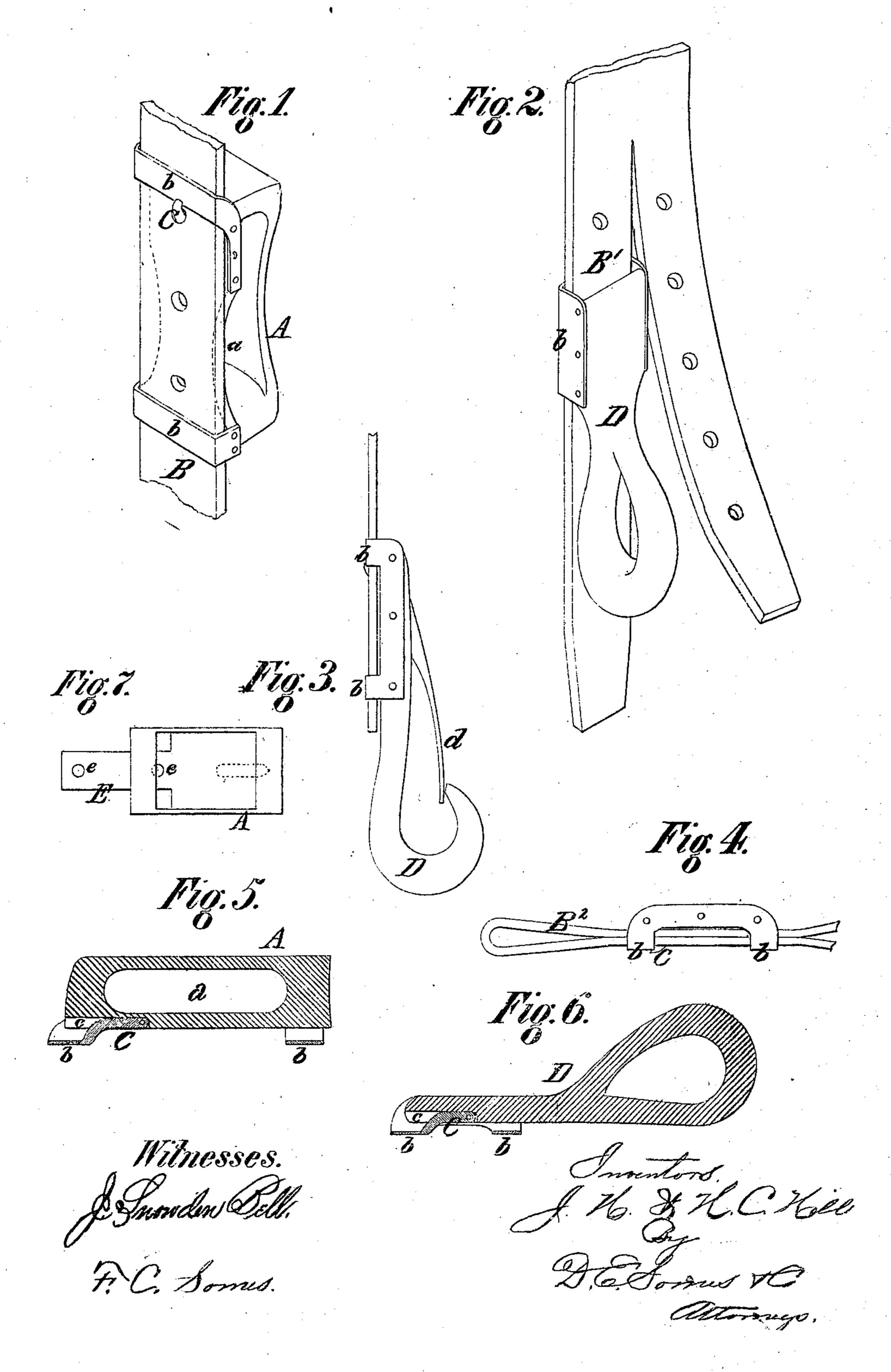


Buokle.

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JUSTIN H. HILL AND HOMER C. HILL, OF CLINTON, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 93,201, dated August 3, 1869.

TRACE-SUPPORT AND BUCKLE

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, Justin H. Hill and Homer C. Hill, of Clinton, in the county of De Witt, and in the State of Illinois, have invented new and useful Improvements in Trace-Support, Buckles, &c.; and we do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which make part of this specification, and in which—

Figure 1 represents a view in perspective of our improved trace-support in position upon a hip-strap;

Figure 2, a similar view of a gag-runner with our

improvements attached;

Figure 3, a view in elevation of a bridle-swivel with our improvements attached, and provided with a spring-latch;

Figure 4, a side elevation of a harness-buckle with

our improvements applied thereto;

Figure 5, a longitudinal section of the trace-support shown in fig. 1;

Figure 6, a similar section of the gag-runner, shown in fig. 2; and

Figure 7 is a view in elevation of a buckle, with a blade or bar, E, attached, to be riveted to harnesstugs.

The object of our invention is to provide a simple and efficient trace-support, which can be attached to the hip-strap without sewing, and when in position thereon allows the strap to remain straight, and relieves it from the wear of the tug.

Our improvements likewise embrace a method of constructing gag-runner, buckles, &c., by which they may be attached to their straps without the use of independent fastenings, and in a simple and convenient manner, to which ends

Our improvements consist in a trace-support, resting upon the hip-strap, and provided with a long eye or slot, parallel thereto, through which the trace or tug passes, and on the bottom of which it rests.

A bent tongue is pivoted to the back of the support, resting partially within a groove therein, so as to allow the front of the hip-strap and back of the support to come fairly together.

Metallic loops or clasps are secured to the support, so as to allow sufficient space between it and them-

selves for the hip-strap to pass.

The pivoted tongue passes through holes in the latter, and resting against one of the loops, holds the support firmly in position upon the strap without the use of independent fastenings or sewing.

We construct swivels, gag-runners, buckles, &c., in a

similar manner, and for a like purpose.

In the accompanying drawings, which show a con-

venient arrangement of parts for carrying out the objects of our invention—

A represents our trace-support, which is usually made of metal, and plated, and which is provided with a long eye or slot, a, for the reception of the trace or tug, thereby keeping the latter out of contact with the hip-strap B, and preventing wear thereof.

Two metallic loops or clasps, b b, are secured to the support, near its ends, to embrace the hip-strap, there being sufficient space left between them and the sup-

port for that purpose.

A pivoted tongue, C, is secured to the support A, near one of its ends, resting in a groove, c, formed

therein.

This tongue is bent outwards towards its point in such form that only that portion of its length which passes through the strap protrudes from the groove, thereby allowing the support and strap to lie closely together, and preventing the bending or wrinkling of the latter.

The strap B is passed through the loops b b, and the tongue C, passing through one of a series of holes in the strap, and resting against the adjacent loop, holds the support firmly in any desired position upon the strap without the use of separate fastenings or sewing, and leaving the strap perfectly straight.

Figs. 2 and 6 show our improvements applied to a gag-runner, which is attached to its strap in a similar

manner.

In this case the loops b b are shown as formed from a single piece of metal.

Fig. 4 shows a buckle embracing our improvements, which is shown as attached, in the manner described, to a doubled strap, B².

Our improvements can readily be applied to rings, snap-hooks, or other appurtenances whose position requires to be varied from time to time, and provides a convenient and desirable mode of attachment.

Having thus fully described our invention,

What we claim therein as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The trace-support A, provided with a long eye, a, to receive the trace loops b b, to embrace the hipstrap, and a bent pivoted tongue, C, to secure it in position thereon, substantially as described.

2. A buckle, constructed as described, with a shank or blade, E, as and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification signed by us, this 26th day of December, 1868.

Witnesses:

JUSTIN H. HILL. HOMER C. HILL.

SOLOMON F. LEWIS, WM. M. ROWLEY.