

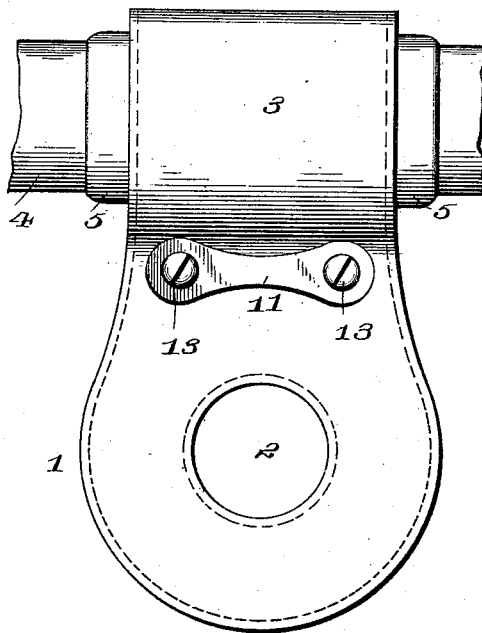
(No Model.)

J. THIELEN.  
NECK YOKE CENTER.

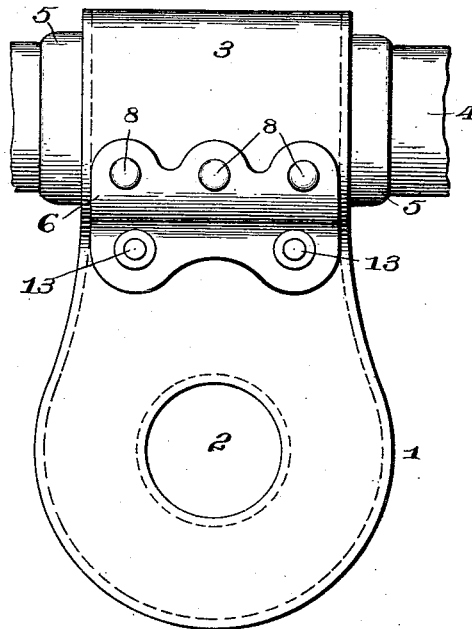
No. 523,383.

Patented July 24, 1894.

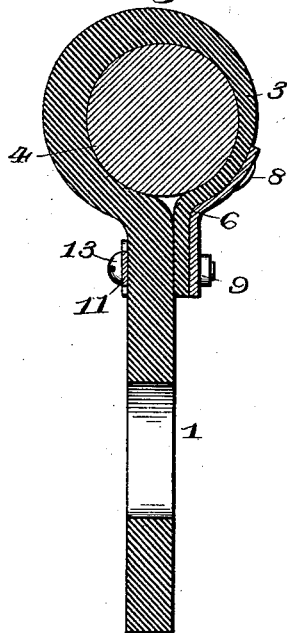
*Fig. 1.*



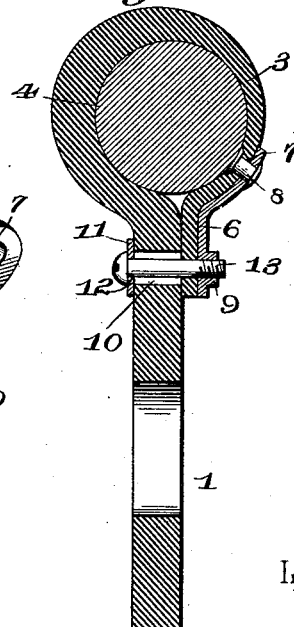
*Fig. 2.*



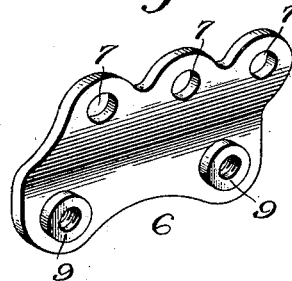
*Fig. 3.*



*Fig. 4.*



*Fig. 5.*



Inventor.

Witnesses

*C. A. Ford.*  
*W. S. Duwall.*

By *his* Attorneys.

*John Thielen,*

*C. A. Snow & Co.*

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN THIELEN, OF FREMONT, NEBRASKA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO THE  
FREMONT SADDLERY COMPANY, OF SAME PLACE.

## NECK-YOKE CENTER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 523,383, dated July 24, 1894.

Application filed October 31, 1893. Serial No. 489,657. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN THIELEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fremont, in the county of Dodge and State of Nebraska, have invented a new and useful Neck-Yoke Center, of which the following is a specification.

The invention relates to improvements in neck-yoke centers; and the objects in view are to provide a cheap and simple center for neck-yokes, the same being capable of being constructed or produced from scrap leather; which will be strong and durable, readily applied to neck-yokes, and adapted to fit different sizes of yokes.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings:—Figure 1 is a front elevation of a neck-yoke center embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a reverse view of the same. Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view through the center. Fig. 4 is a similar view to one side of the center or through one of the screws and its hole. Fig. 5 is a detail in perspective of the reinforcing-plate.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In the practice of my invention, it being one of my main objects to reduce the cost by utilizing scrap-leather, I employ several layers of the same, cutting them to the desired shape exteriorly to form the center 1, having the eye 2, and stitching the same adjacent to the edges of the eye and to the center. The under side of the center thus formed is skived away so as to produce at the upper end of the center the flexible yoke embracing-flap or tongue 3. This flap or tongue embraces the neck-yoke 4 in the usual manner, and is located thereon between the usual annular bearings 5 with which the said yoke is provided. Upon the exterior of the flexible flap at the rear side thereof I apply a metal-plate 6, said plate when viewed in cross-section, being angular. The upper end of this plate is provided with a series of rivet holes 7, and rivets 8 pass through these holes and the flexible flap. The plate is preferably cast, and at its

lower corners is provided with thickened perforated portions 9 which are located coincident with similar perforations formed in the flap and with elongated openings or slots 10 formed in the center 1 above the eye 2 thereof. A transverse washer-plate 11 is located upon the front side of the center over the elongated openings, and the same has perforations 12 which register therewith. Through the perforations 12 the elongated openings 10 and the perforations 9 in the plate I pass a pair of stout screws 13, the threads of which engage with threads formed in the perforations 9 of the metal-plate, and the heads of the screws riding upon the washer 11 at the front side of the center.

By means of the elongated openings I may increase or decrease the size of the loop produced by the flap and thus accommodate the aforesaid center to yokes of various diameters.

It is generally known that the weakest point in a leather neck-yoke center is at the point of connection between the center and the flap, and I therefore, in order to strengthen this point, employ the metal-plate described, as well as the washer-plate, so that a thorough reinforcement of this heretofore weak point is made. It will also be seen that the angular plate 6, which is arranged on the outer end of the flap, forms a rigid support for the screws 13, and that during the twisting of the neck yoke, incident to its use, the strain, at the point of attachment of the flap to the body of the neck yoke, is greatly reduced owing to the loose connection between the flap and the body, established by the elongated openings 10; and that the body portion of the neck yoke center is permitted a limited movement on the end of the flap, in order that it may give to the strain, and to prevent any liability of the leather breaking the stitches and cracking at this point and separating the layers.

From the foregoing description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, it will be seen that I am enabled by my invention to employ scrap-leather for the purpose of producing the center, and that the same by reason of my invention is strong and durable.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The herein described neck yoke center

doubled on itself to form a yoke receiving loop and having the terminal of the folded portion rigidly supported and loosely connected with the body portion of the neck yoke center, whereby the said body portion is permitted a limited movement at the point of attachment to relieve it of strain, substantially as described.

2. The herein described improved neck-yoke-center, the same being doubled upon itself to form a yoke-receiving loop, and having opposite its terminal elongated openings, a metal angular-plate arranged at the rear side of the center and provided with threaded perforations agreeing with the elongated openings in the center and with similar perforations formed in the terminal, a washer-plate at the front side of the center and perforated to correspond therewith, and screws passed through the perforations in the washer-plate, and the perforations in the terminal and rear reinforcing-plate and engaging threads in the latter, and arranged in the elongated openings of the neck yoke center,

whereby the latter is permitted a limited movement on its terminal to relieve it of strain, substantially as specified.

3. The herein described improved heavy flat neck-yoke center, the same consisting of layers of material and being reduced toward its upper end to form a flexible yoke embracing-flap and perforated at its end, which perforations correspond to openings formed in the center, an angular plate riveted to the exterior of the flap and correspondingly perforated, a washer-plate upon the front center, and screws passed through the plate and the perforations of the center, flap, and plate and engaging threads in the latter, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

JOHN THIELEN.

Witnesses:

J. W. GOFF,  
CLARENCE RECKMEYER.