

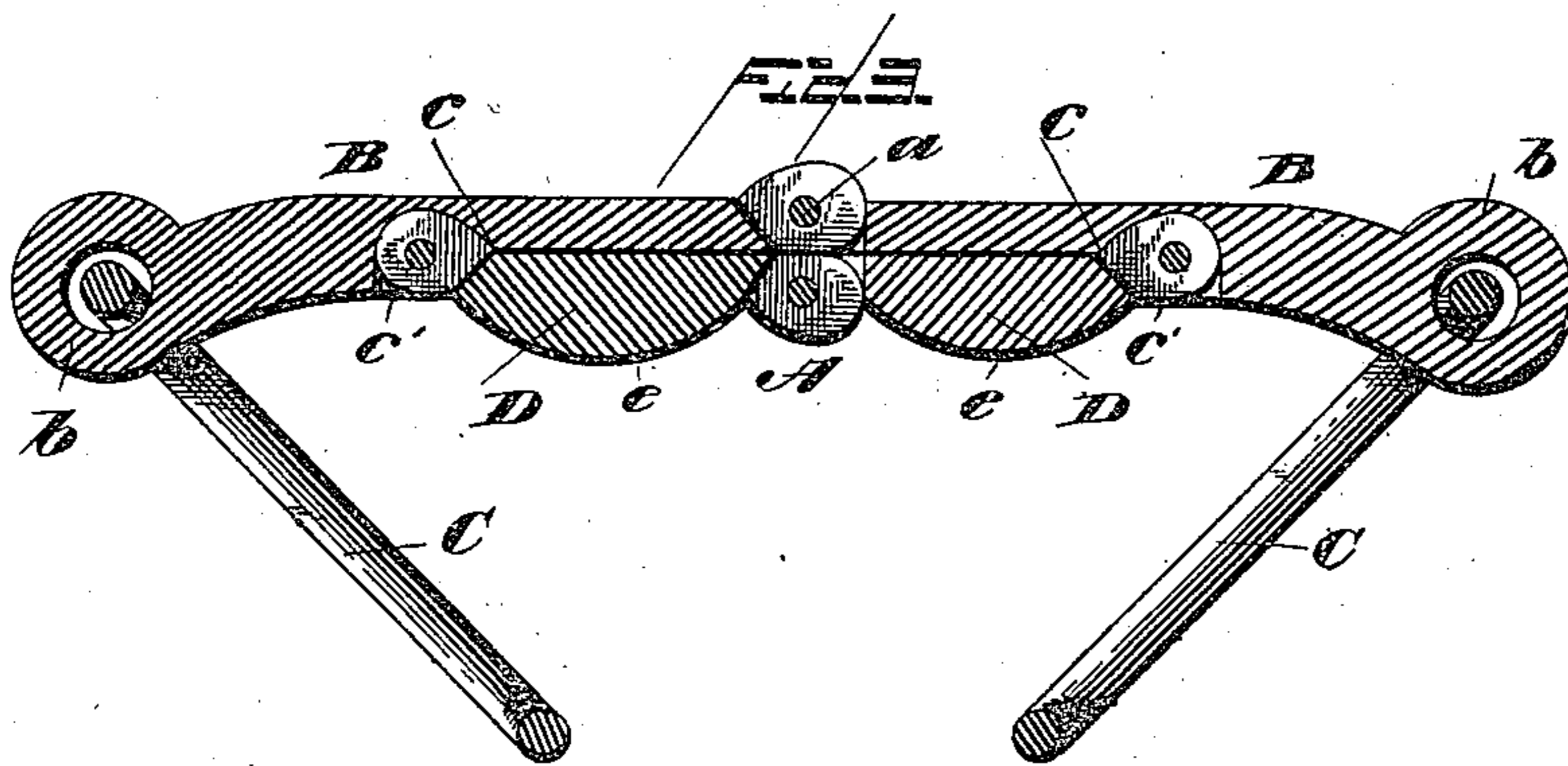
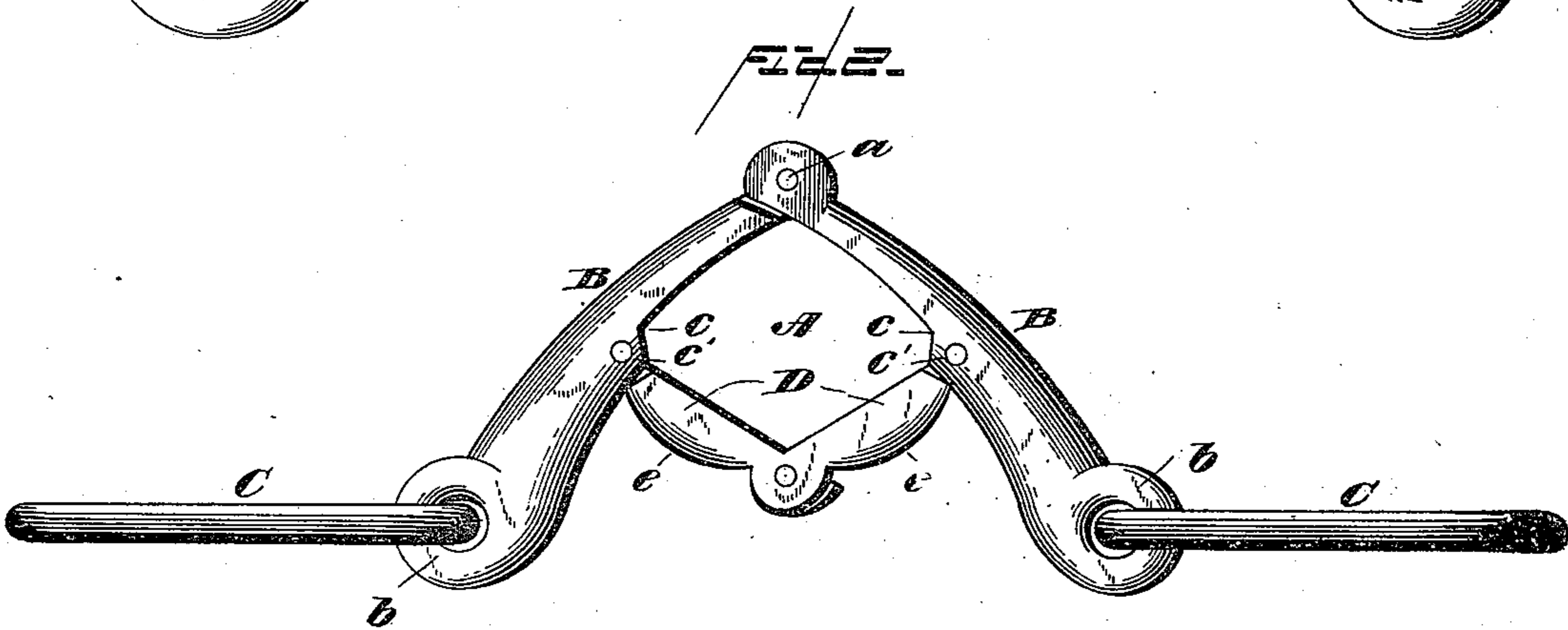
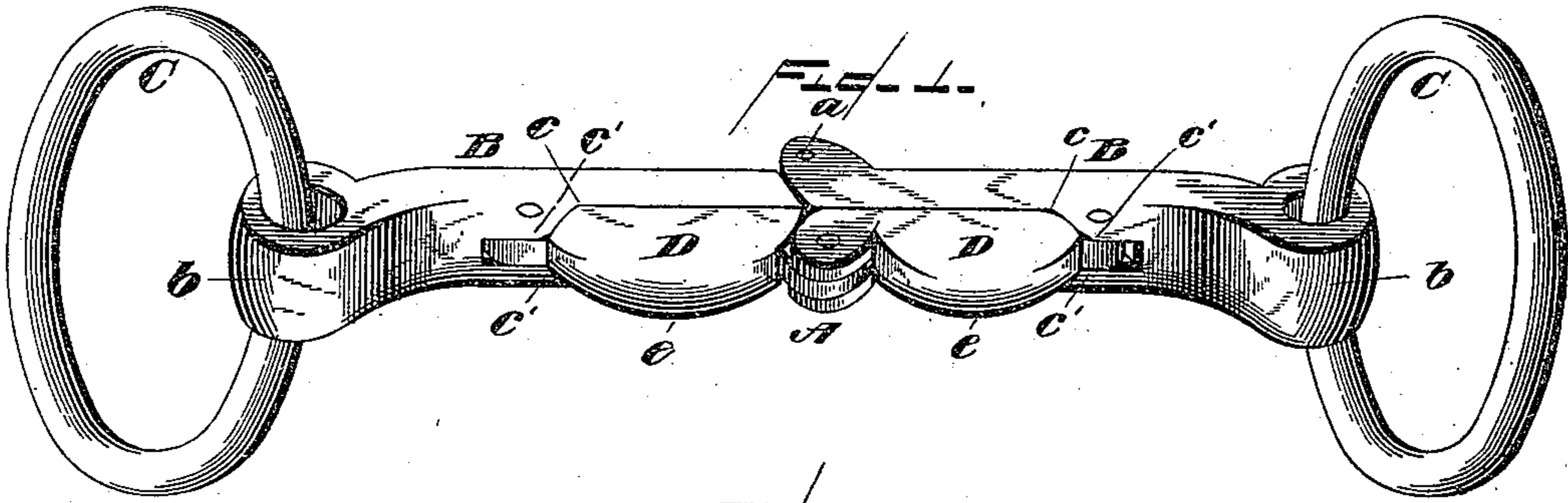
(No Model.)

C. M. HUCKINS.

BRIDLE BIT.

No. 356,043.

Patented Jan. 11, 1887.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHESTER M. HUCKINS, OF WEST TOPSHAM, VERMONT.

BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 356,043, dated January 11, 1887.

Application filed October 23, 1886. Serial No. 217,050. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHESTER M. HUCKINS, a citizen of the United States, residing at West Topsham, in the county of Orange and State of Vermont, have invented new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in bridle-bits; and it consists of the peculiar and novel construction and arrangement of the various parts for service, substantially as hereinafter fully described, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

My present invention is especially designed as an improvement upon the bit patented to me on the 12th day of October, 1869, and numbered 95,801. In this patented device I employ a pair of toggle-levers, which are pivoted at their outer or free ends to the jointed sections of a bridle-bit at such a point of the length of the latter that the said levers are substantially in line with one another when the bit is operated.

I have found by practical experience that a bit having the toggle-levers pivoted and arranged as above described will not be operated automatically by a pull upon the reins by the driver, and, therefore, when it is desired to use the bit upon a fractious animal, the toggle-levers and bit have to be first properly adjusted by hand and then placed in the animal's mouth.

The primary object of my present invention is to provide an improved bridle-bit with a single pair of toggle-levers, which shall be so pivoted and arranged as to be automatically operated to bear upon the inner sides of the animal's mouth the instant that a pull is exerted upon the reins, and when the reins are slackened the bit and toggle-levers instantly return to their former positions.

A further object of my invention is to improve the toggle-levers so that they will act more forcibly and powerfully upon the animal's mouth, to more quickly subdue it and bring it under more complete control.

In the accompanying drawings, which illustrate a bridle-bit embodying my improvements, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the bit and toggle-levers in their normal closed positions. Fig. 2 is a top plan view showing the bit and toggle-levers in their operative positions.

Fig. 3 is a horizontal central sectional view thereof.

Referring to the drawings, in which like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures, A designates the bit, which is jointed at its middle, as at *a*, to form two movable sections, B, and provided at its ends with enlarged perforated ears *b*, through which are passed the rings C, to which the reins are attached or connected, as is usual. The inner sides of the meeting pivoted ends of the bit-sections are recessed or cut away, as at *c*, and the outer terminal ends of the recessed portions are provided with transversely-perforated ears or lugs *c'*, which lie at a point on the bit-sections beyond the middle of the said sections.

DD designate the toggle-jointed levers, which are pivoted at their outer terminal ends between the ears or lugs of the bit-sections, suitable lugs being formed on the ends of the toggle-levers, which fit between the ears *c'*, and through which a suitable pin or shaft is passed to pivotally connect the bit and toggle-levers thereof together. The opposing sides of the bit-sections and toggle-levers are flattened, as shown, to adapt the parts to fit snugly and closely together. It will thus be seen that the toggle-levers are pivotally connected to the bit-sections at a point beyond the middle of the latter, and that the pivots of the toggle-levers and bit-sections are in line and parallel with each other. By this construction, when a pull is exerted upon the reins beyond the strength of the ordinary strain necessary in driving and guiding the animal, the bit-sections are forced outwardly and the toggle-levers rearwardly against the inner sides of the animal's mouth, the sides of the mouth of the animal serving as a fulcrum to the bit-sections. The rear sides of the toggle-levers are bulged or enlarged, as at *e*, so that the greater transverse diameter is at the middle, while it is gradually reduced or diminished in thickness toward the extremities of the said levers. By thus enlarging the rear side of the toggle-levers, they exert considerable more pressure or force upon the soft inner sides of the animal's mouth.

From the foregoing description it will be seen that I provide an improved bit which is automatic in operation when the animal starts

to run, and which can be easily operated by a pull upon the reins, and that the toggle-levers are more effective and reliable in action, as the bulged rear side thereof acts directly upon the soft inner sides of the animal's mouth.

The advantages incident to the use of my improved bridle-bit herein described are that it can be used as an ordinary bit without injury to any animal, hard-mouthed and pulling horses can be more easily and readily controlled, the animal is effectually prevented from putting his tongue over the bit, or from taking it between its teeth, it can be successfully used in breaking colts in a shorter time, and is invaluable in a double team where one pulls harder than the other.

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

1. An improved bridle-bit, comprising the jointed bit-sections and the toggle-levers piv-

otally connected at their outer ends to the bit-sections at points beyond the middle thereof, and lying at an acute angle to each other when separated, the pivots of the toggle-levers and the bit-sections being in line with each other, and the bit-sections being recessed or cut out to receive the toggle-levers when the parts are closed, substantially as described.

2. An improved bridle-bit, comprising the jointed-bit sections and the toggle-levers pivoted to the bit-sections, and having the sides thereof bulged or enlarged at their centers and gradually reduced toward their extremities, substantially as described.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in presence of two witnesses.

CHESTER M. HUCKINS.

Witnesses:

WM. R. PUFFER,
JOHN B. ATWOOD.