

J. GOODYEAR.
Bridle-Bits.

No. 148,293.

Patented March 10, 1874.

Fig. 1.

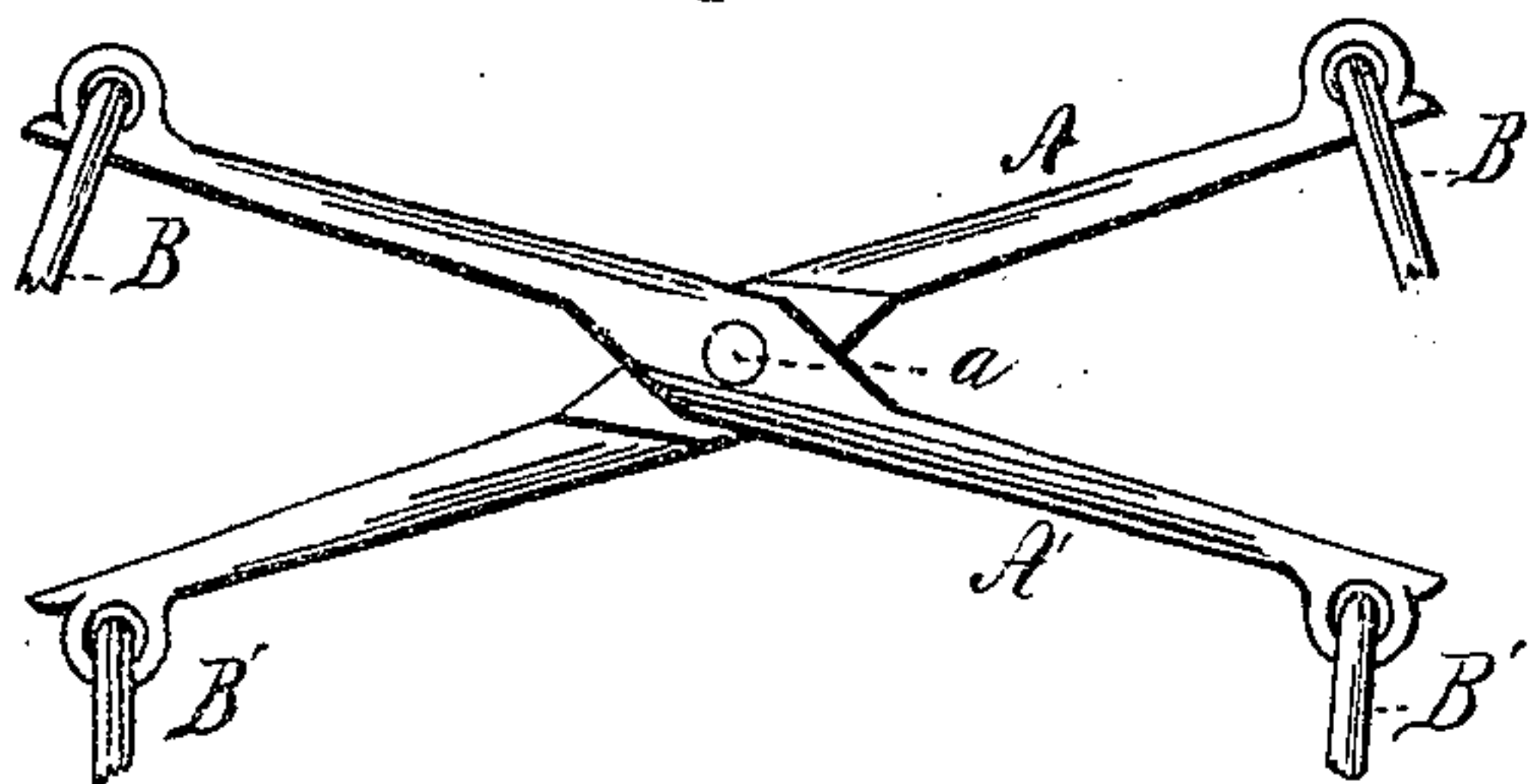


Fig. 2.

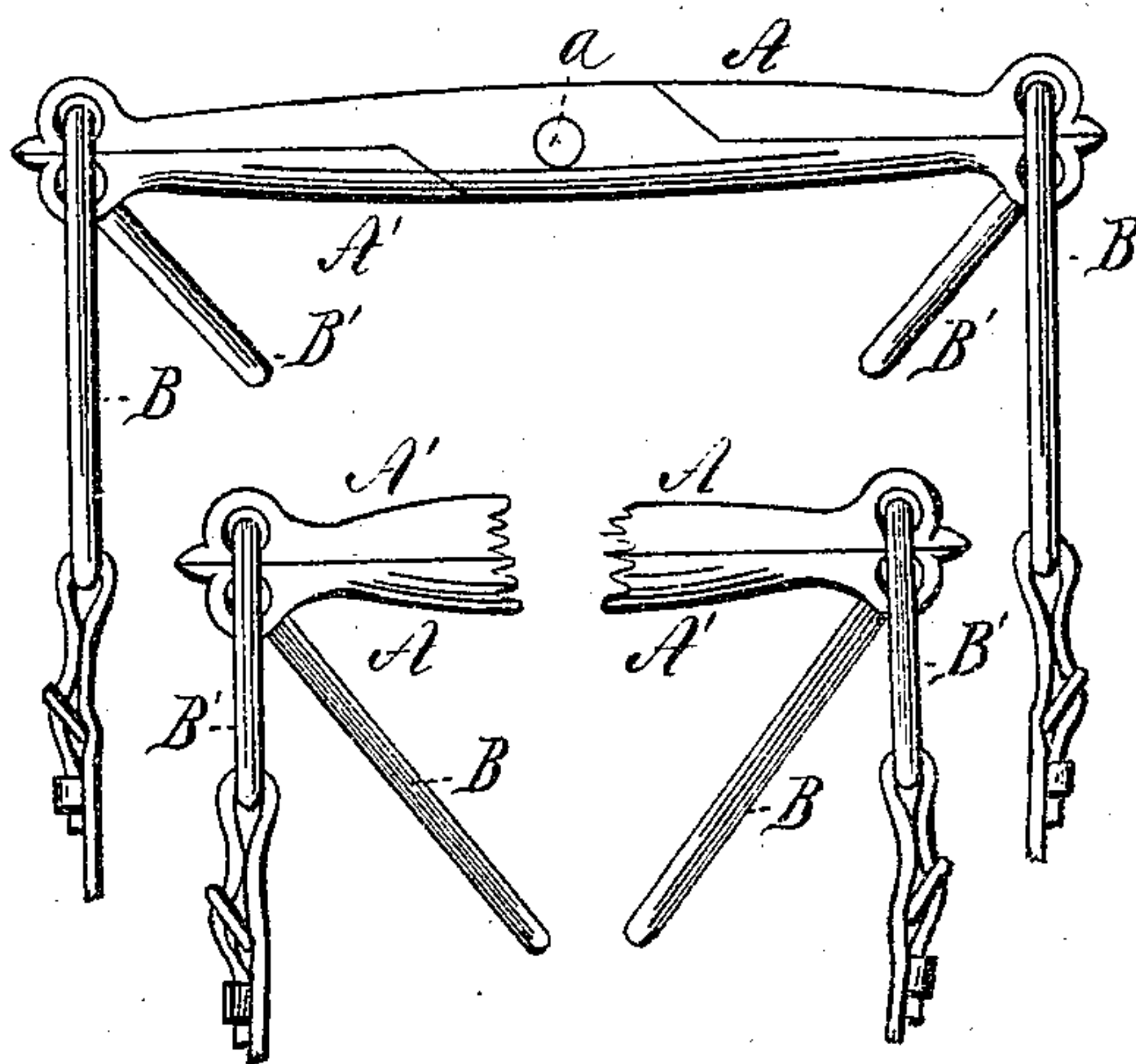


Fig. 3.

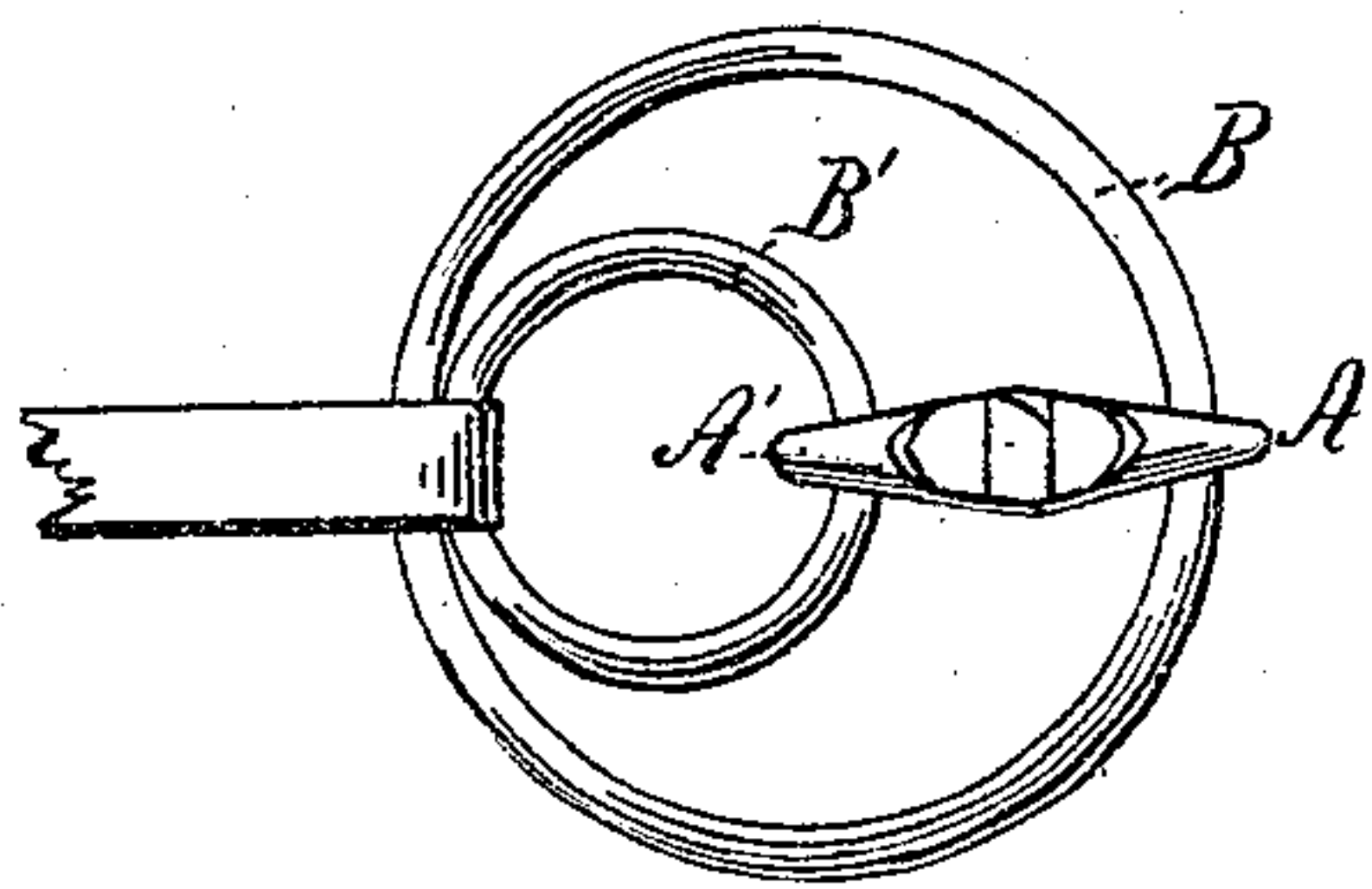


Fig. 4.

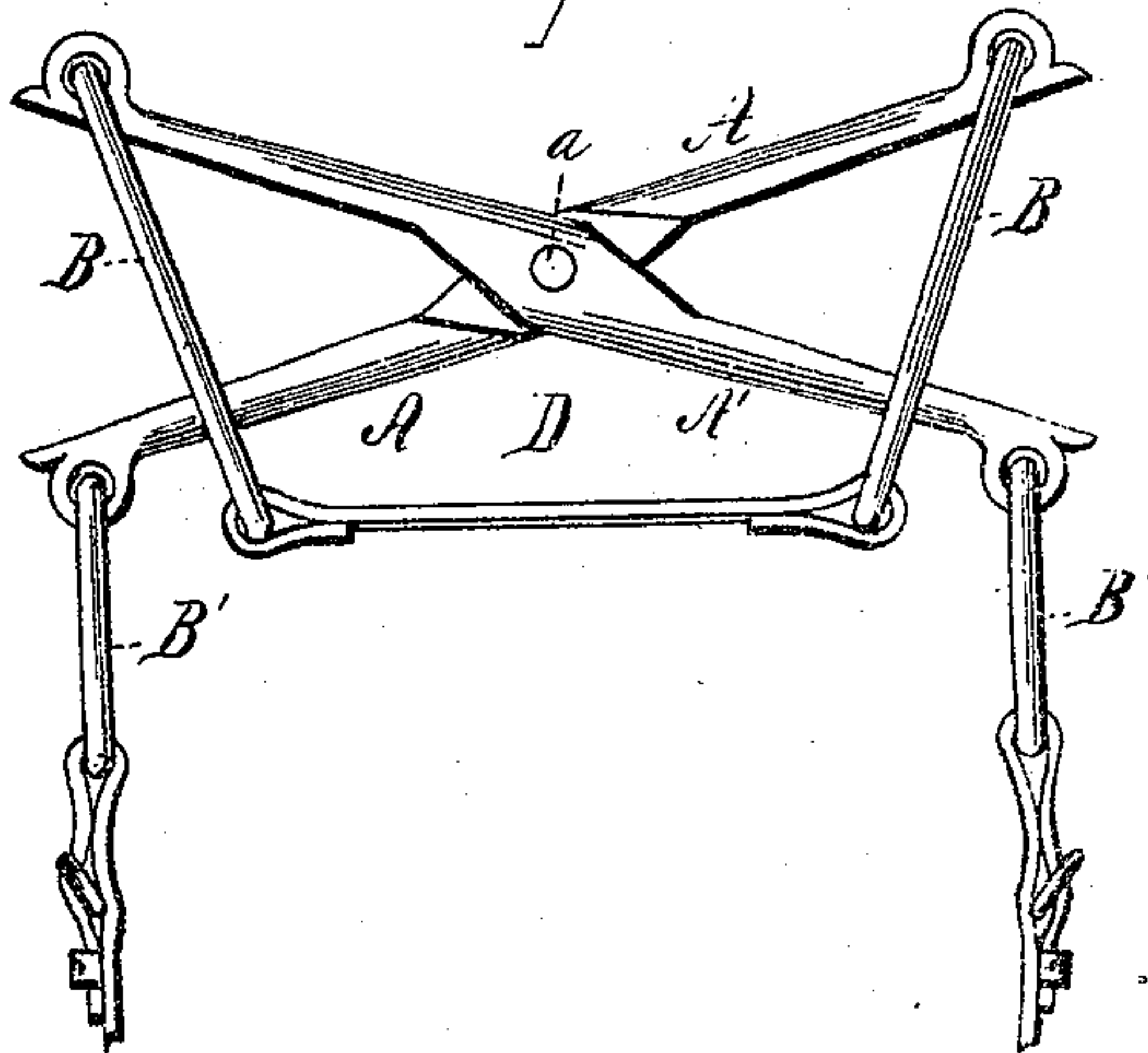
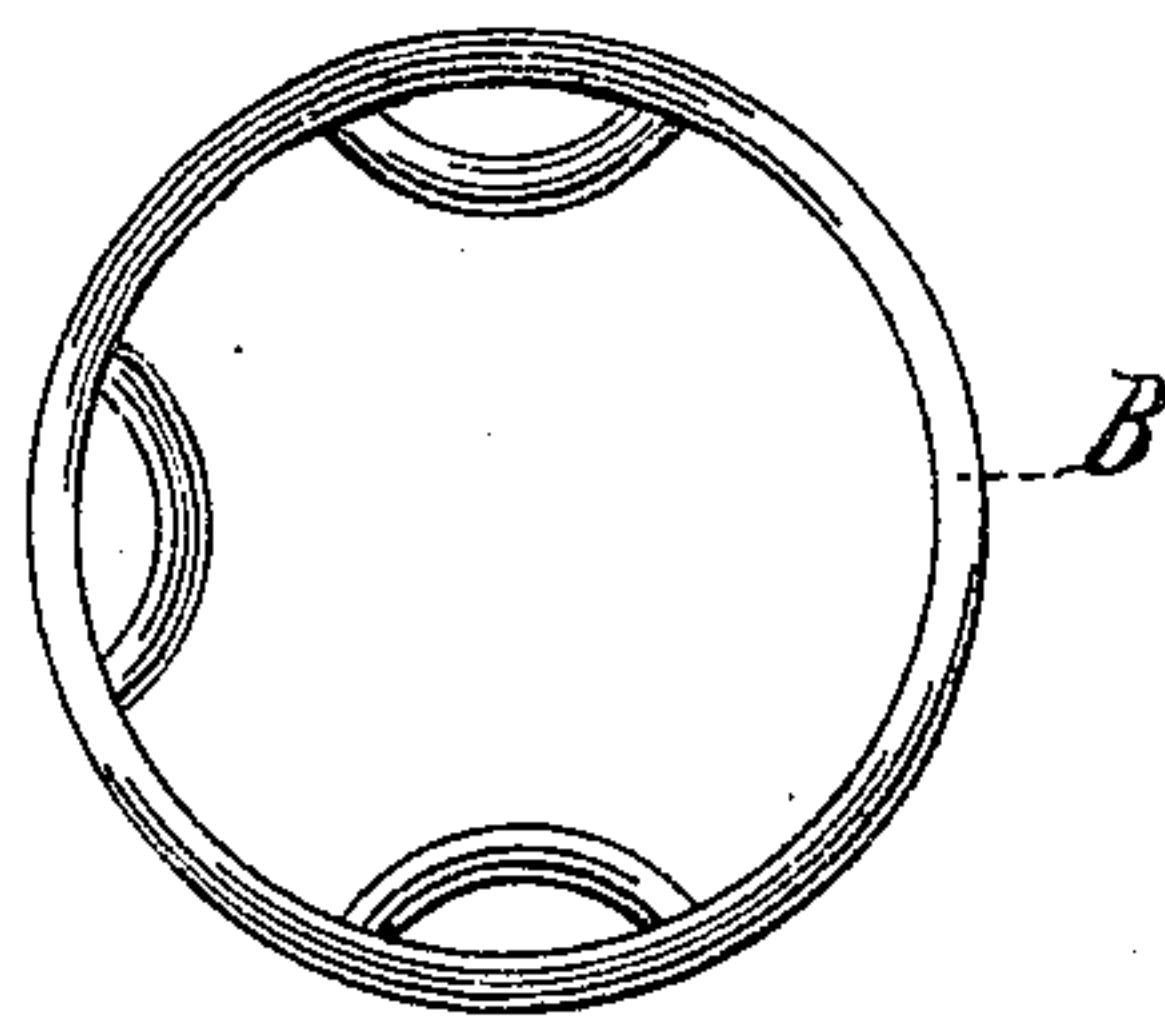


Fig. 5.



WITNESSES

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INVENTOR

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN GOODYEAR, OF GROTON, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BRIDLE-BITS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **148,293**, dated March 10, 1874; application filed May 24, 1873.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN GOODYEAR, of Groton, in the county of Tompkins and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use it, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which form part of this specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in bridle-bits.

In the drawings, Figure 1 represents my bit as opened, showing the style of its construction. Fig. 2 shows how it may be employed as a snaffle-bit; Fig. 3, how employed as a moderate check-bit; Fig. 4, how employed as a severe check-bit; and Fig. 5, a variation in the construction of the larger bit-rings.

My invention consists as follows: The two parts A A' are so fashioned that, when turning upon the pivot *a*, they will open, forming an X, and when closed will form a smooth and uniform shaft. This is accomplished by the provision of a scissors or forceps joint at the middle portion. Although I do not confine myself to the style of joint as herewith exhibited, any joint may be employed that will afford a smooth and uniform surface to the bit when closed. To the ends of the parts A A' are attached, in any suitable manner, the bit-rings B B', each part A A' holding, alternately, a large ring, B, and a small one, B', so that, when closed, the bit, at either end, shall be provided with a large and small ring, as shown in Fig. 2. The large rings B may be either plain or provided with slots for the attachment of appropriate straps, as shown in Fig. 5.

The operations of my invention are as follows: When a snaffle-bit is desired, the large

rings B are thrown between the smaller ones B', or this order may be reversed by putting the small rings between the large ones. In the first case the reins are attached to the smaller rings B', and in the second to the large rings B. It will be seen in this arrangement that the bit will not open, but will remain a simple straight shaft. If a moderate check-bit is wanted, the reins are attached to both rings B B', as shown in Fig. 3. In this case the blades of the bit are slightly opened, and the animal correspondingly held in check. When a severe check-bit is called for, the large rings B are swung around against the opposite side of the bit, from which they are attached, as shown in Fig. 4. These will now be connected by the chin-strap C, and the reins attached to the lesser rings B' and brought back. When tension is made upon the reins, as now arranged, the blades A A' will be opened, and the jaw of the animal be compressed in the space D, while his mouth is forced open by the opening of the bit.

If desired, a rubber or any elastic covering or shield may be provided, which shall envelop the shaft A A', protecting the tongue and mouth of the animal when the blades are drawn open.

I claim as my invention—

In combination with the bit, composed of the two parts A A', pivoted or joined at their middle portions, the different-sized swiveled rings B B', substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of May, 1873.

JOHN GOODYEAR.

Witnesses:

EDM. F. BROWN,
LEVERETT L. LEGGETT.