(No Model.)

F. N. NORRIS & C. E. SWEET.

TRUSS PAD.

No. 266,188. Patented Oct. 17, 1882.

Fig 1.

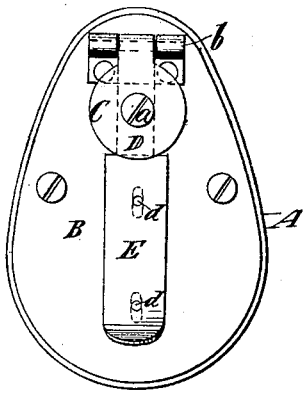


Fig 2.

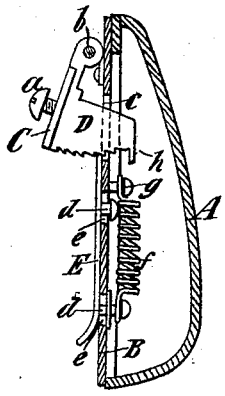
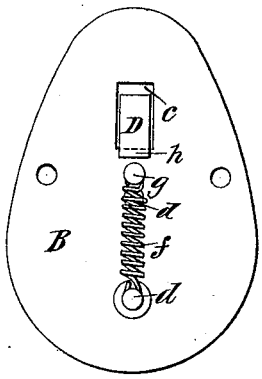


Fig 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK N. NORRIS, OF POUGHKEEPSIE, AND CLAYTON E. SWEET, OF WAPPINGER'S FALLS, NEW YORK.

TRUSS-PAD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,188, dated October 17, 1882.

Application filed July 8, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, FREDERICK N. NORRIS, of Poughkeepsie, and CLAYTON E. SWEET, of Wappinger's Falls, both in the county of Dutchess and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Pad-Relieving Devices for Trusses, of which the following is a specification.

In the construction of trusses the pad of wood, ivory, rubber, or other material, is often secured to a pad-plate, and said pad-plate is hinged to a supporting-plate rigidly attached to the bed-plate forming part of the truss-belt. The hinging of the pad-plate to its supporting-plate enables it to be tilted at different angles thereto, so as to press with more or less pressure on the body, and devices of various kinds have been employed to secure the pad-plate in such different positions relatively to the pad-supporting plate, and for releasing the pad when desired, so that it may swing outward and be relieved of pressure. In Letters Patent of the United States No. 238,955, granted to us March 15, 1881, we have shown and described a pawl hinged to the pad-supporting plate and working through the pad-plate, a ratchet-bar rigidly secured to the inner side of the pad-plate, and with which said pawl engages, and a lever fulcrumed to the inner side of the pad-plate and adapted to be operated by a push-button at the front of the pad-plate to move the pawl out of engagement with the ratchet-bar, and thus release the pad.

Our present invention consists in a novel combination of devices, hereinafter described, for regulating the pressure of the pad and relieving it of pressure when desired, whereby we provide a more simple and desirable arrangement of parts than that previously patented by us.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a front view of a pad-plate and a supporting-plate embodying our invention. Fig. 2 represents a sectional view of the pad and pad-plate and an edge view of the supporting-plate; and Fig. 3 represents a back view of the pad-plate.

Similar letters of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A designates the pad, which is of wood, ivory, hard rubber, or other suitable material, and B designates the pad-plate, to which it is rigidly secured.

C designates the pad-supporting plate, which is adapted to be rigidly secured to the bed-plate forming part of the truss-belt by a screw, *a*, or otherwise.

The pad-plate B is hinged to the supporting-plate C at *b*, so that it may be swung readily inward or outward at any angle desired.

D designates a toothed segment or rack rigidly connected with the pad-supporting plate C, and working through a slot, *c*, in the bed-plate. This segment or rack is here shown as provided with ratchet-teeth, and on the front of the pad-plate B is a sliding stop or dog, E, the end of which is adapted to engage with the teeth of and lock said segment or rack. The said stop or dog is provided with headed pins or studs *d*, which work in slots *e* in the pad-plate, and the stop or dog is drawn into and kept in engagement with the segment or rack D by means of a spiral spring, *f*, on the back of the pad-plate, and attached at one end to a stud or pin, *g*, fixed in the pad-plate, and at the other end to one of the studs or pins *d*, as best shown in Fig. 2.

The segment or rack D is provided at its inner end with a projection or lip, *h*, which strikes upon the inner side of the pad-plate and forms a stop to prevent the segment or rack from being entirely withdrawn from the pad-plate B.

When the pad-supporting plate C is fast on the bed-plate of the truss-belt, and it is desired to increase the pressure of the pad, all that is necessary is to press the pad-plate and pad inward, and the ratchet-teeth of the segment or rack will ride over the stop or dog E, but will retain the pad and pad-plate in their inward position.

When it is desired to relieve the pad of pressure the stop or dog E must be drawn or slid out of engagement with the segment or rack D.

The teeth of the segment or rack might be spur-teeth; but in such case the stop or dog would have to be drawn out of engagement therewith both when the pad-plate is pressed inward and when it is desired to release it to allow it to move outward.

We do not here claim broadly the combination, with a pad-supporting plate and pad-plate hinged together, of a rack, segment, or ratchet-

bar applied to one part and a pawl or dog to the other part for the purpose of adjusting the pressure of the pad and relieving it of pressure when desired, as such a combination is shown in our Letters Patent hereinbefore referred to.

What we claim as our invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with a pad-supporting plate and a pad-plate hinged thereto, of a toothed segment or rack rigidly attached to the supporting-plate and working through the pad-plate, a sliding stop or dog on the exterior of the pad-plate, and a spring for holding said stop or dog in engagement with said segment or rack, substantially as and for the purpose herein described.

2. The combination of the pad-plate B and pad-supporting plate C, hinged together at *b*, the segment or rack D, provided with ratchet-teeth, and the stop *h*, the sliding stop or dog E, and the spring *f*, substantially as herein described.

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