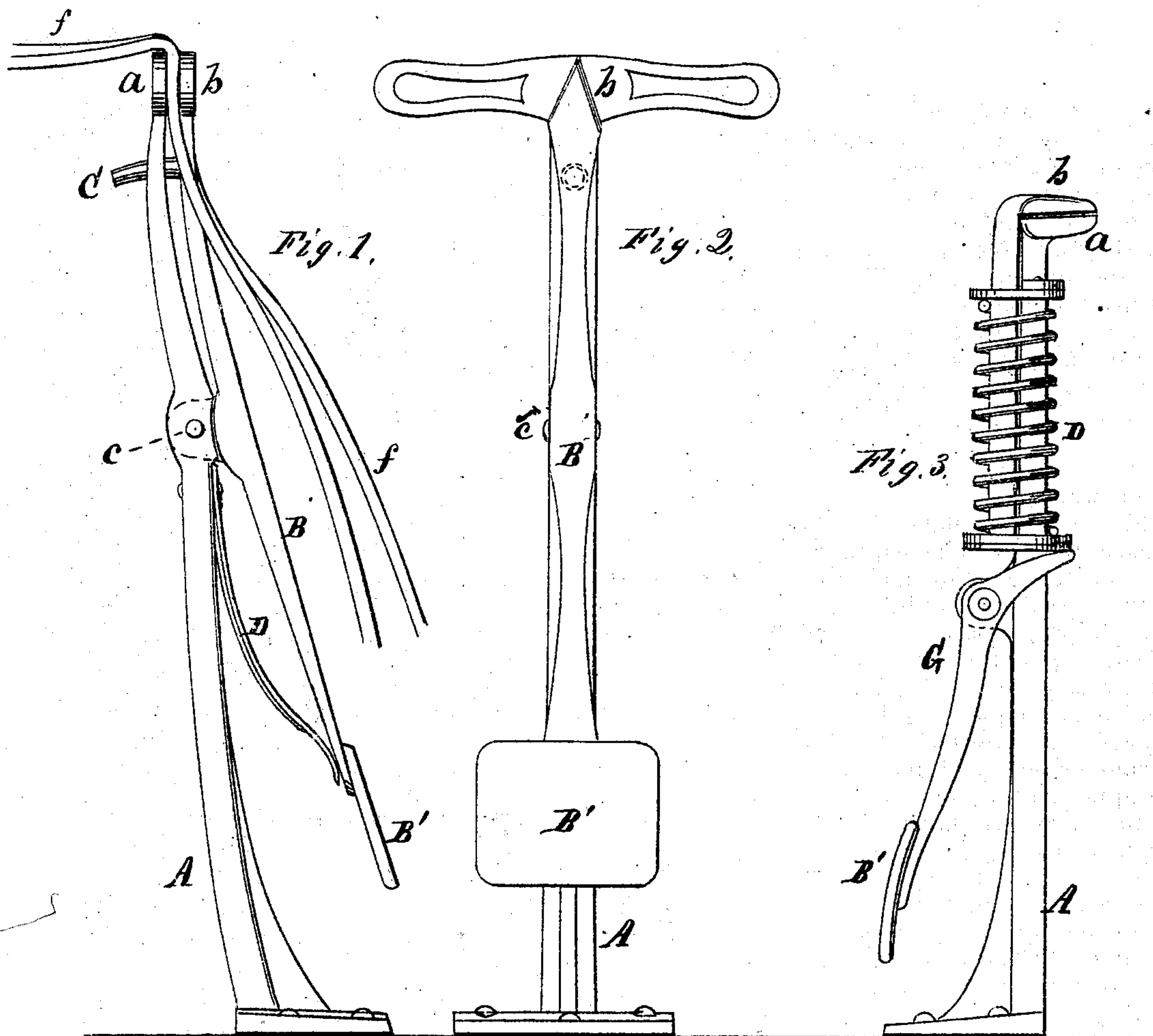


CHARLES A. MESSENGER.  
Improvement in Rein Holder.

No. 120,389.

Patented Oct. 31, 1871.



**WITNESSES:**

J. A. Morley  
J. P. Fisher

**INVENTOR:**

Charles A. Messenger  
by  
Geo. Rathwell  
attorney.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES A. MESSENGER, OF SYRACUSE, NEW YORK.

## IMPROVEMENT IN REIN-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 120,389, dated October 31, 1871.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES A. MESSENGER, of Syracuse, in the county of Onondaga and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Rein-Holder; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a side view of my invention, and Fig. 2 is a rear view. Fig. 3 shows a modification.

Similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several figures.

This invention relates to a rein-holder, for carriages and other vehicles, that is light and simple in its construction and easily operated; and the invention consists in a light metal standard having a pair of jaws that close with a spring pressure upon the reins, and are opened by a foot-lever, as hereinafter more fully described.

In the accompanying drawing, A is the standard, which is screwed to the frame or floor of the carriage or buggy at one end of the dash-board. The upper end of this standard has a fixed jaw, *a*; and a lever, B, that is pivoted to the standard at *c*, has also a jaw, *b*. A spring, D, Fig. 1, is fastened to the standard, and presses upon the lower end of B to hold its jaw *b* engaged with the jaw *a*; and the said lever B has a treadle or foot-plate, B', on its lower end, upon which the foot is pressed to release the lines or reins and to

open the jaws to receive the reins. The lever B has a projection, C, Fig. 1, which works or slides through a hole in the standard, to serve as a guide to bring the jaws together accurately and relieve the parts of any side strain by the foot. The reins are represented by *ff*, Fig. 1.

A spiral spring can be used in place of the flat or leaf spring D, if preferred.

Fig. 3 shows a modification, in which the jaw *b* is pressed downward upon the fixed jaw *a* by a coiled spring, D, and the jaws disengaged by a cam-lever, G, operated by the foot, as before mentioned. However, I prefer the first-described construction, it being more simple.

A whip-socket can be fastened to the standard A, the socket being made of sheet-brass rolled up and riveted to the standard, making a neat and light socket.

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

A rein-holder, composed of the upright standard A provided with jaw *a*, pivoted lever B provided with jaw *b* and treadle B', and spring D, the whole being combined, constructed, and arranged to operate in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 30th day of August, 1871.

CHARLES A. MESSENGER.

Witnesses:

D. W. FISHER,  
F. A. MORLEY.

(31)