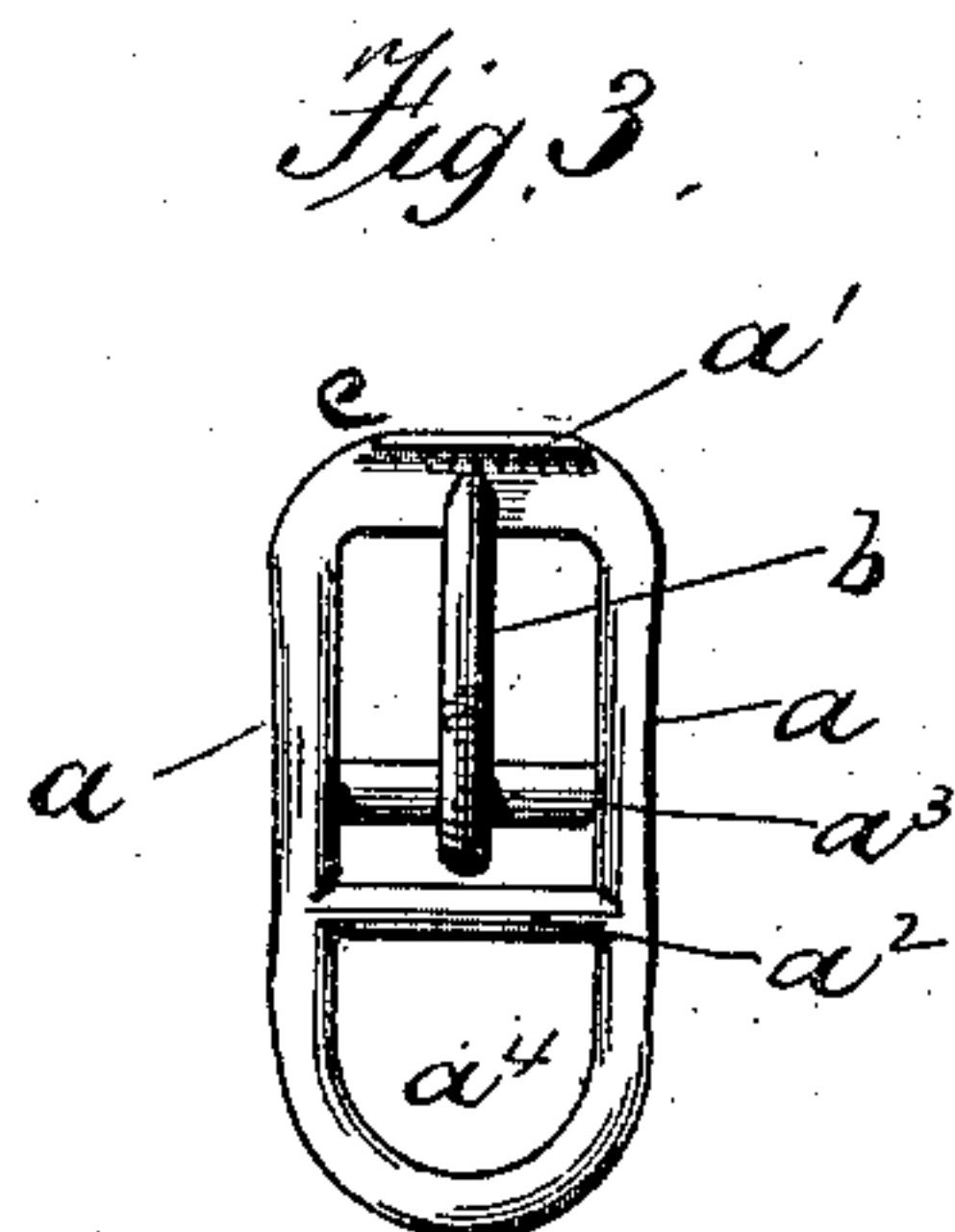
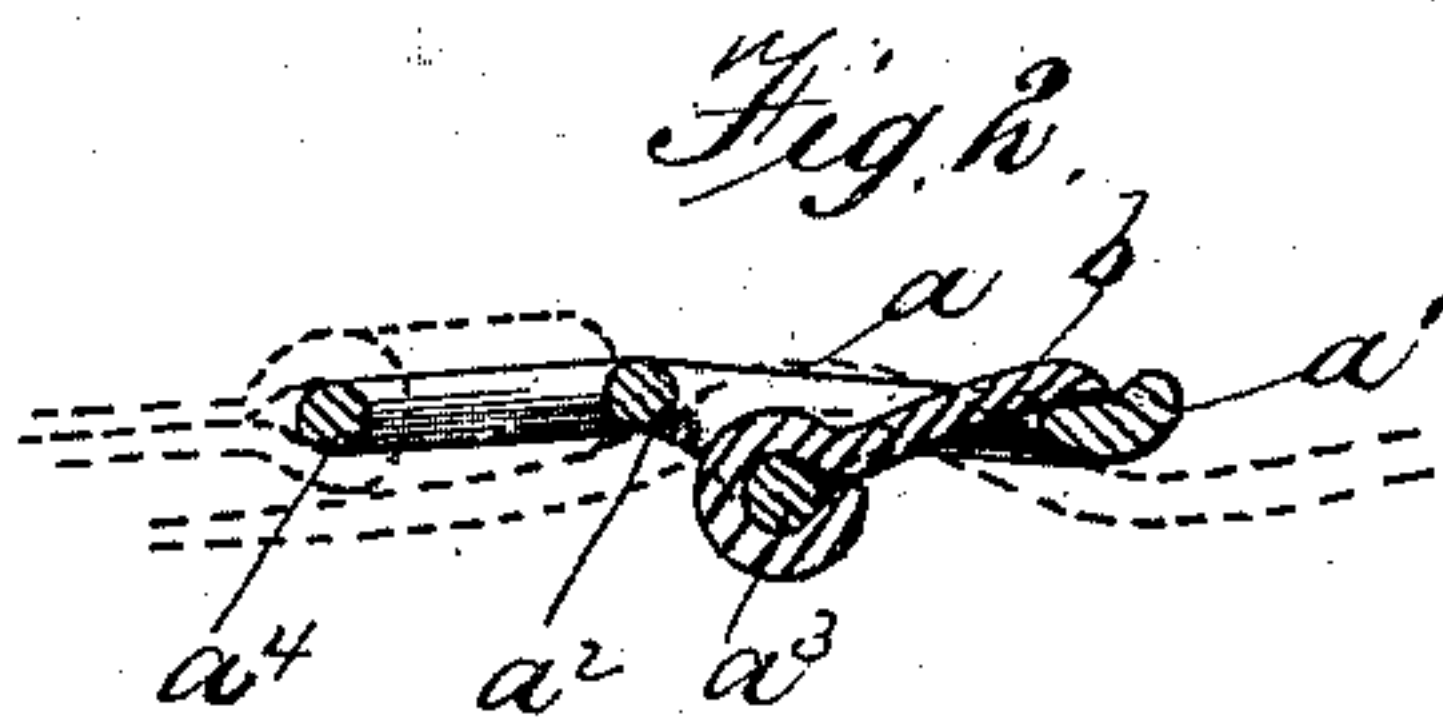
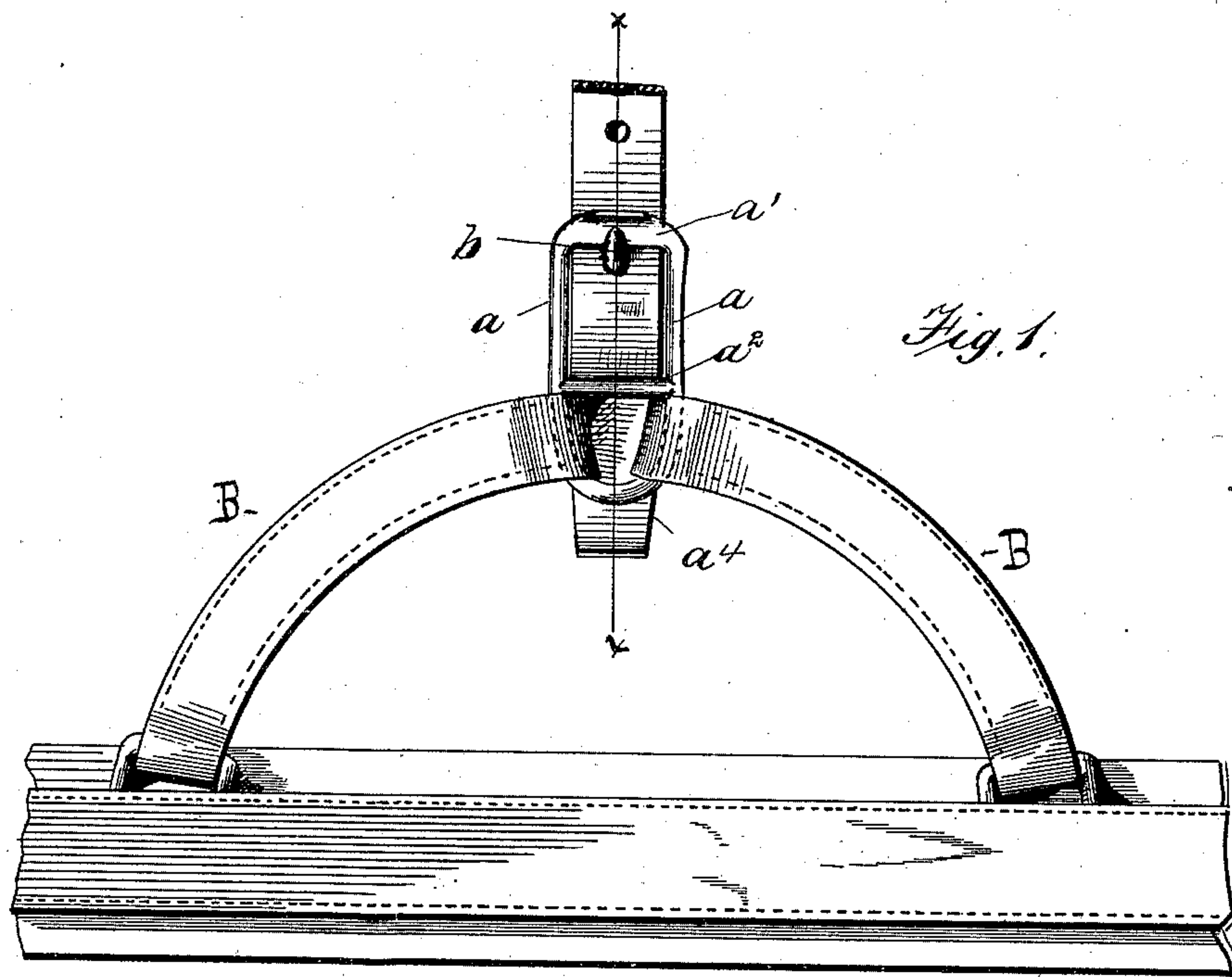


(No Model.)

M. E. ZELLER.
BUCKLE.

No. 331,176.

Patented Nov. 24, 1885.



Attest:
W. H. Knight,
J. T. Edmunds

Inventor:
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attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MELANCTHON E. ZELLER, OF BLUFFTON, OHIO.

BUCKLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 331,176, dated November 24, 1885.

Application filed September 10, 1885. Serial No. 176,686. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MELANCTHON E. ZELLER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bluffton, in the county of Allen and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Buckles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

This invention pertains to improvements in breeching or harness buckles, having for its object to remove certain objections or disadvantages attaching to buckles of this character as heretofore made—as, for instance, to prevent the accidental catching of the reins or of the horse's tail by the breeching or buckles; and the invention consists of the detailed construction of the buckle, substantially as hereinafter set forth, and pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a portion of breeching with my improved buckle applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a sectional view taken through the line *xx* of Fig. 1, the straps being shown in dotted lines. Fig. 3 is a detached side view of the buckle.

In the embodiment of my invention I construct a buckle, A, having its frame comprising, in addition to the usual side bars, *a a*, and end bar, *a'*, the intermediate bars, *a² a³*, and the end loop, *a⁴*. The end loop, *a⁴*, receives, as will be seen, the stays B of the breeching. The bar *a³* is connected to the side bars of the buckle-frame at the inner or rear side thereof, the same standing slightly outward or away from said bars, and serving as the means of attachment of the tongue *b* to said frame. The bar *a²* is connected to the side bars, *a*, of the buckle-frame so as stand flush with the outer or front side thereof, and is arranged a short interval from the bar *a³*, whereby the free end of the strap (the hip-strap in this instance) can

be passed inwardly and be held out of the way, to prevent the catching of the reins or the horse's tail thereon or in the breeching. The upper end bar, *a'*, of the buckle-frame has at its outer edge a flange or ledge, *c*, overhanging, and also preventing the catching upon the free end of the tongue of the reins or the horse's tail.

Having thus fully described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The breeching or harness buckle comprising the frame having two intermediate bars, one being the tongue-connecting bar standing outward or away from the inner base of said frame, the other intermediate bar being arranged flush with the outer or front side of said frame and a short interval from the aforesaid bar, and substantially in a line with the end bars, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In the breeching or harness buckle, the frame having the end loop and the intermediate bars, one being the tongue-connecting bar standing slightly outward or away from the inner or rear side of said frame, the other intermediate bar being arranged a short interval from the aforesaid bar and flush with the opposite or front side of the frame, the upper or outer end bar of said frame having a ledge or flange overhanging the free end of the tongue, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

MELANCTHON E. ZELLER.

Witnesses:

J. B. HALL,
JOHN Q. ADAMS.