

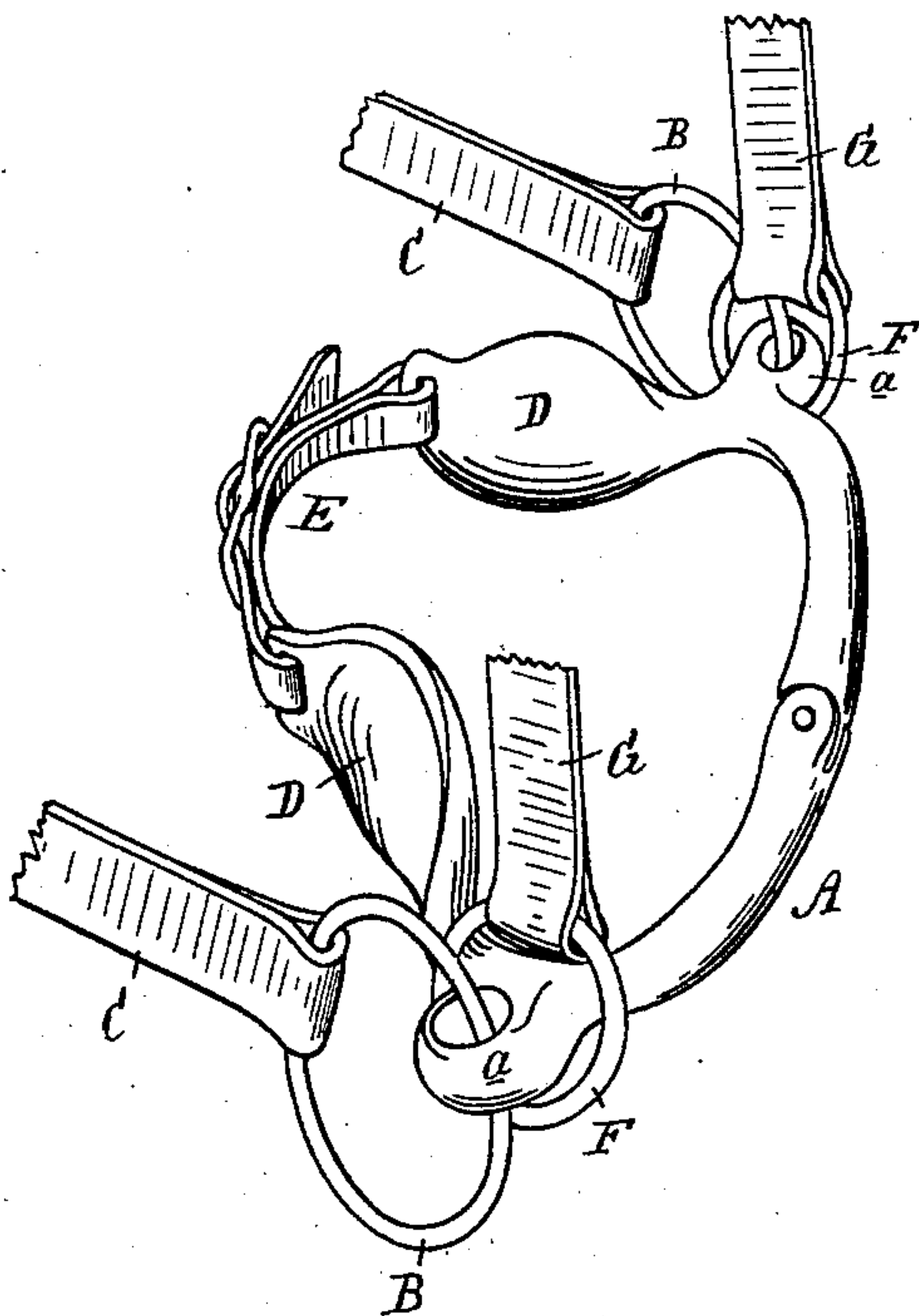
(No Model.)

N. E. SPRINGSTEEN.

BRIDLE BIT.

No. 347,209.

Patented Aug. 10, 1886.



Attest:
John Schuman.
[Signature]

Inventor:
Nelson E. Springsteen.
by his Atty
[Signature]

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

NELSON E. SPRINGSTEEN, OF DETROIT, MICHIGAN.

BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,209, dated August 10, 1886.

Application filed May 20, 1886. Serial No. 202,703. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, NELSON E. SPRINGSTEEN, of Detroit, in the county of Wayne and State of Michigan, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification.

10 This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in bridle-bits.

The object of the invention is to construct a bit especially designed for use in breaking young or driving fractious horses, whereby 15 the animal can be brought under complete control of the driver.

To this end the invention consists in the peculiar construction of the bit, all as more fully hereinafter set forth.

20 In the accompanying drawing, which forms a part of this specification, my improved bit is shown in perspective, with the cheek-straps of the bridle and reins attached, and in which A represents a single-jointed bit, being provided with eyes *a*, for the reception of the rings B, to which the reins C are attached. The outer ends of the two sections of the bit A terminate in spoon-shaped plates D, which curve inwardly, substantially as shown, and 30 are connected together by an adjusting-strap, E.

F are rings that loosely embrace the eyes *a* of the bit, and to these rings the cheek-strap G of the bridle (and check-rein, if one is used) is secured.

35 In practice the bit is introduced into the animal's mouth in the usual manner, being supported by the cheek-straps of the bridle, with the spoon-plates D beneath or in rear of the lower jaw, the strap E being so adjusted that the bit will rest easily in the mouth. If 40 the animal is being driven and becomes fractious or frightened, it will readily be seen that by pulling upon the lines C the bit is compelled to bend at its joint, causing the plates D to be forced against the under jaw into the gland-sockets that are located at these points upon either side of the jaw, their location being well known to horsemen generally. This 45

pressure upon the glands, which are very sensitive, by the plates D soon causes the animal 50 to become quiet and to submit to be guided by the rein.

In ordinary driving, the animal being guided by pulling upon one of the lines only, the plates are not compressed to the jaw, and it will be 55 seen that by reason of the curve of the bit outside the mouth the bit cannot be pulled through, but that the head is turned by the pressure being brought upon the jaw on the opposite side from that it is intended he shall 60 turn. A practical use of this construction has demonstrated the fact that the most fractious animal can in a short time be rendered docile, and without being compelled to resort to harsh means and bits, the use of which injure and 65 cut the mouth of the animal, while at the same time they seem to anger and excite the animal.

With a bit constructed as described the mouth cannot be "sawed" or cut, neither can 70 the animal "take the bit in its teeth," if the strap E is properly adjusted.

What I claim as my invention is—

1. A bridle-bit consisting of two members pivotally secured together, each part formed 75 at its free end with a spoon-plate, D, and between its free end and its pivot-point with an eye, *a*, and the two parts connected at their free ends by the adjusting-strap E, and the rings F, loosely embracing said eyes and receiving the cheek-straps, substantially as and 80 for the purpose specified.

2. A bridle-bit consisting of the bit A, provided with the rings B, the outer ends of the bit terminating in the spoon-shaped plates D, 85 and the adjusting-strap E, all constructed, arranged, and operating substantially in the manner and for the purposes specified.

In witness that I claim the above as my invention I have hereunto set my hand this 27th 90 day of February, 1886.

NELSON E. SPRINGSTEEN.

Witnesses:

H. S. SPRAGUE,
CHAS. THURMAN.