

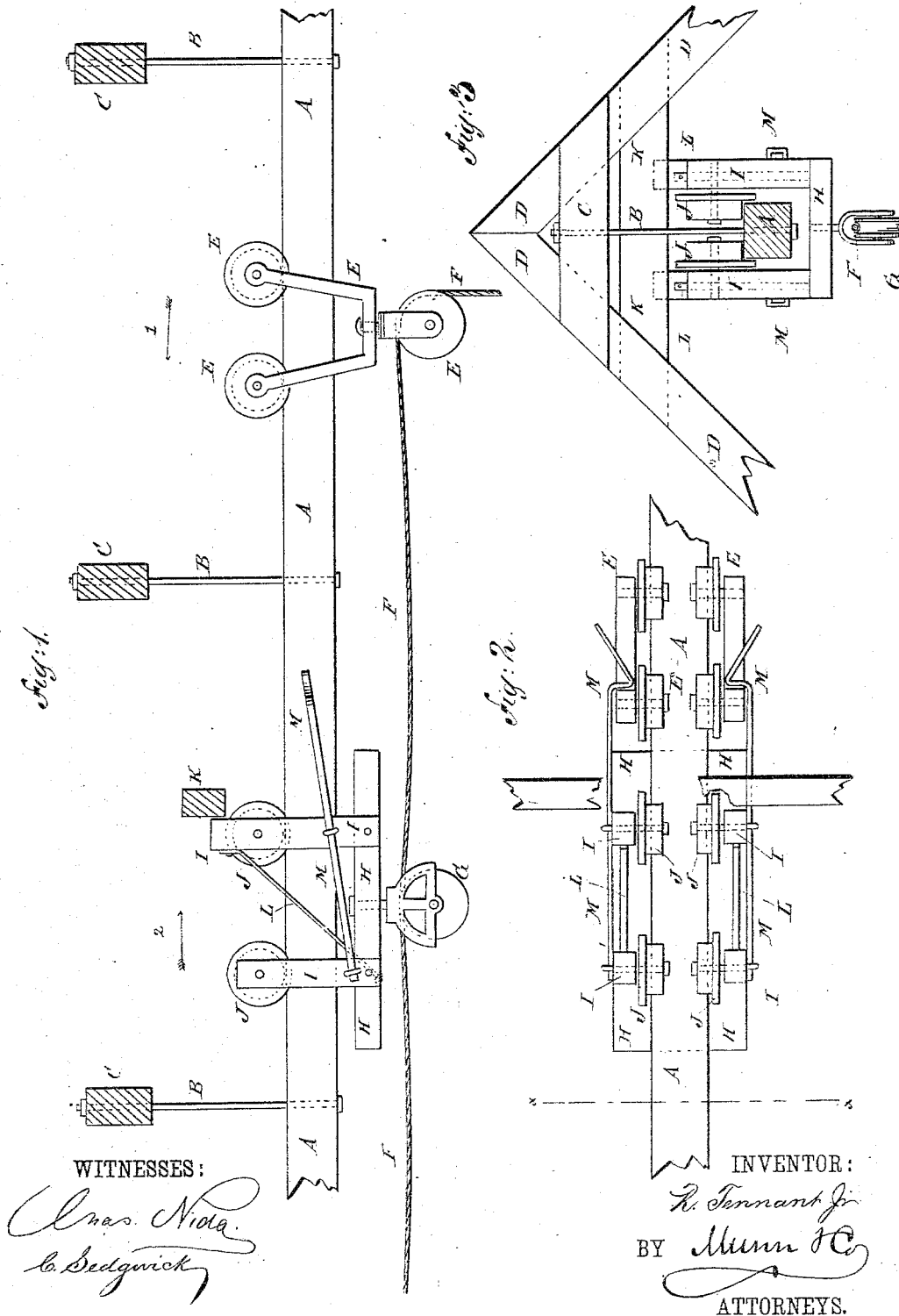
(No Model.)

R. TENNANT, Jr.

ROPE SUPPORTER FOR HAY AND OTHER CARRIERS.

No. 305,862.

Patented Sept. 30, 1884.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

RICHARD TENNANT, JR., OF WOODLAND, WISCONSIN.

ROPE-SUPPORTER FOR HAY AND OTHER CARRIERS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 305,862, dated September 30, 1884.

Application filed May 1, 1884. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD TENNANT, JR., of Woodland, in the county of Sauk and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Rope-Supporters for Hay and other Carriers, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of my improvement, the track-supporting and stop timbers being shown in section. Fig. 2 is a plan view of the same, parts being broken away and the rope-supporter being shown connected with the carrier. Fig. 3 is an end elevation of the same, the track being shown in section through the line *x x*, Fig. 2.

The object of this invention is to provide a mechanism for supporting the traction-rope of a hay-carrier, a water-carrier, or other carrier when the said carrier is drawn back for another load, to prevent the said rope from sagging, whereby the space traveled by the horse at each trip will be lessened.

The invention consists in a rope-supporter constructed with a pulley to receive the rope, bars and wheels to carry the said pulley, and spring-catches to engage with the carrier.

The invention further consists in the combination of a pulley, bars and wheels, and spring-catches with the traction-rope, the carrier, the track, and a stop-bar, whereby the said rope will be supported and kept from sagging, as will be hereinafter fully described.

A represents a track, which is supported by rods B, attached to it, and to timbers C, secured to the rafters D of a barn or other frame.

E represents an ordinary hay-carrier, and F its traction-rope, to one end of which is attached the hay-fork, (not shown in the drawings,) and to its other end is attached the horse, the said rope being led over guide-pulleys in the ordinary manner. The rope F passes over a pulley, G, the block of which is attached to the base-bar H of a rope-supporter placed between the carrier E and its unloading point.

To the base-bar H are attached the lower ends of four bars, I, which pass up at the opposite sides of the track A, and have small

wheels J pivoted to the inner sides of their upper parts to roll along the track A and carry the supporter. The bars I, next the carrier E, project so as to stick against a timber, K, attached to the rafters D or other supports to stop the supporter at the desired point. The bars I are strengthened against the shock when they strike the stop bar or timber K by inclined braces L, attached to them and to the base bar H. The shock may be further relieved by rubber blocks interposed between the projecting ends of the bars I and the stop-bar K, but which are not shown in the drawings.

To the bars I are attached the rear ends of two springs, M, the forward ends of which project, are inclined outward, and have shoulders formed upon them at the inner ends of the said inclines to adapt the said springs to engage with the bars of the carrier E when the said carrier and supporter come together.

In using the supporter, as the loaded carrier E is drawn in the direction of the arrow 1 toward the place of unloading the said carrier comes in contact with the supporter G H I J and carries the said supporter with it, the catch-springs M engaging with the bars of the said carrier. As the unloaded carrier E is drawn in the direction of arrow 2 toward the place of loading it draws the supporter with it by means of the spring-catches M until the said supporter is drawn against and stopped by the stop-bar K, when the continued advance of the said carrier withdraws it from the spring-catches M, and the said supporter remains stationary until it is again carried forward by the return of the loaded carrier. While the supporter remains stationary the pulley G supports the rope F and keeps it from sagging, so that the horse will have a less distance to travel each trip than he would have if the rope F were allowed to sag in the ordinary manner.

I have described the supporter as applied to a single-rail track; but do not limit myself to that application, as it can be readily adapted to a two-rail track.

The invention can be applied to water-carriers, coal-carriers, and other carriers that are drawn horizontally by a suspended rope.

The supporters can be made of wood or of

iron, or partly of wood and partly of iron, as may be desired or convenient.

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

- 5 1. A rope-supporter constructed substantially as herein shown and described, and consisting of the pulley G, to receive the rope, the bars and wheels H I J, to carry the said pulley, and the spring-catches M, to engage with
10 the carrier, as set forth.
2. The combination, with the traction-rope

F, the carrier E, the track A, and the stop-bar K, of the pulley G, the bars and wheels H I J, and the spring-catches M, substantially as herein shown and described, whereby the
15 said rope will be supported and kept from sagging, as set forth.

RICHARD TENNANT, JR.

Witnesses:

B. G. PADDOCK,
A. E. PADDOCK.