(No Model.)

S. W. DAY.

REIN HOLDER.

No. 265,307. Patented Oct. 3, 1882.

Fig. 1.

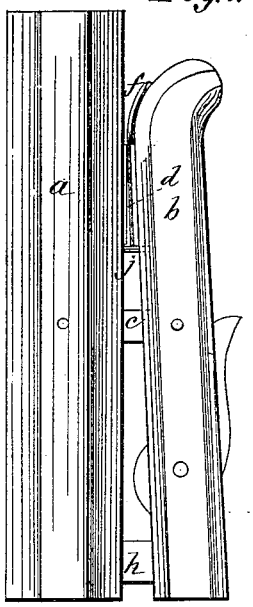


Fig. 3.

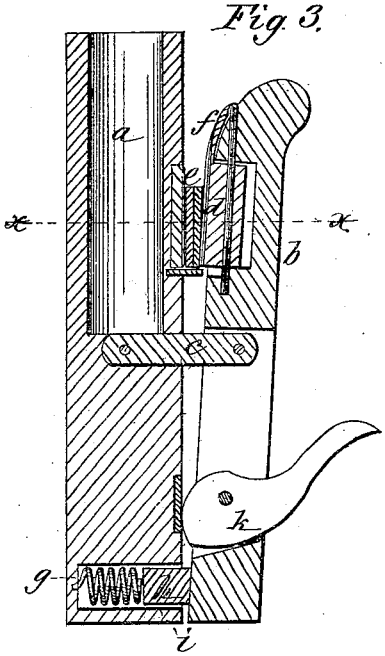


Fig. 6.

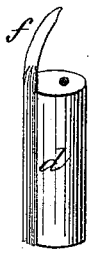


Fig. 7.

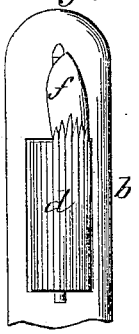


Fig. 2.

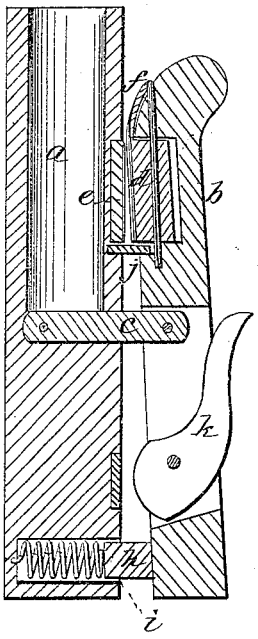


Fig. 8.

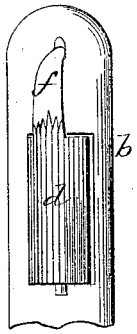


Fig. 4.

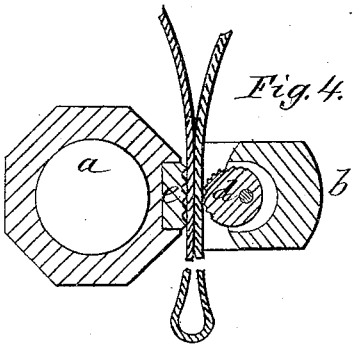
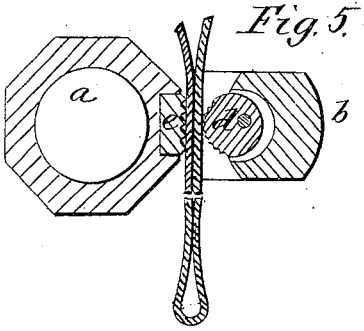


Fig. 5.



Witnesses:
Edmund Brodhag
Philip F. Larned

Inventor:
pro Sherwood W. Day,
Johnson and Johnson

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SHERWOOD W. DAY, OF OTTAWA, KANSAS.

REIN-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 265,307, dated October 3, 1882.

Application filed January 16, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SHERWOOD W. DAY, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ottawa, in the county of Franklin and State of Kansas, have invented new and useful Improvements in Rein-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

The object of my improvement is to provide a device for holding the reins secure during the temporary absence of the driver from the vehicle-seat, holding the horse or team as if the driver were in his place, and thus lessen the danger of running away. An effective hold for the reins by a device of simple construction is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, and the specific improvement therein shown will be made the subject of distinct claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 represents an elevation of the rein-holding device when not in use; Fig. 2, a vertical section of the same; Fig. 3, a similar view, the reins being shown in position to be held by the device. Figs. 4 and 5 are horizontal sections on the line *x x* of Fig. 3, and Fig. 6 shows the eccentric and its shield.

The rein-holder is preferably attached to the whip-socket *a*, and when thus used the latter is formed of suitable material to give proper support to the rein-holder, and may be secured to the dash-frame or to the seat of the vehicle. A gripping-arm, *b*, is pivoted at or near the middle of its length upon a bearing-arm, *c*, projecting from the whip-socket or other support. The upper end of the gripping-arm *b* has a recess, within which is fitted an eccentric gripping-roller, *d*, so as to project beyond the inner face of said gripping-arm, such projecting part being serrated, and has a position adjacent to a serrated plate, *e*, set in the side of the whip-socket or part to which said gripping-arm is pivoted. Preferably the gripping-arm is arranged to front the driver, and its upper end is curved toward him, and the gripping-roller is formed with a bearing, *f*, which, rising from its upper end, lies over and close upon the inner curved surface of said gripping-arm, so as to form a shield for the roller and give a free entrance for the reins to the gripping-surfaces. This curved bearing *f* also serves another important function, which will be presently stated. The gripping-arm *b* is pivoted at or near the middle of its length for two purposes: first, to obtain the action of a spring, *g*, upon its lower end to produce a constant pressing force of the upper end of said gripping-arm upon the serrated plate *e* to hold the reins, and, second, to provide a rigid connection of the lower end of the gripping-arm with its rigid support, whereby to brace said gripping-arm laterally against the pull of the reins. As shown, a projection, *h*, on the lower end of said gripping-arm enters a recess, *i*, in the whip-socket and gives the required lateral support to the pivoted arm, the recess serving also to hold the spring *g*, so as to act upon the projection *h* to give the holding force to the gripping-arm. Were it not for this foot-brace of the pivoted arm, the pull of the reins would be liable to twist said arm from its pivoted connection.

In inserting the reins into gripping-surfaces they are placed upon the curved bearing *f*, and, drawing the lines in upon said bearing, they will cause the roller to turn so as to let the reins enter freely. Then a slight forward pull of the reins will cause the roller to turn so as to produce its eccentric binding force upon the reins. The inward-drawing action of the lines upon the curved bearing *f* turns the roller automatically to receive the lines as they are being entered in the holder, so that the eccentric roller does not require to be turned by hand in position to receive the lines. A pin, *j*, projecting from the pivoted arm, or the part to which said arm is pivoted, forms the bottom of the space within which the reins are held and a stop to limit the downward thrust of the reins in forcing them between the gripping-surfaces. For the purpose of assuring the grip of the holding-arm upon the reins, a tightening cam-lever, *k*, is used to supplement the force of the spring. This lever *k* is pivoted within a slot in the gripping-arm at or near its lower end in a manner to be actuated against the whip-socket or other support, so as to increase the pressure of the upper end of said arm upon the reins. The tightening-lever is preferably pivoted to the gripping-arm; but it may be pivoted to the support to which said arm is pivoted, so as to act auxiliary to the spring. In Fig. 3 the lever is shown in position to supplement the pressure of the spring, as described.

It is obvious that the tightening-lever may

be dispensed with, and that the spring may be such as to give the required holding force to the pivoted arm.

The device may be made of any suitable material, and arranged as stated or otherwise.

The gripping-surfaces are held in contact under the force of the spring, and thus prevent rattling when the device is not used. The shield *f* of the eccentric *d* acts against the gripping-arm *b* and forms a stop to limit the turning of the eccentric as the reins are drawn in and then gripped, as shown in Figs. 7 and 8, in which the function of the stop is shown in both positions to limit the turning of the eccentric. As the gripping-arm yields when inserting the reins, the wear upon the leather is lessened.

I claim—

1. The combination of the pivoted arm *b*, having the projection *h*, and the eccentric gripping-roller *d*, formed with a curved extension, *f*, carried by said arm, with a socketed or other support having the recess *i*, the fixed gripping-plate *e*, the spring *g*, and the stop *j*, substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

2. In a rein-holder, the combination, with pivoted gripping-arm *b*, having the projection *h*, the eccentric roller *d*, having the curved extension *f*, and the lever *k*, of the socketed or other support, provided with the recess *i*, and the gripping-plate *e*, the pivoted lever and the said projection being carried by said gripping-arm below its pivot, substantially as set forth.

3. In combination, the pivoted arm *b*, the eccentric *d*, having the curved extension *f*, the cam-lever *k*, the fixed gripping-plate *e*, and the stop *j*, the several parts being constructed and arranged substantially as described, for the purpose specified.

4. In a rein-holder, the combination of the pivoted arm *b* and the fixed gripping-plate *e* with the eccentric *d*, pivoted within a recess in said arm, and having the curved extension *f*, whereby to limit the turning of said eccentric and to form a shield thereto, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

SHERWOOD WILLIAM DAY.

Witnesses:

C. C. MECHAM,

W. D. EDGAR.