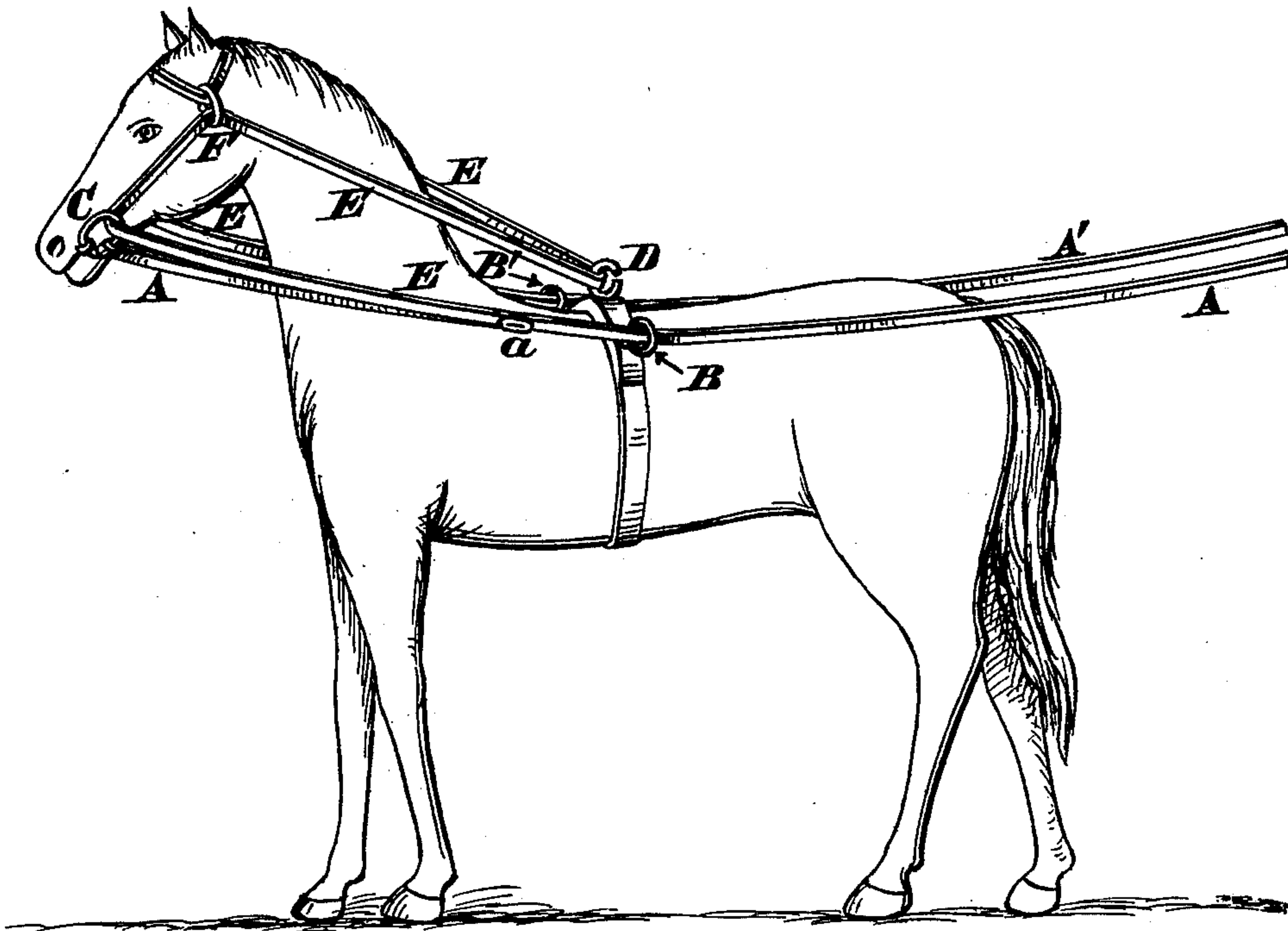


H. W. WILSON, G. J. BIRNBAUM & O. HANKS.
Check-Rein.

No. 213,485

Patented Mar. 18, 1879.



Inventors.

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Attest.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY W. WILSON, GEORGE J. BIRNBAUM, AND OSCAR HANKS, OF
CINCINNATI, OHIO.

IMPROVEMENT IN CHECK-REINS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **213,485**, dated March 18, 1879; application filed
December 17, 1878.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY W. WILSON, GEORGE J. BIRNBAUM, and OSCAR HANKS, all of Cincinnati, Hamilton county, Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Check-Reins, of which the following is a specification:

This invention relates to those bridles whose peculiar construction enables the driver to allow the horse's head sufficient play for eating or drinking by simply slackening the lines and without compelling the driver to dismount and disengage a check-rein from the terret-hook; and our improvement on such bridles is arranged as follows: The check-rein proper is made somewhat longer than usual, and its middle portion or bend is engaged with the terret-hook in the customary manner, the ends of said rein being passed through the gag-loops and bit-rings, and then carried back and connected to the respective driving-lines at any suitable point between the bit and the extreme rear ends of said lines.

Referring to the annexed drawing, it will be seen that the driving-lines A A' are first passed through the terret-rings B B', and then buckled to the bit-rings C in the usual manner. Engaged over the terret-hook D is the check-rein E, whose two opposite ends are passed through the gag-loops F, thence through said bit-rings C, and are finally carried back and united to the respective driving-lines at *a*. These junctions *a* may be located at any suitable point between the bit C and the rear ends of lines A A', according to the amount of play that is to be permitted for the horse's head.

When the harness is applied, as above described, it is evident that any ordinary pull on either of the lines A or A' will simply guide the horse to the right or left, while a slight exertion of force on both of said lines at the same time will compel the animal to raise his head to any desired position, and keep it elevated as long as the extra stress is on said lines A A'. This elevation results from the attachment of check-rein E to lines A A', the hook D serving as a bearing to receive the strain of the combined lines and rein.

By simply slackening the driving-lines, the horse's head will be free to assume any comfortable position, and if the couplings *a* are far enough back to allow sufficient play of rein E, the animal can lower his head so as to drink water from a stream, or to eat grass by the roadside.

We claim as our invention—

The driving-lines A A' attached to the bit and employed in conjunction with a check-rein, E, which check-rein engages over terret-hook D, passes through gag-loops F, and bit-rings C, and is finally coupled to said lines at *a*, in the manner herein described, and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony of which invention we hereunto set our hands.

HENRY W. WILSON.
GEORGE J. BIRNBAUM.
OSCAR HANKS.

Attest:

JAMES H. LAYMAN,
HEUBERT D. BLAKEMORE.