

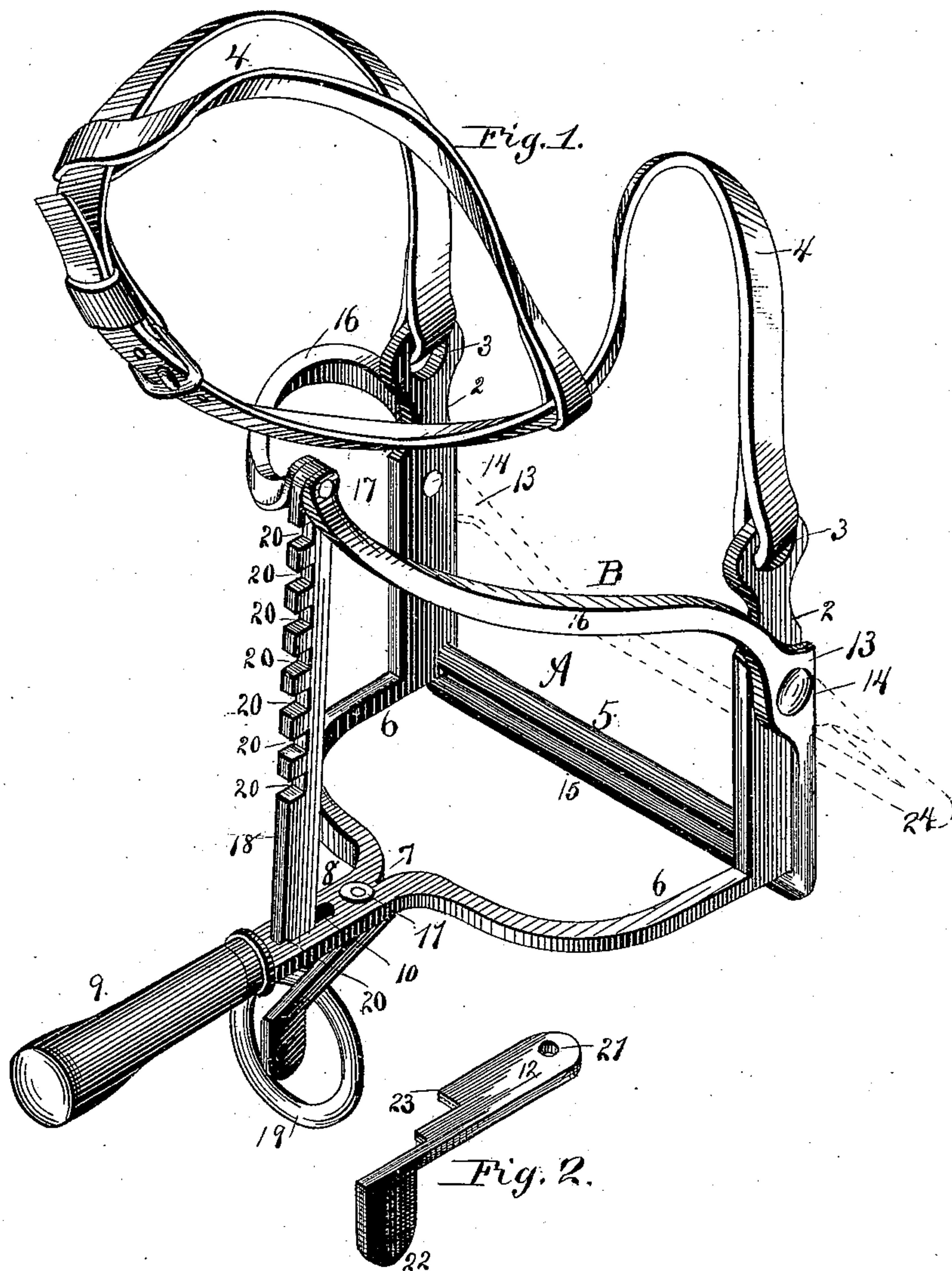
(No Model.)

J. M. DUNN.

GAG BIT.

No. 355,442.

Patented Jan. 4, 1887.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES M. DUNN, OF KINGSVILLE, MISSOURI.

GAG-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 355,442, dated January 4, 1887.

Application filed October 15, 1886. Serial No. 216,328. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES M. DUNN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Kingsville, in the county of Johnson and State of Missouri, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gag-Bits; and I do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

My invention has relation to "gag-bits," and is an instrument to be used in veterinary surgery; and it consists in the novel construction and arrangement of its parts, hereinafter fully set forth in the specification and claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the lock.

My invention is described as follows: I make a bit, A, having the side pieces 2 in the upper ends of which are openings 3, having the head-gear 4 to be attached, which may be made of leather or other suitable material. To the lower end of the side pieces 2 of the bit A is a rod or cross-piece, 5, which is to go in the horse's mouth, and which joins the side pieces 2 together. From the lower end and rear edge of the side pieces 2 extend backward arms 6, which extend beyond the lower jaw of the horse and meet at point marked 7 in Fig. 1, and extend back as one solid piece, forming a handle, 8, on which is mounted a convenient handle, 9. In the handle 8 is a perpendicular slot, 10. To the under face of said handle 8 is pivoted by a pivot, 11, the lock 12. To the said bit A is pivoted a lever, B, which consists of side pieces 13, which are pivoted to the outer face of the side pieces 2 of the bit A by pivots 14. These side pieces 13 extend downward a little beyond the lower ends of said side pieces 2, and are secured together by a rod, 15, that lies close against the cross-piece 5, and also works in the horse's mouth. The upper ends of these side pieces 13 extend upward and back-

ward, forming levers 16, and nearly meet in rear of the horse's under jaw. Between the outer ends of these levers 16 is pivoted by a pivot, 17, a notch-bar, 18, which works up and down loosely in the slot 10. The lower end of this bar terminates in a ring, 19. In this bar 18 are square notches, 20—eight in the upper end, which are equal distances apart, and one in the lower end near the ring 19. The lock 12 is a simple plate having a perforation, 21, by which it is pivoted to the lower face of handle 8, and a thumb-piece, 22. This lock has on its left-hand face a shoulder, 23, to lock the bar back, as hereinafter described.

My invention is operated as follows: The bar 18 is pushed up until the lower notch catches in the outer end of the slot 10 in arm 8. This closes the bit and brings the two cross-pieces 5 and 15 together, as shown in Fig. 1. Then the gag-bit is put on the horse's head and in his mouth in the manner of an ordinary bridle and bit, with the handle 8 and levers 16 extending to the rear. In other words, the under jaw of the horse is between the rods or cross-pieces 5 and 15, the arms 6, and the levers 16. When I wish to pry open the horse's mouth, I turn back the lock 12 and pull the rod 18 down through the slot 10, which throws the lower ends of the side pieces 13, and the rod or cross-pieces 15 outward and upward, as indicated by the dotted lines 24, Fig. 1. When the horse's mouth is by this means sufficiently open I catch one of the notches 20, in the rear end of the slot 10, and turn the lock 12 back, which holds the said rod 18 up to its place by means of the shoulder 23. It is evident that the horse's mouth may be forced open more or less, according to the number of the notches used in the bar 10.

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

The gag-bit, as above described, consisting of the side pieces 2, having the openings 3, rod or cross-pieces 5, arms 6, extending from the lower end and rear edge of said side pieces 2, and uniting in a handle, 8, which has a perpendicular slot, 10, lever 13, pivoted to the said

side pieces 2 by pivots 14, and having their lower ends joined by a rod or cross-piece, 15, with their upper ends extending upward and backward and forming levers 16, notch-rod 5 18, its upper end pivoted between the rear ends of arms 16, said rod working loosely in said slot 10, and lock 12, pivoted to the lower face of arm 6 and adapted to lock said bar 18 by means of the shoulder 23, substantially

as shown and described, and for the purposes to set forth.

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

JAMES M. DUNN.

Witnesses:

S. T. LEWIS,

JOHN JOHNSON.