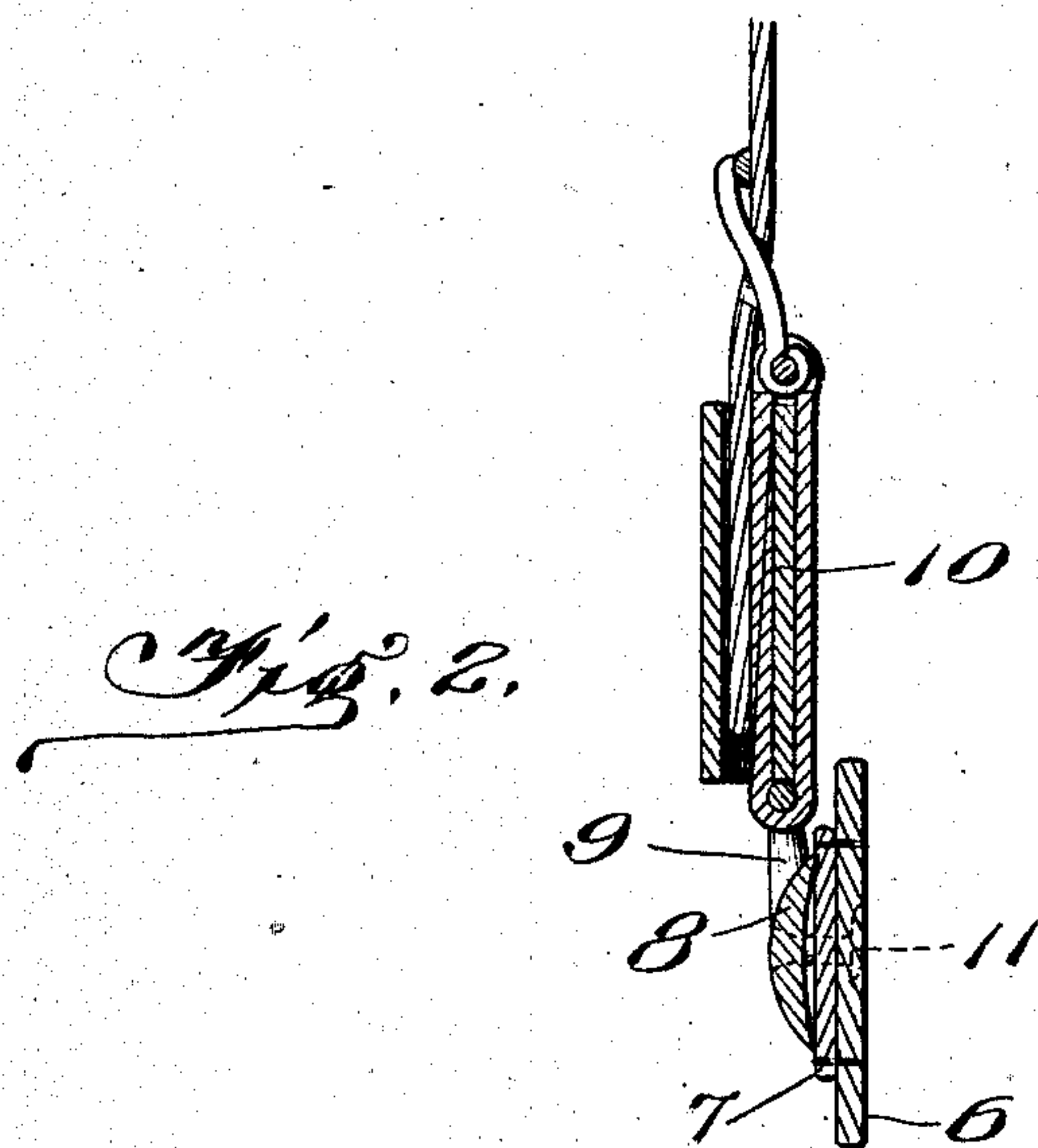
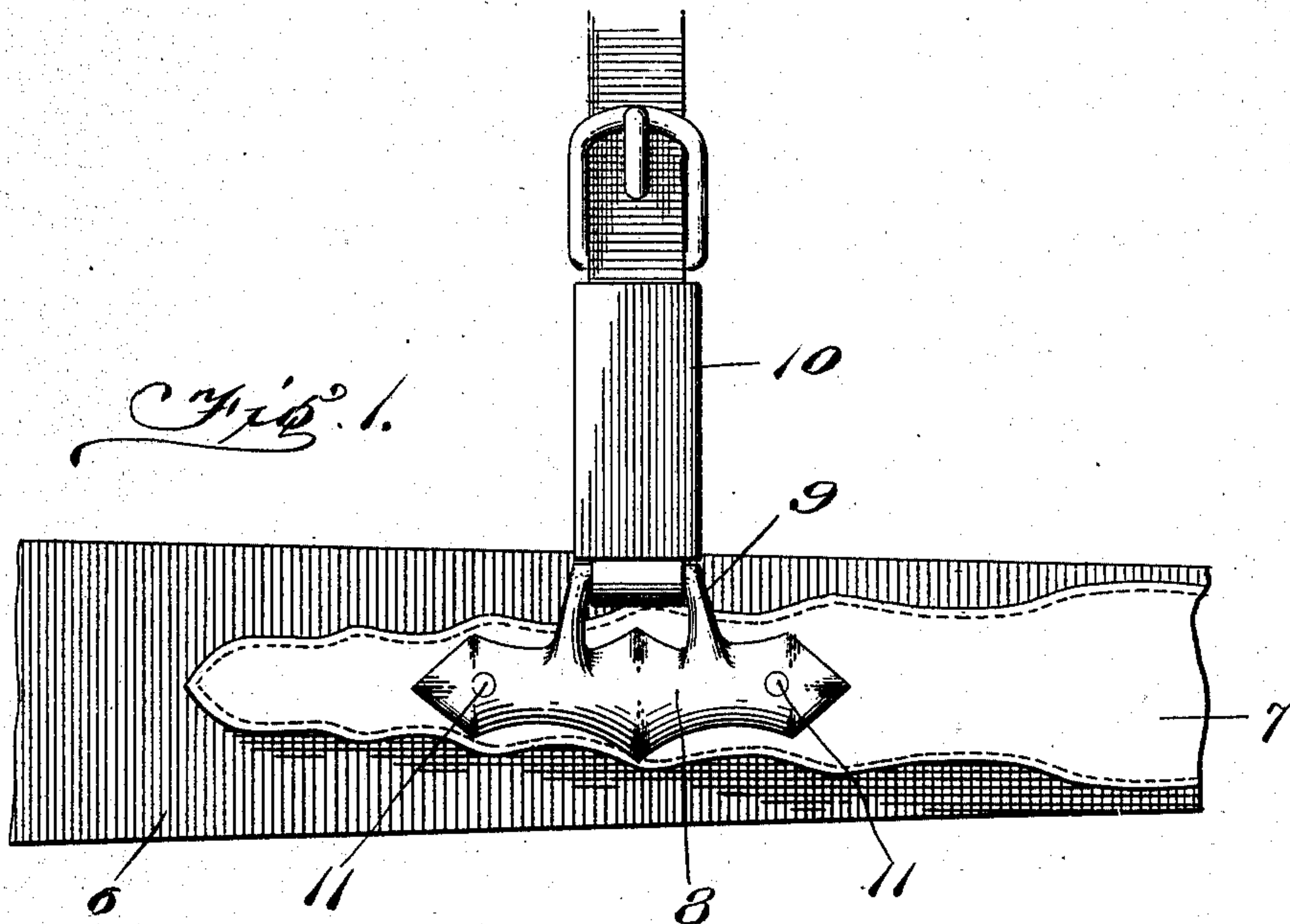


E. J. HOFFMAN.  
BREAST STRAP AND NECK STRAP CONNECTION.  
APPLICATION FILED MAR. 8, 1909.

924,780.

Patented June 15, 1909.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. HOFFMAN, OF HAMPTON, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-THIRD TO GLADFELTER E. SPOTZ AND ONE-THIRD TO JOHN P. MYERS, BOTH OF HAMPTON, PENNSYLVANIA.

## BREAST-STRAP AND NECK-STRAP CONNECTION.

No. 924,780.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented June 15, 1909.

Application filed March 8, 1909. Serial No. 481,953.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. HOFFMAN, citizen of the United States, residing at Hampton, in the county of Adams and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Breast-Strap and Neck-Strap Connections, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to devices for securing neck straps to breast straps or the like, and has for its object to provide an improved device for the purpose stated having advantages and novelties as will more fully appear from the following description and the drawings.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of the connecting device as applied. Fig. 2 is a vertical section thereof.

Referring specifically to the drawings, 6 indicates the breast strap which may be either single or double. The end of the tug 7 is stitched to this strap, as usual. The connecting device consists of a longitudinally extending plate 8 with a square loop 9 formed integral therewith and projecting from the upper edge thereof at or about the middle of the longitudinal plate. The neck strap is attached to this loop by means of a short strap and buckle 10.

The plate is connected to the breast strap by means of rivets 11 which extend through the ends of the plate and also through the end of the tug and the end of the breast strap, whereby they are all fastened together securely.

The plate and loop are made in one piece, connected to the leather parts, and consequently rattling is avoided. By making the loop 9 square at the top, where the neck strap is connected, the latter is held to its place so that it cannot slip back on the neck of the horse and cause the breast collar to get out of place in driving. The metal parts cannot rub the horse and the fastening devices are exposed so that any looseness or breakage can be instantly detected. The rivets which attach the plate in place also

connect the tug or trace to the breast strap, which is of decided advantage, because if the stitches which connect the trace and the breast strap break or wear out, as they are apt to do in time, the parts will nevertheless be held together by the rivets.

The device avoids the use of rings, which are objectionable, inasmuch as they allow the neck strap to swing back out of place, and they also rattle and the movement tends to wear out the leather parts to which they are connected.

I am aware that loops have been provided, as in Patents 124,996 and 302,510, which are inserted between the trace and the breast strap, and sewed or otherwise fastened in place, but these are defective and dangerous, inasmuch as they work up and down and time will cut through the threads and come out, thereby allowing the breast strap to drop, with unfortunate consequences in many cases.

With respect to safety the device herein claimed is superior to any devices which are attached by sewing; also to devices made up of several parts and having rings, as in Patent No. 295,642, which rings will rattle and eventually pull out and also wear out the neck strap or its connection. Besides, the present device being made in one piece is cheaper to make and easier to attach than devices made in several pieces which have to be assembled.

I claim:

The combination of a breast strap, a trace sewed thereto, a connecting plate placed on the outer side of the trace and having an integral loop at the upper edge thereof for attachment of a neck strap, and fastening devices extending through the plate, strap and trace.

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

EDWARD J. HOFFMAN.

Witnesses:

CURTIS V. CHRONISTER,  
JOHN P. MYERS.