

J. C. AYRES.

HORSE-BLANKET ATTACHMENT.

No. 187,342.

Patented Feb. 13, 1877.

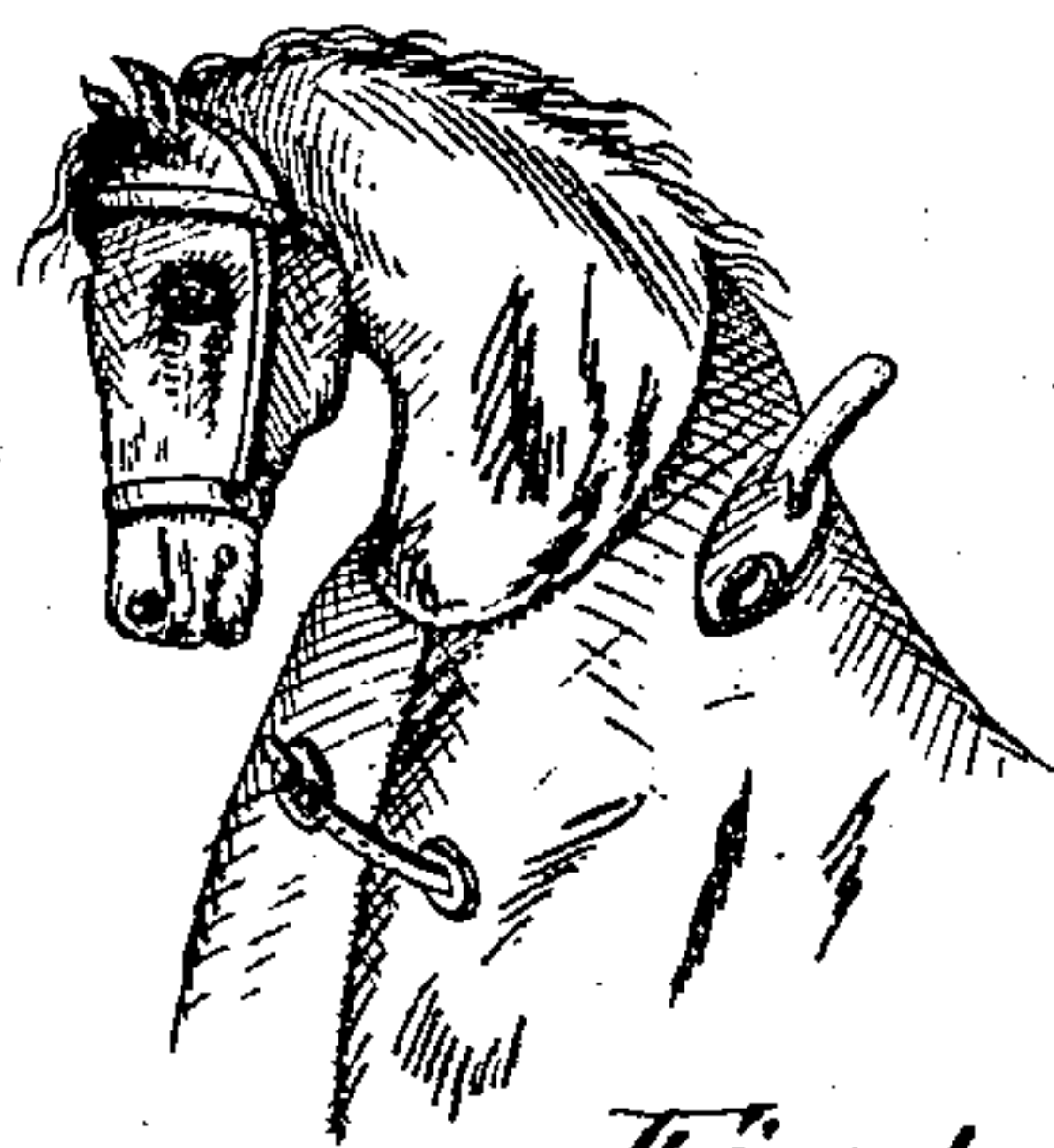


Fig. 3.

Fig. 1.

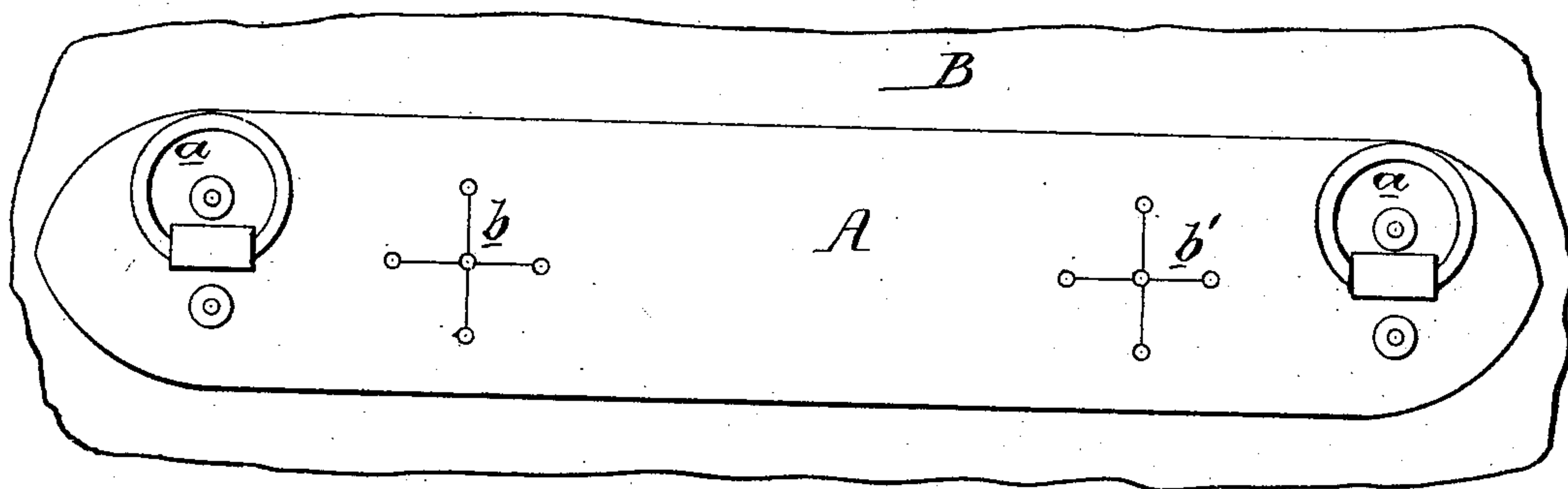
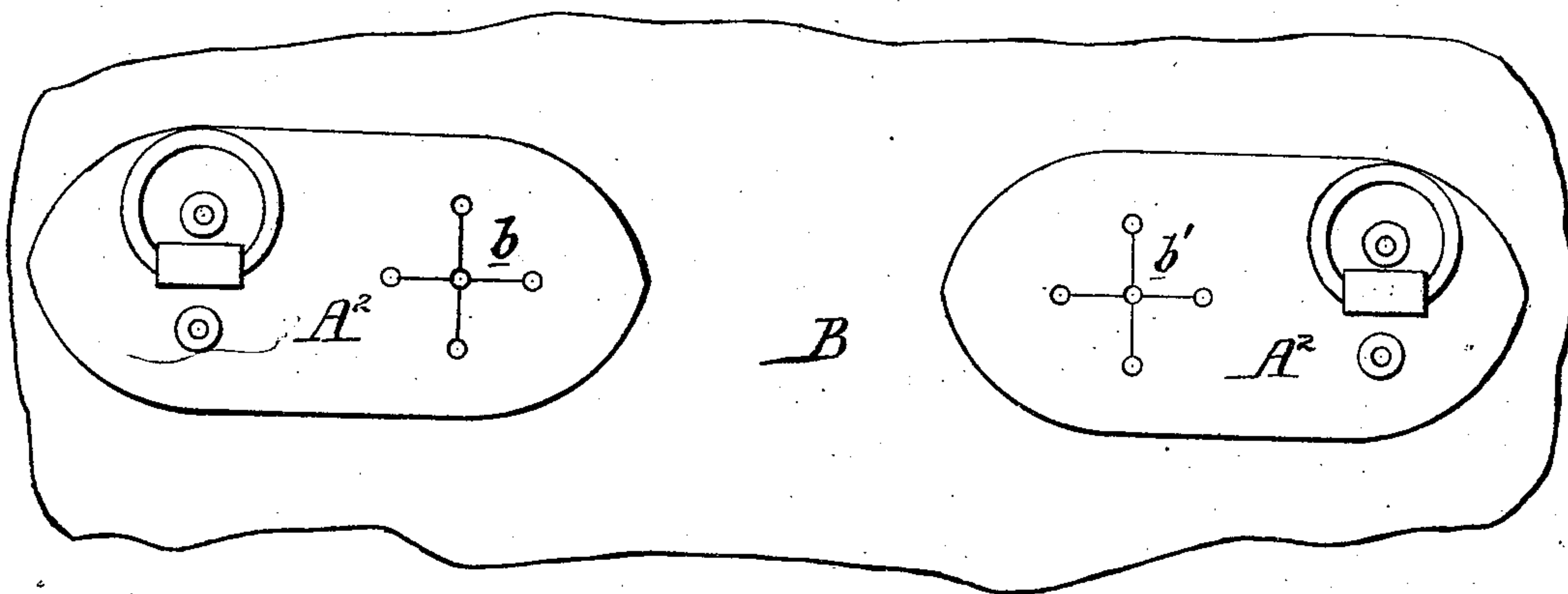


Fig. 2.



Witnesses.  
Richard L. Gardiner  
Henry Smith

John C. Ayres  
by his Attorneys.  
Harrison & Son

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN C. AYRES, OF PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, WILLIAM AYRES, G. RALSTON AYRES, WILLIAM M. AYRES, AND LEWIS H. AYRES, OF SAME PLACE.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HORSE-BLANKET ATTACHMENTS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 187,342, dated February 13, 1877; application filed January 15, 1877.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN C. AYRES, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, have invented an Improved Housing for Horse-Blankets, of which the following is a specification:

My invention relates to an improvement in that part of a horse-blanket which is adapted to the hames, and is known as the "housing," the object of my invention being to so make the housing in two parts, and so attach the parts to the blanket, that the latter can be easily applied to hames of different widths.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawing shows the usual mode of making that portion of the blanket which is fitted to the hames, and is known as the housing, A being a strip of leather stitched to the fabric B, of which the blanket is composed, the ordinary rein-rings *a a* being connected to the strip, one near each end of the same, and the usual cruciform incisions *b* and *b'* being made through the leather strip and fabric.

In adjusting the blanket to the harnessed horse, the cruciform incisions are applied to the upper ends of the hame-bars, and the strip pressed downward, so that the four lips made by each cruciform incision will yield and permit the passage of the hame-bars through the strips. (See Fig. 3.)

In order that the housing may fit properly to the hames, the distance between the cruciform incisions must be equal to the distance between the hame-bars. If the distance between the incisions is greater than that between the bars, the strip B cannot be passed over the same without being puckered, and the stiffness of the leather prevents this, and renders the blanket ill-fitting. For these reasons it has been the practice to sell horse-

blankets without the housing, the latter being afterward applied, and being made of a special size to suit the particular hame to which it had to be adapted.

In carrying out my invention, with the view of making a blanket with a housing which can be easily applied to different sets of harness, in which the distance between the hame-bars varies, I stitch, or otherwise secure, to the blanket two leather strips  $A^2 A^2$ , as shown in Fig. 2, the pieces being so restricted in length that there shall be blanket fabric between them to about the extent shown in the drawing.

The distance between the cruciform incisions of the two strips, when the latter are stretched apart to their full extent, should be such that the incisions will coincide with hame-bars which are the greatest distance apart from each other, so that the blanket can be readily applied to harness in which the hame-bars are at a less distance apart, for the flexible blanket fabric intervening between the housing pieces will readily yield, and can be puckered to the extent desired, with the view of making the incisions accord with the hame-bars.

I claim as my invention—

The combination, with a horse-blanket, of housing-pieces  $A^2 A^2$ , arranged apart from each other, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

JOHN C. AYRES.

Witnesses:

HERMANN MOESSNER,  
HARRY SMITH.