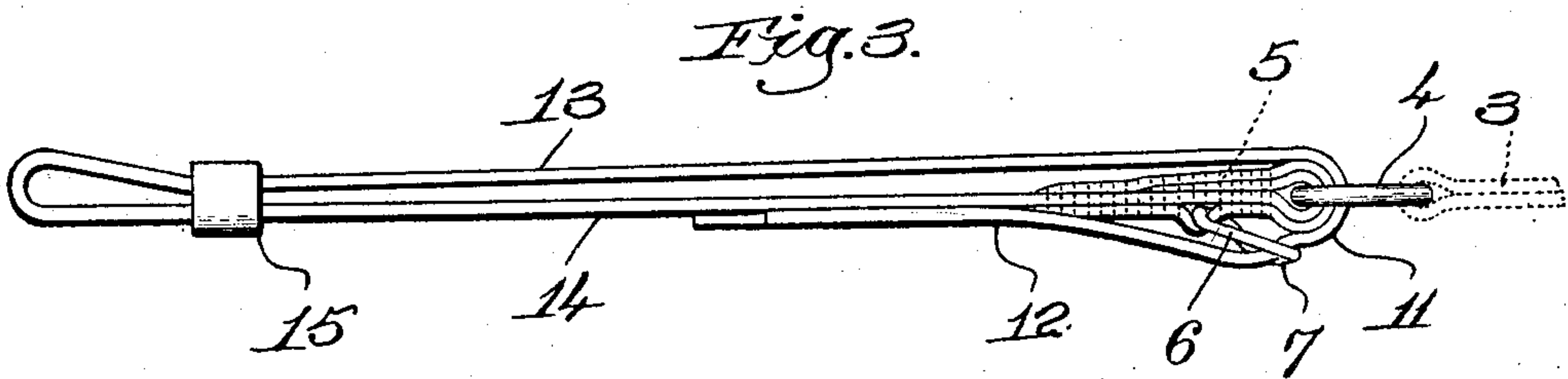
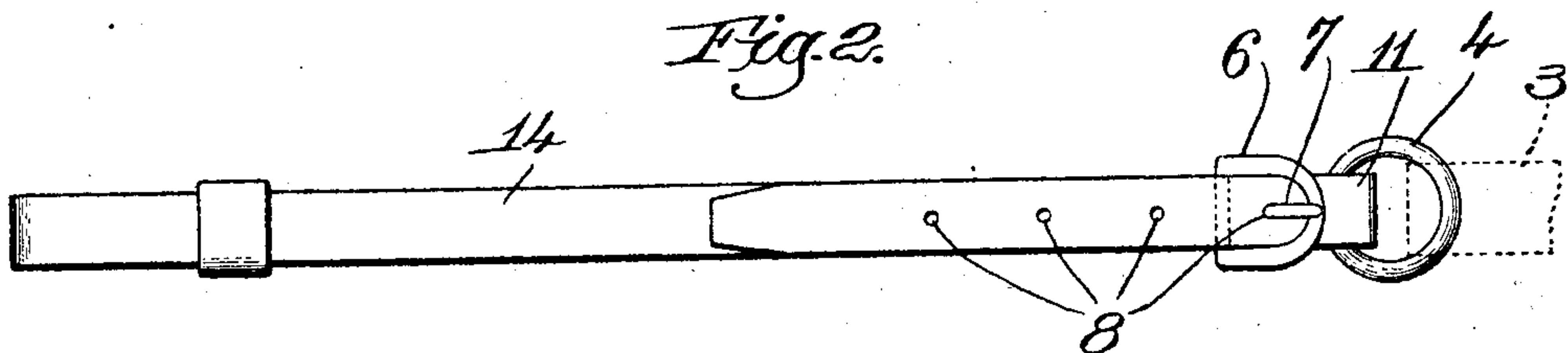
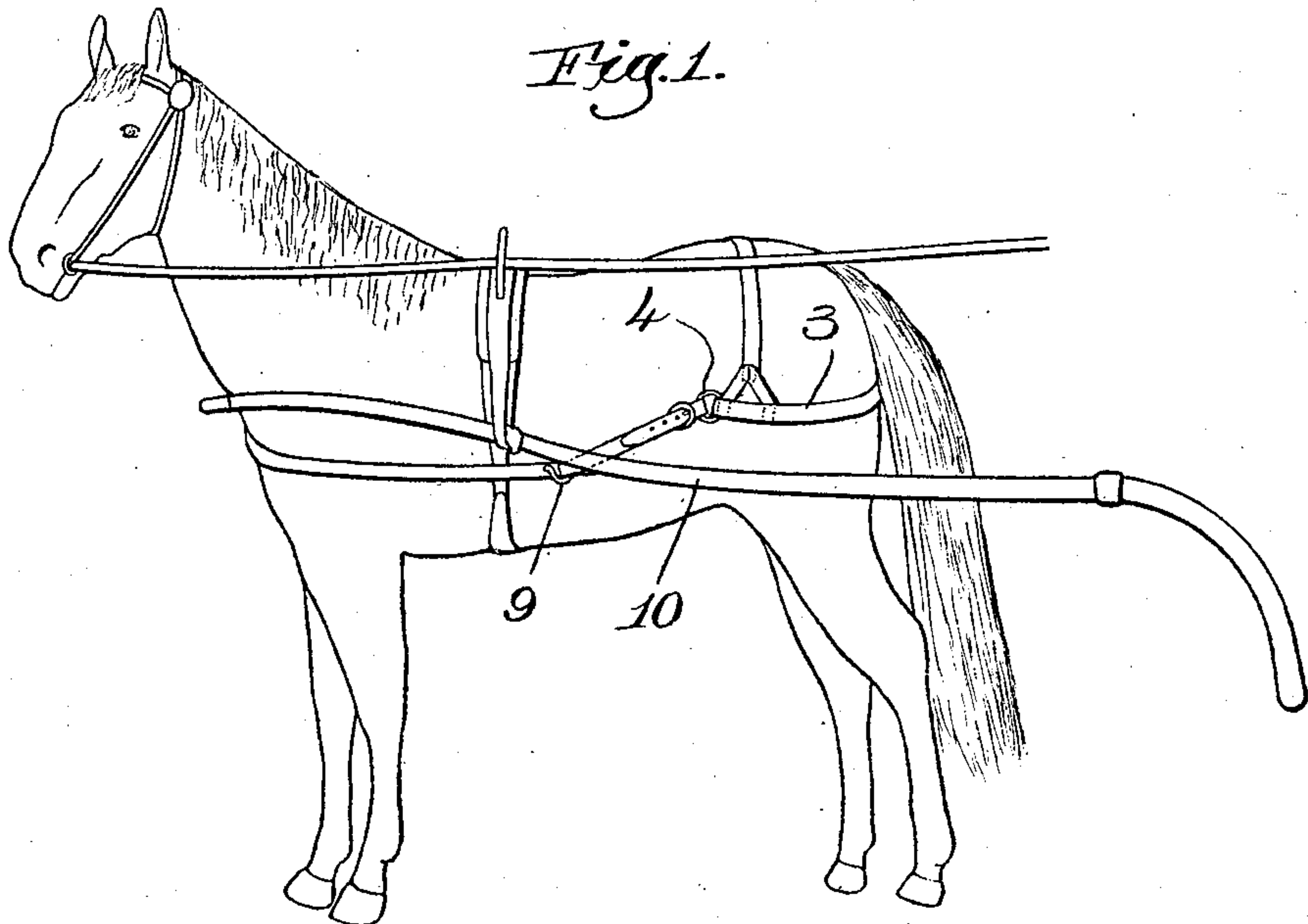


No. 897,557.

PATENTED SEPT. 1, 1908.

G. F. RICE.  
HOLDBACK OR BREECHING STRAP.  
APPLICATION FILED FEB. 26, 1908.



*Witnesses.*  
*Thomas J. Drummond.*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE F. RICE, OF HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

## HOLDBACK OR BREECHING STRAP.

No. 897,557.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Sept. 1, 1908.

Application filed February 26, 1908. Serial No. 417,811.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, GEORGE F. RICE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Holliston, county of Middlesex, and State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Holdback or Breeching Straps, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawing, is a specification, like letters on the drawing representing like parts.

This invention relates to harnesses and especially to the breeching strap or hold-back strap therefor. As harnesses are commonly made, these hold-back or breeching straps are looped through the ring carried by the breeching of the harness and have secured to one end thereof a buckle, said strap being looped about the shaft or shaft fastening and the end thereof being buckled to said buckle. With such a construction the entire strain on the strap comes on the buckle, and after a short time the straps are apt to crack across where the holes for the tongue of the buckle are, thus rendering the strap unsafe for use.

I have devised an improved hold-back or breeching strap which is so constructed that the buckle is subjected to comparatively little strain, and therefore the danger of the strap breaking at the point where the buckle is is greatly reduced.

Referring to the drawings, wherein I have shown one embodiment of my invention, Figure 1 is a view of a harnessed horse showing the harness as equipped with my improved breeching strap; Fig. 2 is an enlarged front view of the breeching strap; Fig. 3 is an edge view thereof.

The harness herein illustrated is provided with the usual breeching 3 which carries the usual ring 4 to which the hold-back or breeching strap is secured. A breeching strap embodying my invention has one end thereof secured to the ring 4, and in the preferred embodiment of my invention the breeching strap will be permanently secured to the ring by having the end of the strap looped through the ring and doubled back on itself and sewed to the body of the strap, as at 5 Fig. 3. My improved breeching strap has also secured thereto a buckle 6, said buckle

being preferably sewed to the outer side of the breeching strap in such a manner that the tongue 7 thereof is directed toward the ring 4. The other end of the breeching strap is free and is provided with the usual holes 8 for receiving the tongue of the buckle.

In using my improved breeching strap the strap is doubled on itself and either looped about the shaft 10 or passed through the usual holder 9 secured to the shaft and then said strap is passed through the ring 4, as at 11, and the end 12 thereof is buckled to the buckle 6. Where the breeching is thus constructed and is applied as shown in the drawings, the strain thereon comes directly on the ring 4 and the strain which comes on the buckle 6 is very small. The entire strain to which the hold back is subjected is distributed between the two sides 13 and 14 thereof, and only a small part of the strain to which the side 13 is subjected is received by the buckle 6 owing to the manner in which the end of the strap is passed through the ring 4. There is, therefore, very little danger that the strap will break at any one of the holes 8 because even if after considerable use the strap becomes cracked at this point the strain to which it is subjected will not be sufficient to cause the strap to break.

If desired the breeching strap may be provided with the sliding loop 15 which may be used for holding the end 12 of the strap from flapping.

It is not essential to my invention that the buckle should be secured to the body of the strap in the manner herein shown, it only being necessary that the buckle should be carried by the strap between the point where it is secured to the ring 4 and the point where it loops about the shaft 10 or holder 9. My invention may also be embodied in pole-straps or guy-straps, such as are used in a double harness, such pole-straps or guy-straps being in fact hold-backs.

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

In a harness, the combination with a breeching having a breeching ring, of a breeching strap secured at one end to said ring and having a buckle secured to said



breeching strap on its outer side with the tongue thereof directed toward the breeching ring, said breeching strap being doubled on itself to form a loop to engage the shaft or  
5 holder and the end of said strap being passed through the breeching ring and secured to the buckle.

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

GEORGE F. RICE.

Witnesses:

LOUIS C. SMITH,  
BERTHA F. HEUSER.