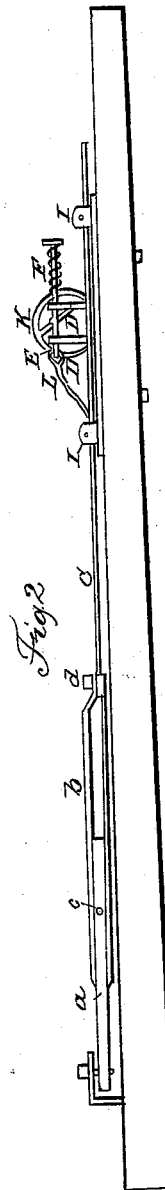
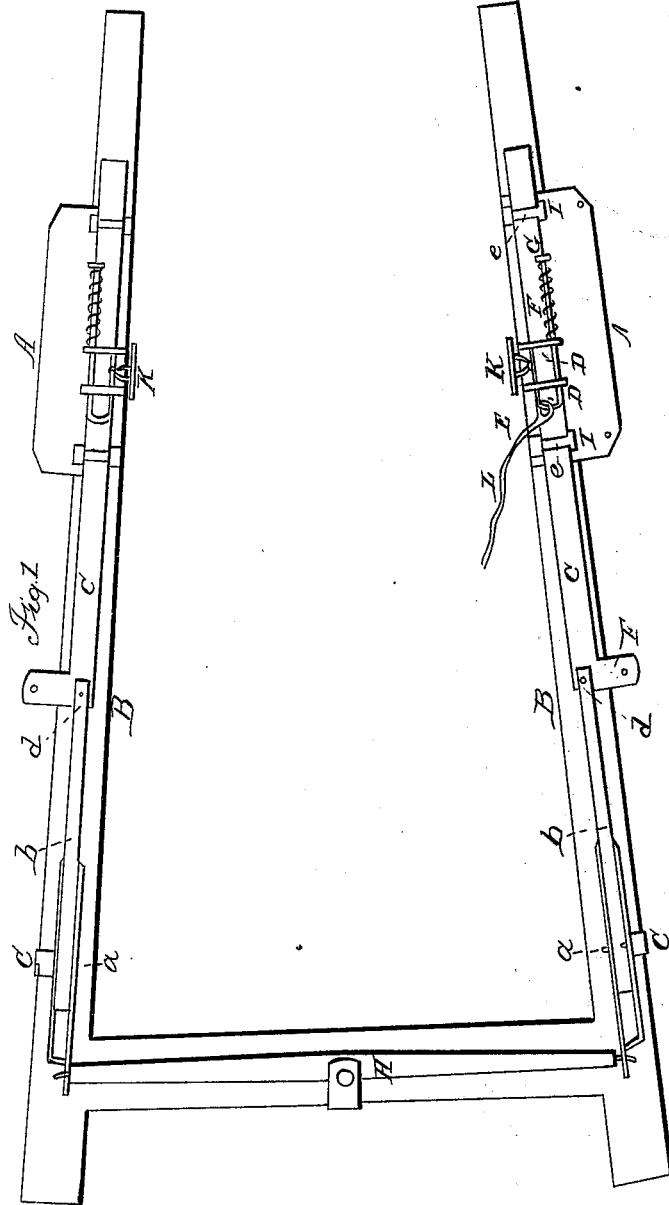


E. MYERS.
Detaching Horses.

No. 5,055.

Patented Apr. 10, 1847.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ECKERT MYERS, OF NEW HOLLAND, PENNSYLVANIA.

DETACHING HORSES FROM CARRIAGES.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 5,055, dated April 10, 1847.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ECKERT MYERS, of New Holland, in the county of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in the Mode for Detaching Horses from Vehicles, which I designate as "Myers's Safety-Traces;" and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification, of which—

Figure 1 is a plan or top view. Fig. 2 a side view.

To enable others skilled in the art to make and use my invention, I will proceed to describe its construction and operation.

Near the ends to a pair of shafts made in the usual manner and on the top thereof I screw two (2) metallic plates A A the purpose of which will be hereinafter described. I then proceed to make the traces B B which are constructed in the following manner. Each trace consists of three (3) pieces and the lower portion of which is formed of two (2) oblong links *a, b* of wrought or other metal; the links *b b* capable of moving freely in the links *a, a*. Midway of the links *a, a* or thereabout is a pin or bolt C to serve as a stop for the lower ends of the links *b, b*. The remaining part of each of the traces is formed of a flat bar of metal *c* and connected with the links *b, b*, by a pin or bolt *d*. On this last mentioned portion of the traces are fixed firmly two (2) uprights D, D, or thin metal plates a short distance apart. These uprights have two (2) holes drilled through each of them near the top for the admission of a spring-bolt E which is constructed in the following manner. A cylindrical bar of metal sufficient in length for the purpose is bent or curved after the manner of a common staple but having the inner end shorter than the end next the outside of the shaft. Around the long end of this bolt is wound a helical spring F connected with the upright nearest the end of the shaft and also with a nut or head G on the end of the bolt. I then attach the traces to the swingle-tree H and place them along on the top of the shafts and metallic plates A A hereinbefore de-

scribed. Near the ends of these plates and on either side of the flat metallic bar composing a portion of the traces are raised guides I, I between which are rollers *e, e*, in contact with the bar. The spring bolt is then withdrawn and a ring K is placed upon the bolt between the uprights by means of a loop fixed to the ring and is prevented from slipping off by the force of the spring drawing the shorter end of the bolt through the inner aperture of the front upright. To the curved part of the bolt is attached a cord L which is carried by any convenient arrangement within reach of the driver. To the ring placed upon the bolt is attached the harness. The metallic plates screwed or fastened on the top and near the front end of the shaft are left wider than the shaft for the purpose of regulating the width of the traces to suit the size of the horse and can be so modified by slipping the plates nearer the horse and fastened by screws or bolts passing through the holes made in the plate for that purpose. The bolt *d* is also shifted to the holes *f f* which are made in the ends of the flat bar for that purpose.

When it is necessary to detach the horse the cord L is pulled which withdraws the bolt E and allows the ring K to which the harness is attached to escape and suffers the horse to move out clear of all entanglement. By means of the sliding links the length of the traces is regulated in accordance with the character of the ground over which the horse is driven. The traces can be regulated by slipping out the bolt C to suit the length of the horse.

What I claim as my invention and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

1. Adjusting the traces to suit the size of the horse by means of shifting the metallic plates A A and bolts *d, d* in the manner herein described.

2. I also claim in combination the ring to which the harness is attached with the spring bolt E and cord L arranged and operated in the manner and for the purpose herein set forth.

ECKERT MYERS,

Witnesses:

L. C. DORM,
J. T. WALKER,