

F. C. BURCHELL.
Thill-Holders.

No. 156,248.

Patented Oct. 27, 1874.

Fig. 1.

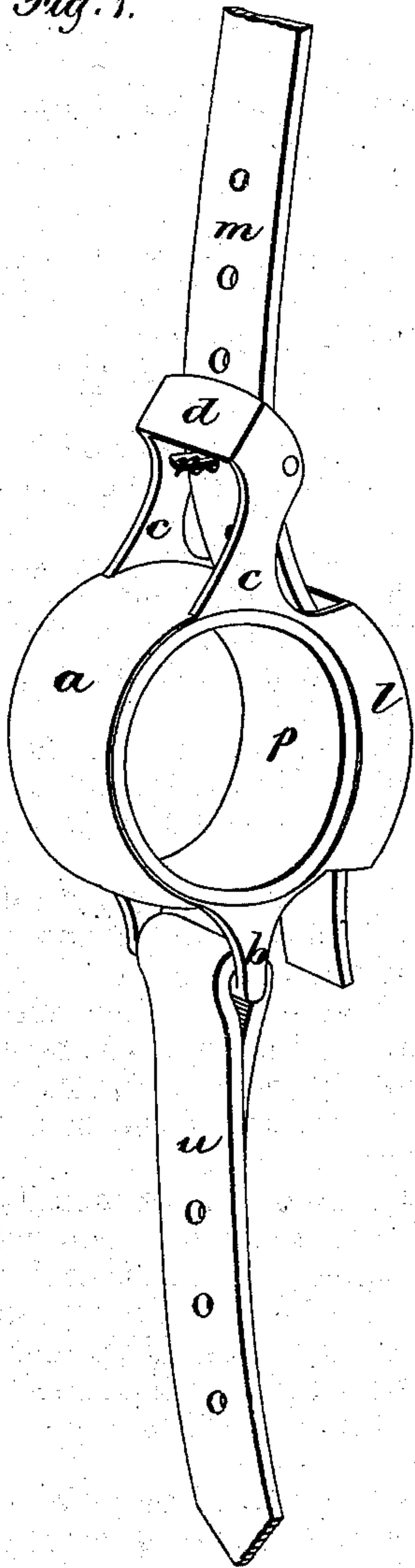


Fig. 2.

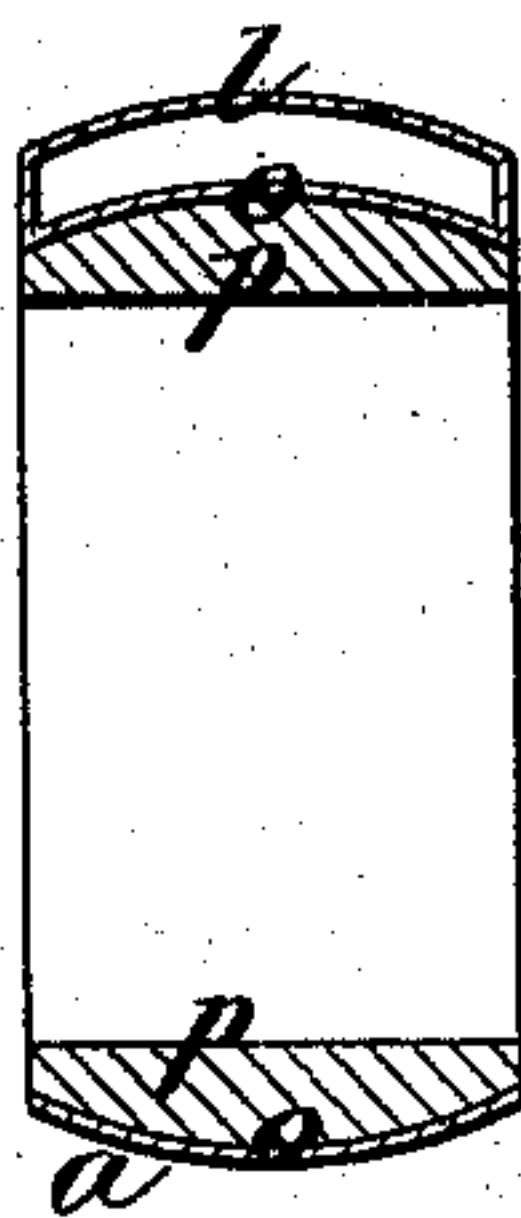
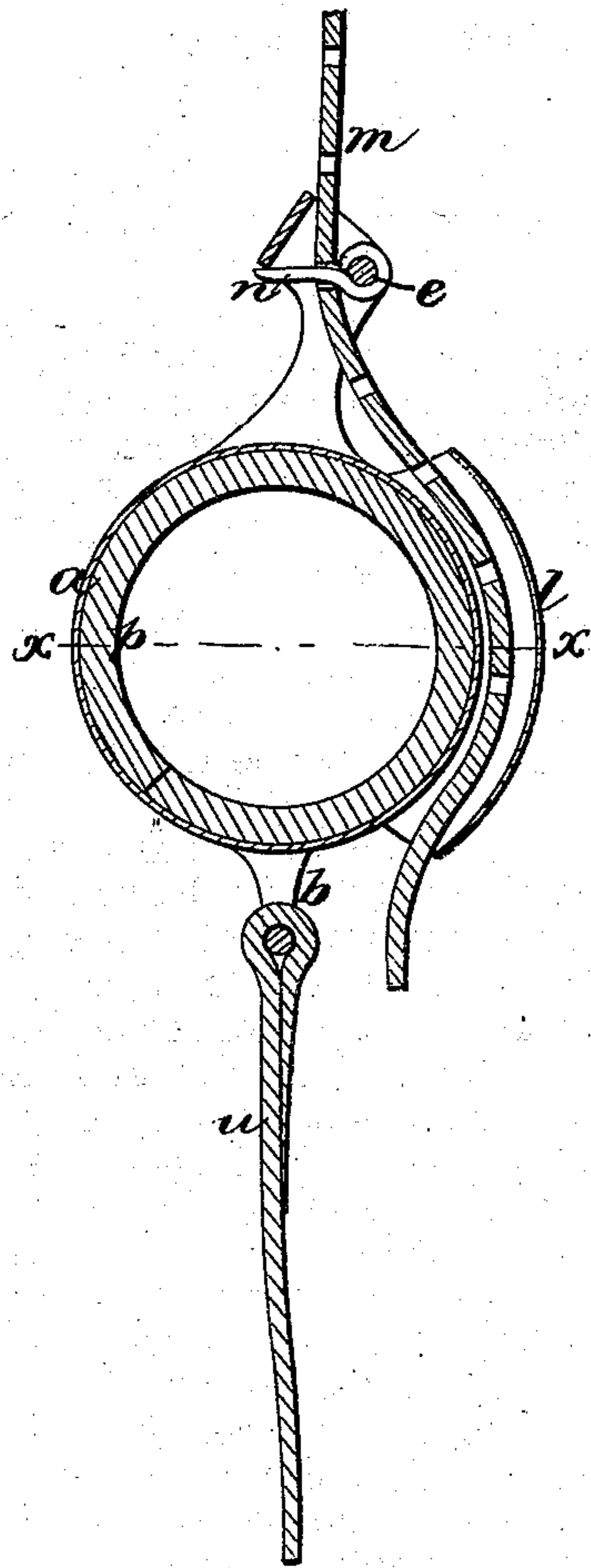


Fig. 3.



Witnesses.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FREDERICK C. BURCHELL, OF SOMERSET, NEW YORK, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF HIS RIGHT TO IRVING W. HOTALING, OF SAME PLACE.

IMPROVEMENT IN THILL-HOLDERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **156,248**, dated October 27, 1874; application filed March 14, 1874.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK C. BURCHELL, of Somerset, in the county of Niagara and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improved Thill-Holder; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings forming part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved thill-holder. Fig. 2 is a cross-section in the line *x x* of Fig. 3; and Fig. 3 is a vertical section of the same.

Similar letters of reference in the accompanying drawings indicate the same parts.

My invention relates to improvements in thill-holders, as hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawings, *a* represents a metallic thill-holder, having on its upper surface the ears or projections *c c*, rigidly attached to the thill-holder, the upper or outer ends of the ears *c c* being connected by the cross-bar *d*. *e* is a metallic rod, rigidly attached to the ears or projections *c c*, and carrying the buckle-tongue *n*, a sufficient space being left in the construction between the rod *e* and the upper face of the thill-holder to allow the ready bending of the bearer-strap *m*, the end of which is inserted in the metallic loop *l*, situated on the inside of the thill-holder *a*.

By this construction it will be seen that there is no liability of the reins catching under the outer ends of the bearing-straps *m m* of the thill-holders, which is frequently the case in the ordinary construction, preventing the driver from managing his horse and causing frequent accidents.

It will also be seen that by the employment of a rigid rod, *e*, connecting the ears or projections *c c*, in contradistinction to a pivoted one, that there is less liability to wear by the working backward and forward of the thill while traveling, while by placing the rod *e* carrying the buckle-tongue high up in the

opening between the ears sufficient space is left for the passage of the bearer-strap under the connecting-rod *e*, and thence into the loop. The inner surface *o* is made concave in cross-section, as plainly seen in Fig. 2, to receive a packing, *p*, the outer surface of which is convex and has its seat in the concavity *o* of the thill-holder.

By this construction the packing is readily inserted or removed, and the employment of flanges on the outer ends of the thill-opening or similar means for holding the packing in place is obviated.

b is a stirrup attached to the lower surface of the thill-holder, to which is attached the strap *u*, which is buckled to the girth or belly-band.

I am aware that a metallic thill-holder provided with short ears, to which a buckle is pivoted, has heretofore been employed, and I therefore lay no claim to such invention, as the pivoted connection of the buckle would cause it soon to wear out by the working backward and forward of the thill in the movements of the vehicle.

I am also aware that a metallic thill-holder provided with a loop on its outside has heretofore been employed, and I therefore lay no claim to such loop when so situated, as the end of the bearer-strap passing through said loop is liable to be caught by the reins in driving.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

As a new article of manufacture, the thill-holder *a*, made concave in cross-section, as set forth, and provided with ears *c c*, cross-bar *d*, rod *e*, buckle-tongue *n*, and loop *l*, for the reception of the bearer-strap, situated on the inside of the thill-holder, the whole arranged, constructed, and operated in the manner and for the purpose set forth.

FREDERICK C. BURCHELL.

Witnesses:

JOSEPH A. HILL,

WILLIAM V. TOWNSEND.