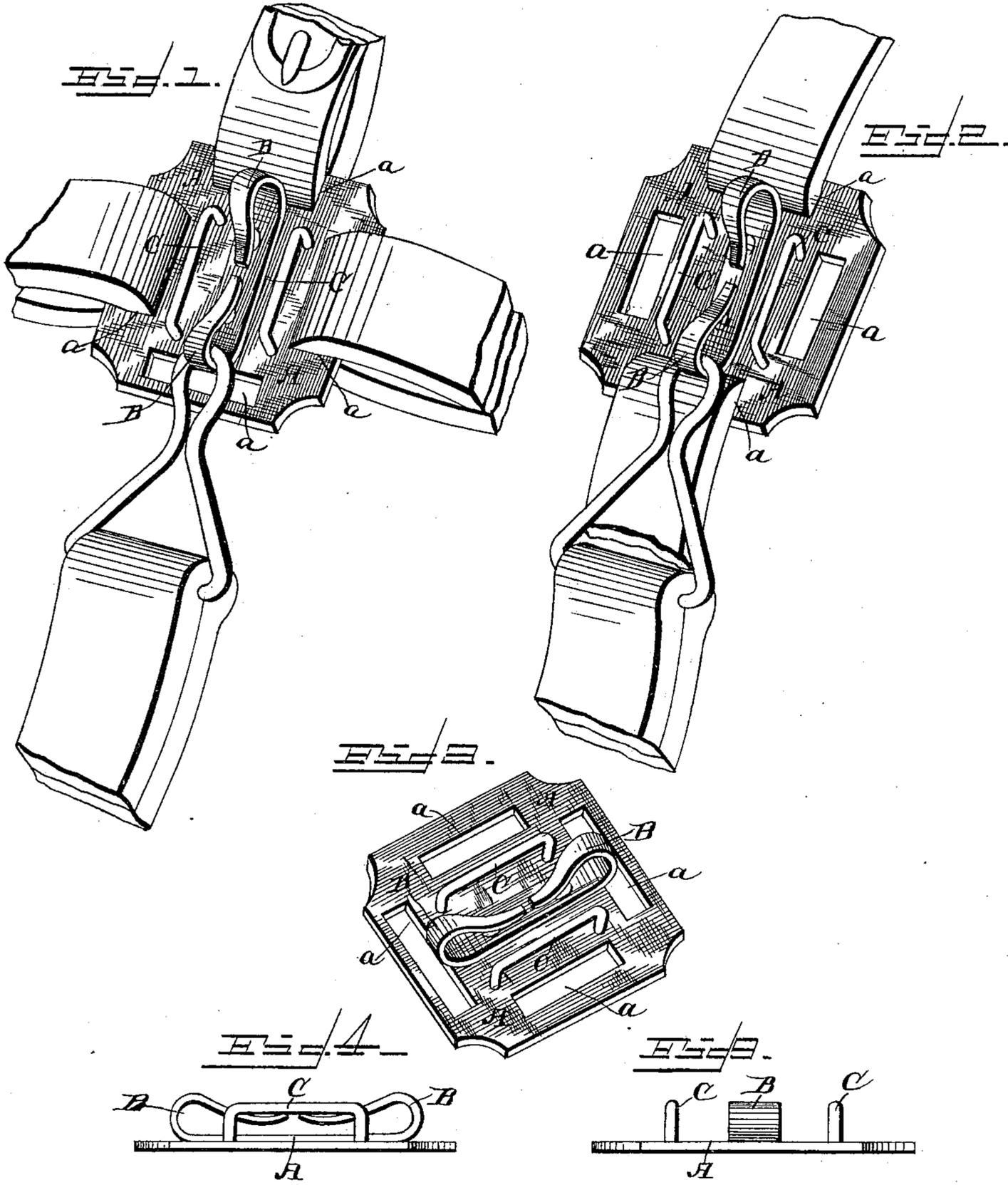


(No Model.)

A. J. BATES.  
TRACE CARRIER.

No. 371,485.

Patented Oct. 11, 1887.



Witnesses

*M. W. Humphrey*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ANDREW JACKSON BATES, OF CARLINVILLE, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO WILLIAM L. YEARGIN, OF SAME PLACE.

## TRACE-CARRIER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 371,485, dated October 11, 1887.

Application filed August 5, 1887. Serial No. 246,220. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ANDREW JACKSON BATES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Carlinville, in the county of Macoupin and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Trace-Carriers, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an improvement in trace carriers or holders; and it consists in the construction and arrangement of the parts thereof, which will be more fully hereinafter described, and particularly pointed out in the claim.

The object of my invention is to provide a novel device which is adapted for use with the breeching as a trace-holder, or with a back-band as a trace-carrier, and which is of such construction that it may be applied with either one side or the other up or down on either the breeching or back-band, being provided with duplex attaching-hooks. I attain this object by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, wherein like letters of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, and in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved device shown in connection with the breeching and arranged as a trace-holder. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the device arranged in connection with a back-band and arranged as a trace-carrier. Fig. 3 is a detail perspective view of my improved device. Fig. 4 is a side elevation thereof. Fig. 5 is a front elevation.

A indicates the base-plate, which is constructed with four openings, *a*, to which the breeching is attached, as shown. When the device is used as a trace-carrier, as shown in Fig. 2, the two side openings may be dispensed with and the upper and lower holes only provided. In the central portion of the said plate A two spring-hooks, B B, are secured, the open portions of which are arranged toward and opposing each other. These hooks B are constructed of suitable spring metal, and the bodies thereof are slightly bent down toward the plate A near their open ends, so as to insure a perfect securement of the cockeye on the end of the trace, or of the link supporting and carrying the trace.

On each side of the two central hooks, B B,

two guards; C C, are secured, which are constructed of wire bent into the form of rectangular loops or elongated staples, which project outwardly from the outer surface of the plate A. These guards C are mounted adjacent to the two central hooks, B, and prevent the reins from becoming entangled with or caught by the said hooks, as will be readily apparent and appreciable.

It will be observed that the device is reversible and can be attached in connection with either of the parts of harness shown by any suitable and preferable means.

When it is desired to support a trace, the cockeye on the end of the trace, after being removed from connection with the whiffletree, is attached to the lower hook, B, and the trace thereby retained and prevented from dragging upon the ground.

In the use of the device as a carrier the link secured in connection with the trace is adapted to engage with either one of the hooks B, as shown, and secured in the desired position, well understood in the art.

The device may be suitably ornamented and nickel plated, and the base-plate A constructed of any desired and applicable configuration.

The novelty and utility of my improved device being obviously apparent and appreciable, it is unnecessary to further enlarge upon the same herein.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is—

As an improved article of manufacture, a reversible trace-holder adapted for use as a carrier, consisting of a base-plate provided with a series of attaching-openings, *a*, and having the central spring-hooks, B, the openings of which are arranged in opposing positions in the central portion of the plate, and the wire guards C, arranged on each side of the said hooks and in a line parallel therewith and above the surface of the plate A, substantially as described.

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

ANDREW JACKSON BATES.

Witnesses:

W. C. HANKINS,  
L. F. OLLER.