

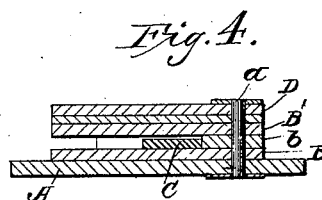
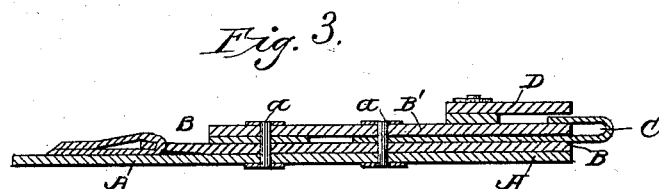
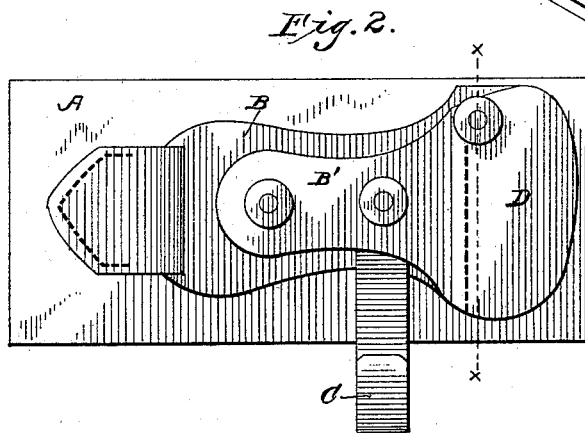
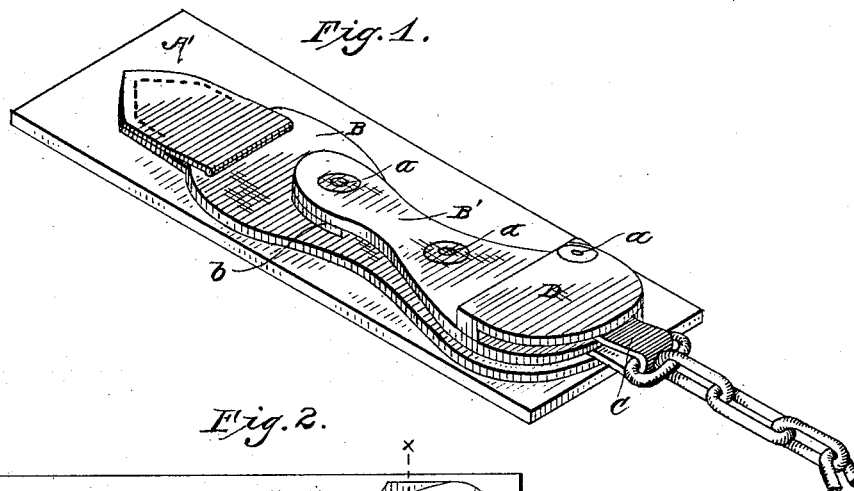
(No Model.)

W. M. & S. E. SMITHER.

TRACE ATTACHMENT.

No. 304,965.

Patented Sept. 9, 1884.



WITNESSES

*N. N. Mortimer.*  
*E. D. Siggers.*

*W. M. Smither*  
*Sue E. Smither*  
INVENTORS

by *C. A. Snow & Co.*  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM M. SMITHER AND SUE E. SMITHER, OF KEENE, KENTUCKY.

## TRACE ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 304,965, dated September 9, 1884.

Application filed July 7, 1884. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, WILLIAM M. SMITHER and SUE E. SMITHER, citizens of the United States, residing at Keene, in the county of Jessamine and State of Kentucky, have invented a new and useful Trace-Carrier, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings.

Our invention relates to an improvement in trace-carriers; and it has for its object to provide a device of this character which shall be simple in its construction, durable in its use, and which the draft-chain may be readily attached to or detached from.

A further object of the invention provides for the retention of the chain upon the trace-hook.

With these ends in view the invention consists in the improved construction and combinations of parts hereinafter fully described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of our improved trace-carrier, showing a portion of the draft-chain attached thereto. Fig. 2 is a side elevation showing the trace-hook turned down to allow of the removal of the chain. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal vertical section, and Fig. 4 is a transverse section on the line *x x* of Fig. 2.

In the accompanying drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, A represents the trace, which is provided a short distance from its rear end with a loop, A', which is secured thereto preferably by sewing. This loop A' passes through a slot in the front end of a leather strip or plate, B, and secures the forward end of the same in place.

B' represents a plate secured to the upper side of the plate B by means of rivets *a*, or other equivalent fastening.

Upon the rivets *a*, between the plates B and B', are interposed washers *b*, so that said plate B' is somewhat raised from the plate B, and does not come in contact with said plate. This raising or elevating of the plate B' is to admit of the pivoting between said plates of a plate, C, having its end bent to form a hook, *c*. One side of the plate B' is left open—that is, there is no rivet at that point—thus allowing said plate C to be turned down to the position shown in Fig. 2. The other side of the plate B', however, is closed by the rivet and washer, thus limiting the upward movement of the plate C farther than that point.

To the plate B', at the forward end thereof, is secured a guard, D, which is on a vertical plane with the front edge of the plate B'. This guard D is for the purpose of retaining the chain upon the hook, as when said hook is in the position shown in Fig. 1 all possibility of the chain becoming detached is avoided, the open end of said hook resting within the guard. Moreover, by the use of this guard the liability of the reins to catch upon the hook is overcome.

In operation the hook C is turned or dropped down to the position shown in Fig. 2 and the chain attached thereto. The plate is then pushed in under the guard, and when draft is applied the tendency will be to draw the hook up against the rivet, which prevents its farther upward movement. It will thus be seen that the chain is held firmly and securely in place, and its detachment prevented.

The improvement above described is cheap and simple, and is also readily attached and is thoroughly efficient.

Having fully described our invention, what we claim, as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with a trace, of a strip or plate, B, secured thereto, a plate, B', secured to plate B, and a hook pivoted between said plates, as set forth.
2. The combination, with a trace having a loop, A', of a strip or plate, B, secured to said loop, a plate, B', secured to plate B, and a hook pivoted between said plates, substantially as set forth.
3. The combination, with a trace, of a plate, B, a plate, B', secured to plate B, a hook pivoted between said plates, and a guard, D, as set forth.

4. The combination, with a trace having a loop, A', of a strip or plate, B, secured thereto, a plate, B', secured to plate B, a hook pivoted between said plates, and a guard, D, having an open and a closed side, substantially as set forth.

In testimony that we claim the foregoing as our own we have hereto affixed our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

WM. M. SMITHER.  
SUE E. SMITHER.

Witnesses:  
M. C. SMITH,  
GRANT G. KNIGHT.