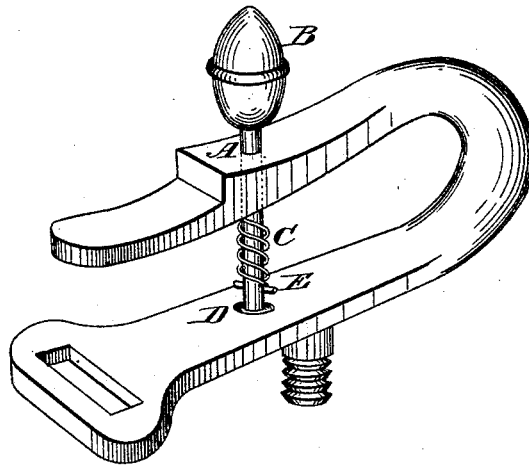


(No Model.)

W. F. KNOWLES.  
CHECK HOOK.

No. 454,361.

Patented June 16, 1891.



WITNESSES:

*Emas Fenton*  
*Mosell R. Hakes*

*William F. Knowles* INVENTOR:

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILBUR F. KNOWLES, OF PITCHER, NEW YORK.

## CHECK-HOOK.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 454,361, dated June 16, 1891.

Application filed December 29, 1890. Serial No. 376,177. (No model.)

### *To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILBUR F. KNOWLES, of the town of Pitcher, in the county of Chenango, in the State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Checkrein-Hooks, for securing checkreins of harness and preventing the driving-reins from becoming entangled in such check-hooks; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in inserting a pin through a small hole in the upper part at or near the point of the check-hook and securing such pin with a spiral spring in such a manner that the pin may be easily raised and the checkreins inserted or removed from the hook, and the pin when released from the hand will at once return to its position, closing the entrance to the hook and preventing the checkreins from becoming detached or the driving-reins or other parts of the harness from catching or becoming entangled in said hooks.

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

I construct my check-hook with a shoulder or of extra thickness at the point where the pin is inserted, as shown in the diagram at A, or the hook may be constructed in the ordinary or common form of such hooks, or my invention may be fitted and applied to such hooks now in actual use; but in order to secure the checkreins therein and prevent other parts of the harness from becoming entangled thereby I make a small hole through the top at or near the point of the hook at A and insert a pin with an ornamental or such

other head as may be conveniently grasped by the fingers, as shown at B on the accompanying diagram. This pin I secure in its position by the small coiled spring C, the point of the pin resting in a small hole or depression in the lower part or shank of the hook shown at D on the diagram, and I secure the spiral spring upon the pin by a key passing through the pin just above its point, as shown at E, the result being that to adjust the checkreins the pin B is raised by grasping it by the hand and pulling it up part way through the hole A. This movement compresses the coiled spring C and raises the point of the pin sufficiently to allow of the checkrein to be placed within the hook or taken therefrom as required. Then upon the pin's being released from the fingers the coiled spring forces the pin down into its position, with its point resting and firmly held in the hole or depression at D, thus securing the checkrein from the possibility of becoming detached or unhooked, and at the same time preventing the driving-reins or any other part of the harness from being caught or entangled in said check-hook.

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

A checkrein-hook having the enlarged and perforated end and the recessed base, a pin having an enlarged head mounted loosely in said perforation, and the coiled spring encircling the pin and bearing against the under side of the enlarged end of the hook and against a projection on the end of the pin in the recess, substantially as set forth.

WILBUR F. KNOWLES.

Witnesses:

ENEUS FENTON,  
HASCALL R. HAKES.