E. S. WOODFORD.

Ox-Yoke.

No 47,592. Patented May 2, 1865.

Witnesses.

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ERASTUS S. WOODFORD, OF WINSTED, CONNECTICUT.

IMPROVEMENT IN OX-YOKES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **47,592**, dated May 2, 1865.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ERASTUS S. WOODFORD, of Winsted, Litchfield county, and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Making Ox-Yokes; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The nature of my invention consists in arranging a double-spirally-grooved rod longitudinally with the frame of the yoke, connecting the bow-blocks, so that either ox in crowding or hauling will instantly bring the other ox to the same relative position, whether close together or separated the length of the yoke. This effectually prevents further efforts to crowd or haul.

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

A rectangular frame is made, on the under side of which the bow-blocks slide, connected by bolts with a piece sliding in the rectangular frame, and a cap on the upper side of the rectangular frame. The bow-blocks are regulated in their movement by a screw, one-half the length of which has a right-acute angular screw, on the other half is a left acute anguar screw. This screw is firmly secured in the center of the yoke by a staple passing round a groove cut round the body of the screw at its longitudinal center, allowing it to revolve, but not move longitudinally. As one ox crowds against the other, the screw revolves, bringing both oxen together. If either ox hauls, the screw revolves, separating the oxen to the entire length of the yoke, each ox constantly maintaining his relative position as to the length of lever by which he works. I make it a set-yoke by turning up the nut on the staple that clasps the middle of the longitudinal screw. I give one ox the long or short lever, when desired, by moving the fulcrum-screw or fulcrum-nut, if such is used.

A is a perspective view of the yoke.
B is a side view of the yoke.
C is the fulcrum-screw.
D is the right and left or guiding screw.
E E are the bow-blocks.
F F are the bow-block caps.

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

2. The right and left spirally-grooved rod or guiding-screw, (marked D,) by which the bow-blocks E E are kept in their relative position as to the length of lever by which each ox works, in combination with the bow-blocks, bow-slides, and bow-block caps and staple for making it a set-yoke, as and for the purposes herein set forth.

2. I do not claim the devices for the simultaneous arrangement of the bow-blocks, the center-piece, and the caps and the staple to make it a set-yoke, for these are not new; but I do claim the spirally-grooved rod D, by which their simultaneous movement is directed, thus adjusting the length of lever by which each ox works.

ERASTUS S. WOODFORD.

Witnesses:
L. BALDWIN,
R. A. HEATH.