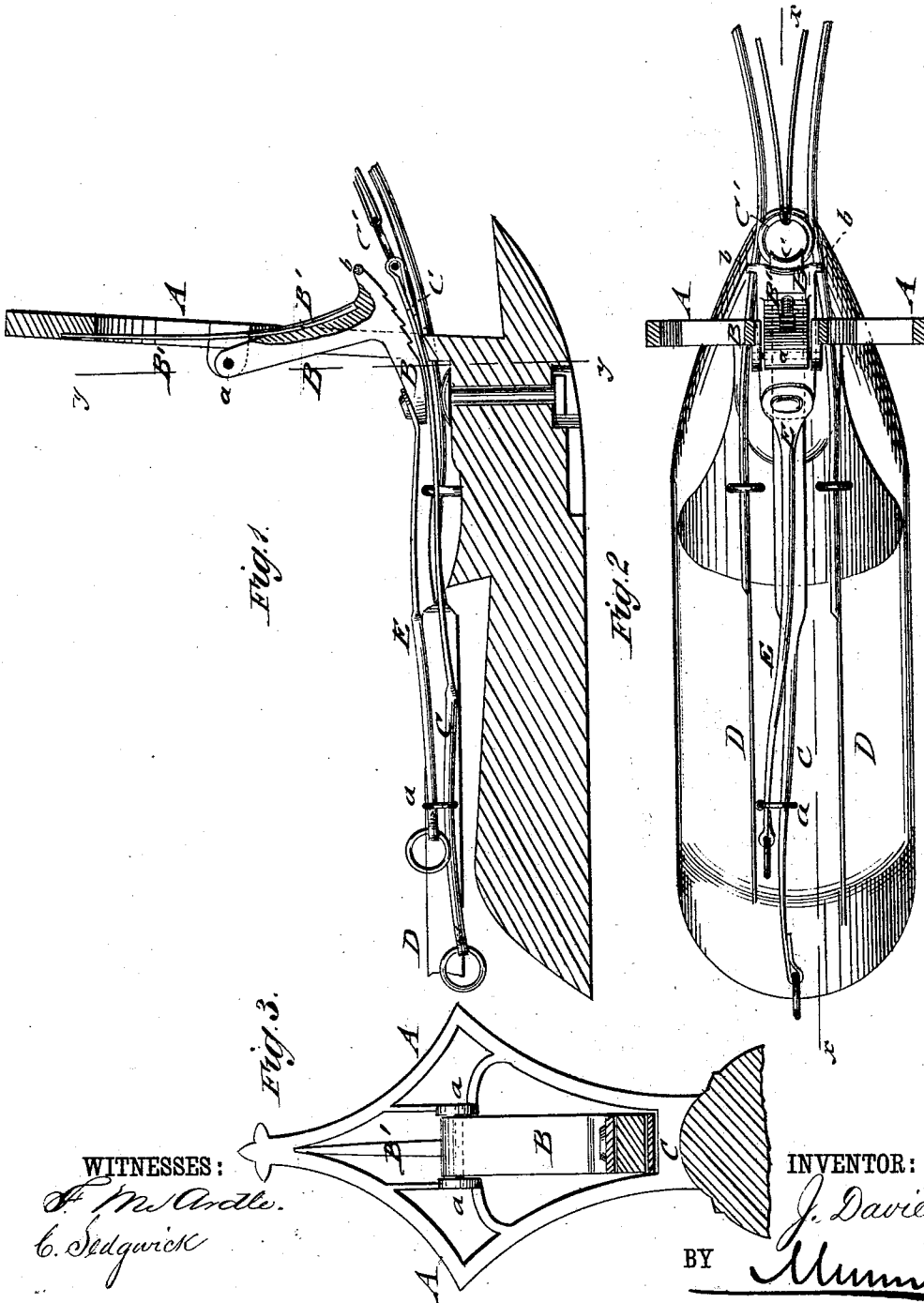


J. DAVIES.
 Checking Device for Horses.

No. 207,397.

Patented Aug. 27, 1878.



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JOSHUA DAVIES, OF MUSKEGON, MICHIGAN.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHECKING DEVICES FOR HORSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **207,397**, dated August 27, 1878; application filed June 24, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSHUA DAVIES, of Muskegon, in the county of Muskegon and State of Michigan, have invented a new and improved Check Device for Horses, of which the following is a specification:

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 represents a vertical longitudinal section of my improved check device for horses on line *x x*, Fig. 2; Fig. 2, a plan view; and Fig. 3, a vertical transverse section of the same on line *y y*, Fig. 1.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts.

This invention is designed to furnish for horses an improved adjustable check by which the head of the horse may be retained at any point and checked or unchecked with great facility from the driver's seat.

The horse may be unchecked by this device at any moment, for watering or stopping, without getting down from the vehicle, and less fatigued than with the old style of check.

The invention consists of a swinging and spring-acted eccentric clamp or stop, with grooved or fluted face, that is pivoted to an upright bracket or frame of the saddle or gig of the harness. The clamp or stop acts on a single check-line, that is connected by a ring to the common check-rein of the bridle. The single check-rein is extended back and guided, together with a line attached to the rear part of the clamp, along a ring or loop of one of the reins, to be readily taken hold of from the driver's seat. The clamp has projecting front stops, that prevent too great a strain on the spring.

Referring to the drawings, A represents an upright bracket or frame, that is attached to the saddle or gig-tree of a harness, in any approved manner, in place of the common check-rein hook. To bearings of the bracket or frame A is hung, by a pivot, *a*, a swinging eccentric stop or clamp, B, that is acted upon by a strong band-spring, B', attached to the stop and bearing on the bracket, so as to force the stop in forward direction.

The face portion of the eccentric-clamp B is fluted, grooved, or toothed, so as to press on a single check-line, C, and retain it rigidly

against forward strain, but admit the easy backward pulling of the line C.

The single check-line C is connected, by a ring, C', or other attachment, to the usual check-rein of the bridle, which is, however, made shorter when it is used in connection with single line C.

The bridle-rein slides freely on the ring of the single check-line C, which latter is extended back below the clamp, and along one of the driving-lines D far enough to be operated from the buggy-seat. The single check-line C is retained along the driving-line by being passed through a ring or loop, *a*, of the same.

A second line, E, is attached to the lower rear end of the swinging eccentric-stop B, and also passed back through the ring *a*, along the driving-line, and made long enough to be operated from the driver's seat, both the single check-line and stop-line being made long enough to allow the driving-lines to be drawn up without drawing on the single check and stop lines.

By drawing on the single check-line the head of the horse is raised to any desired point, and then retained at this point by the toothed eccentric-stop. The horse may be unchecked at any moment, for watering or when stopping, by pulling back the eccentric-stop, by drawing its line, so that the single check-line may be freely drawn forward by the horse.

The front end of the clamp B is provided with projecting side stops, *b*, that bear on the bracket when the clamp is drawn back entirely, so as to prevent the drawing too hard on the stop in unchecking and injuring the spring.

This check device admits the instant and convenient adjustment of the horse's head from the carriage, so that he may carry his head high or low, as desired, and may be relieved from unnecessary strain when it is desired to rest the horse during driving or when stopping. The check is therefore lighter on the horse and more convenient for the driver.

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

1. In a checking device for horses, the swing-

ing eccentric B, combined with the auxiliary check-rein C, to hold it at any point of adjustment, as shown and described.

2. In a check device for horses, the swinging and spring-acted eccentric clamp or stop, having side projecting stops at the front end, in combination with the supporting bracket or

frame, to prevent the stop from being drawn back too far, so as to injure its spring, substantially as set forth.

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Witnesses:

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