

(No Model.)

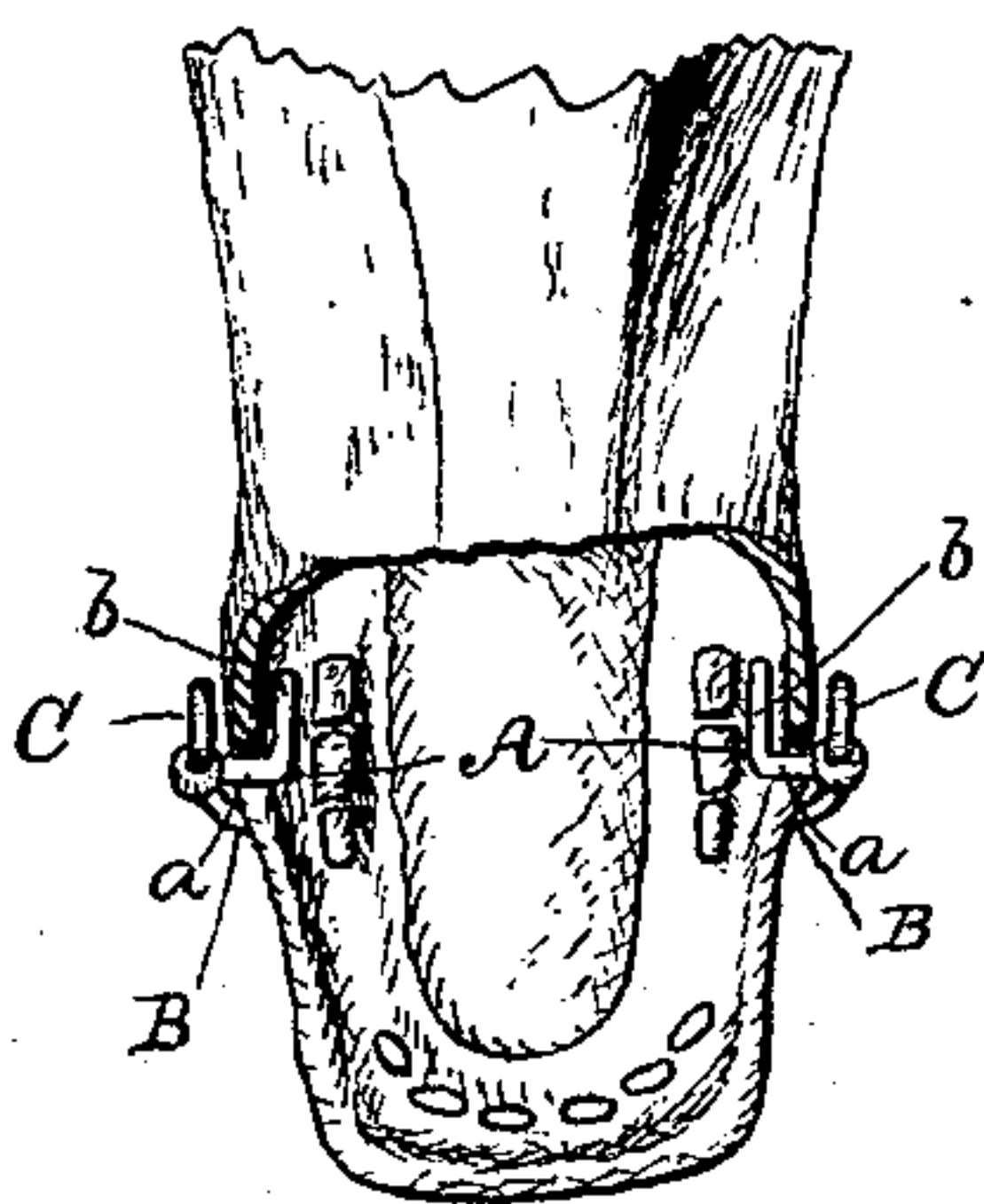
J. R. BROTT & M. L. ANDREWS.

BRIDLE BIT.

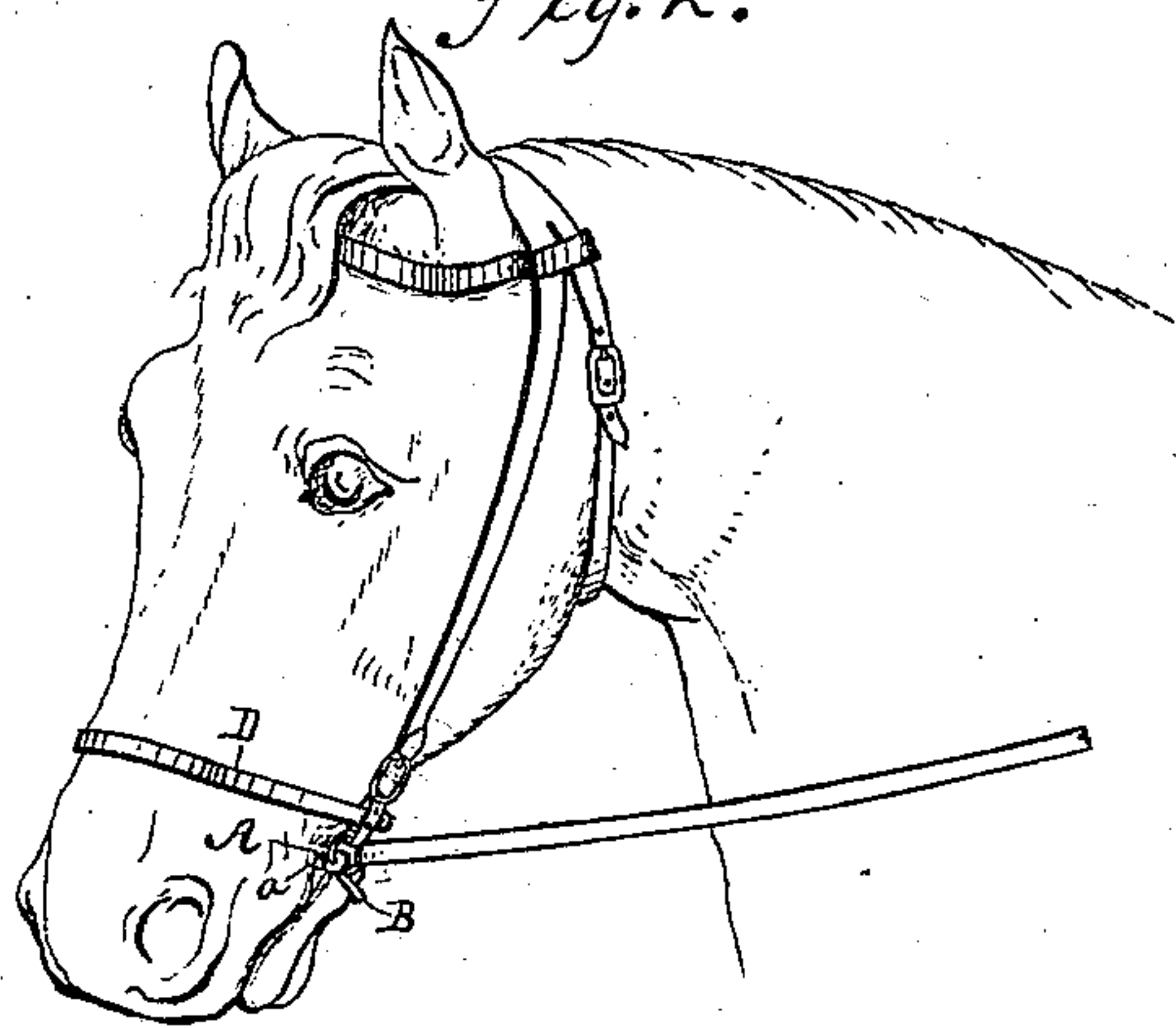
No. 312,182.

Patented Feb. 10, 1885.

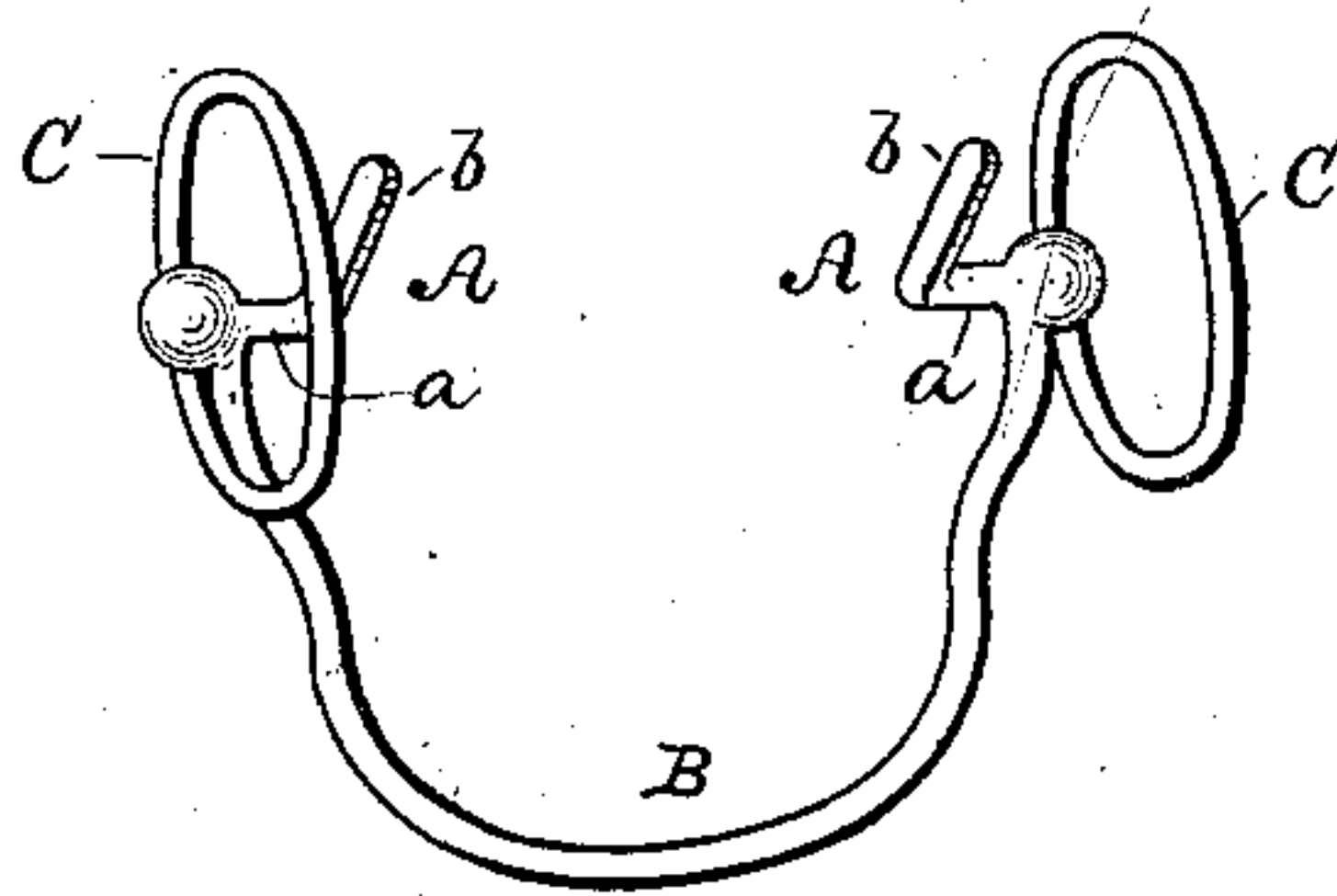
*fig. 1.*



*fig. 2.*



*fig. 3.*



WITNESSES:

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN R. BROTT, OF EAST MEDWAY, AND MARTIN L. ANDREWS, OF MEL-ROSE, MASSACHUSETTS.

## BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 312,182, dated February 10, 1885.

Application filed December 13, 1884. (No model)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that we, JOHN R. BROTT, of East Medway, Norfolk county, State of Massachusetts, and MARTIN L. ANDREWS, of Melrose, Middlesex county, State of Massachusetts, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a description.

The efficiency of the ordinary bar or snaffle-bit in guiding a horse depends upon the comparative facility with which its side rings or bars may be drawn or pressed laterally against the facial muscles at the corners of the mouth, and the aim of improvements heretofore has been to provide a bit which will keep the mouth partly open and the teeth off the connecting-bar or bit proper, in order that this pressure on the sensitive facial muscles may be readily secured; but bruising and other injury of the muscles and lips are liable to result, and this, coupled with other incidents of the use of the ordinary bit, renders it objectionable.

Our improved bit is so constructed that a connecting-bar passing through the mouth is dispensed with, side hooks being used instead, and the same inserted between the teeth and cheeks. These side hooks are connected and formed integral with a curved bar that passes around the under jaw of the horse.

A bit thus constructed and applied is specially adapted for use on horses known as "side-reiners," "tongue-lollers," and "bolt-ers," and, in fact, on all vicious driving horses, because it draws the cheek away from instead of against the molar teeth, as other bits tend to do, and thereby avoids the soreness or irritation which is the usual cause for the display of viciousness or some annoying habit in driving.

In accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of the lower portion of a horse's head with the upper jaw or nose broken away to allow the position of the bit-hooks in the mouth to be seen. Fig. 2 is a perspective view showing a horse's head with our bit applied. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bit.

The bit proper is formed of the hooks or mouth-pieces A and the curved or approximately-semicircular bar B, all forged in one

piece. The mouth-hooks A are essentially right angular in form, their round shorter arms *a* projecting inward or toward each other, and their flattened and longer arms *b*, standing parallel, and at or nearly at a right angle to the curved connecting-bar B. Rings C, for attachment of a headstall and driving-reins, are attached at the ends of the bar in the same manner as to bits in ordinary use.

To apply the bit to a horse, the curved bar B is held in one hand and the hooks A inserted in the mouth, so that their longer arms *b* pass upward between the molars and cheeks, as illustrated in Fig. 1. The headstall is then slipped over the ears and the operation is complete.

It will be perceived that in practice by pulling on both reins at once, the shorter arms *a* of said hooks will press more or less forcibly backward against the corners of the mouth of the animal, while by pulling one rein alone, as required for guiding to the right or left, the cheek on the side on which traction is exerted will be drawn away from the adjacent teeth, and if the traction be sufficient the portion of the bar B contiguous to the opposite hook will be pressed against the side of the lower jaw. Thus neither cheeks nor lips are forced against the teeth, and no bruising, irritation, or other injury of the same can result, so that the most sensitive-mouthed horse can wear the bit with comfort. The bit is, however, adapted for controlling hard-mouthed or "runaway" horses, since no pull is exerted against the jaw proper and the bit cannot be seized between the teeth.

Another important advantage results in that the tongue of the animal is left free, and there is no interference with drinking or eating. Besides, the champing, frothing, and drooling caused by other bits never attend the use of this. The bit is, moreover, ornamental, and contributes materially to the stylish appearance of a team.

In the drawings I have shown a strap, D, passing through the loops of the headstall (where buckled to the rings) and around the nose of the animal. This is useful in holding the bit steady in place, and assists in controlling the animal.



What we claim is—

1. A bridle-bit consisting of hooks adapted for insertion between the cheeks and teeth of a horse, and a curved bar connecting the same, and adapted to pass around the jaw, substantially as shown and described.

2. The improved bridle-bit formed of the curved jaw-bar B and the right-angular hooks A A, constructed in one rigid piece therewith

and projecting parallel to each other at a right angle, or nearly so, to said bar, as shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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