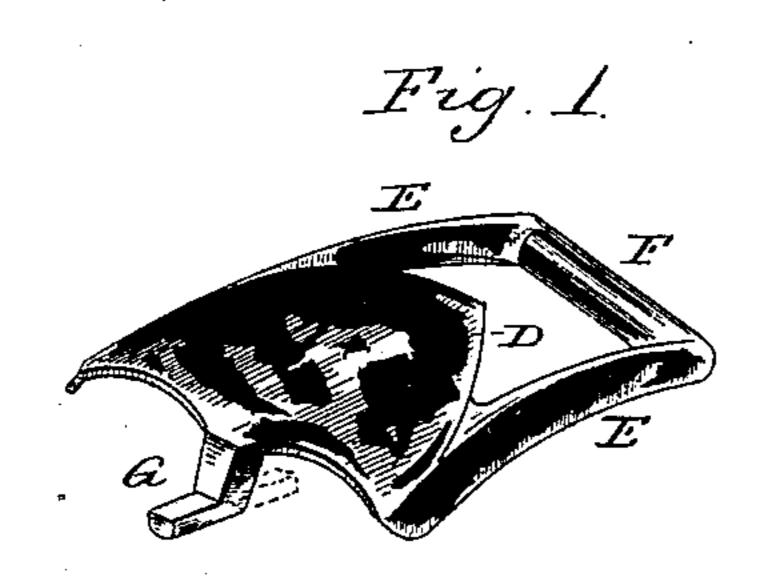
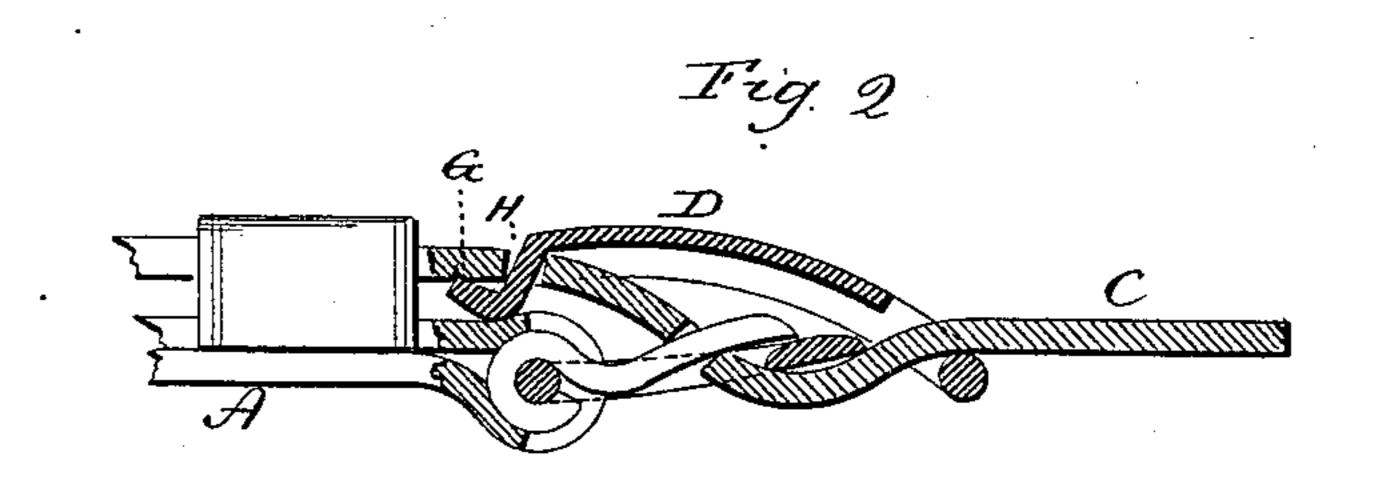
(No Model.)

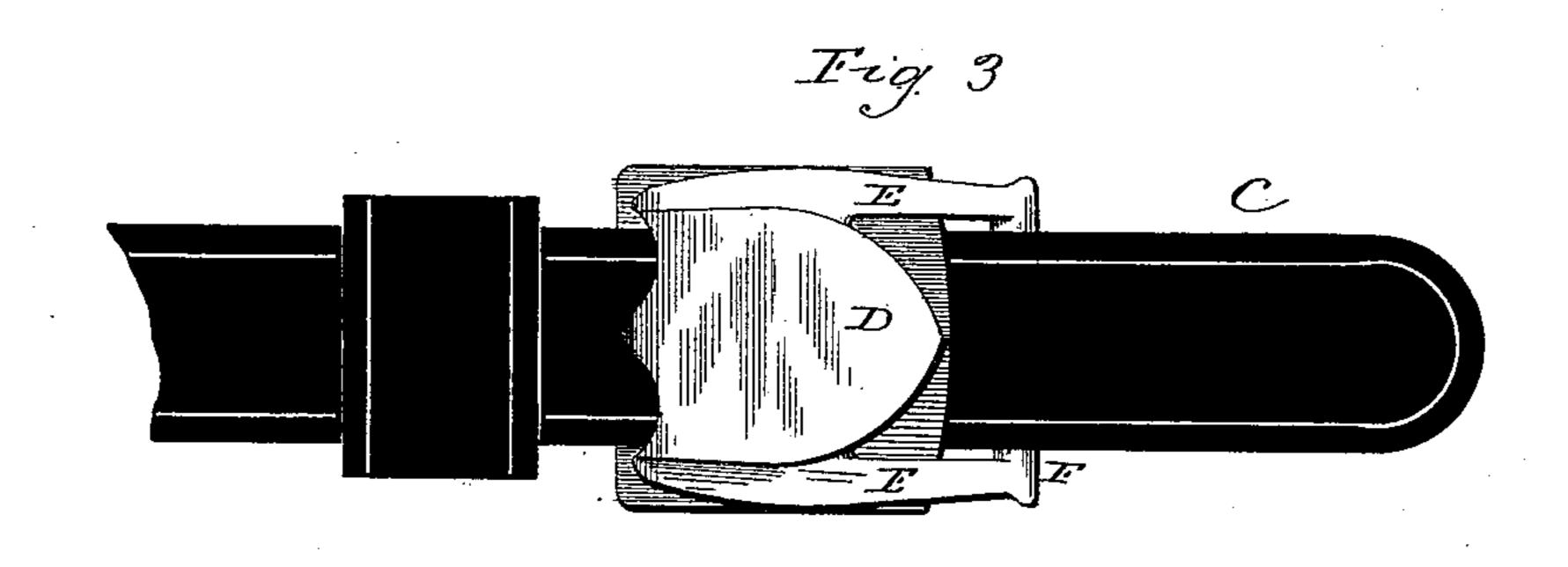
## W. H. CHAPMAN. BUCKLE GUARD.

No. 372,603.

Patented Nov. 1, 1887.







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## United States Patent Office.

WILLIAM H. CHAPMAN, OF MIDDLETOWN, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO W. H. CHAPMAN & CO., OF SAME PLACE.

## BUCKLE-GUARD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 372,603, dated November 1, 1887.

Application filed August 22, 1887. Serial No. 247,577. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM H. CHAPMAN, of Middletown, in the county of Middlesex and State of Connecticut, have invented a new Improvement in Buckle-Guards; and I do hereby declare the following, when taken in connection with accompanying drawings and the letters of reference marked thereon, to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, and which said drawings constitute part of this specification, and represent, in—

Figure 1, a perspective view of the guard detached; Fig. 2, a longitudinal section of the strap and buckle, showing the guard applied;

15 Fig. 3, a front view of the same.

This invention relates to a guard adapted to be placed upon the straps of a harness over the buckle, and so as to protect the buckle tongue, the object of the invention being the construction of a guard entirely independent of the buckle, but yet so as to be readily applied to the same strap; and it consists in the construction as hereinafter described, and more particularly recited in the claim.

The invention is designed more especially for the brace-straps which support the breech-

ing of a harness.

In Fig. 2, A represents the standing strap, which carries a common single-tongue buckle, 30 and with which the free strap C is engaged. This is a common construction, and requires no particular description.

The guard is adapted to be applied to the strap C, and so as to cover the buckle. It is constructed as seen in Fig. 1, and consists of a plate, D, of a size and extent to cover the buckle, and may be made of highly-ornamental character. At one end the two sides E E are extended, and connected by a cross-bar, F, the

sides being curved backward from the plate, 40 so as to bring the bar F out of the plane of the plate D. At the other end the plate D is constructed with a backwardly-turned hook, G, the termination of which may be from the plate, as indicated in Fig. 1, or beneath the plate, as 45 indicated in broken lines in same figure. The width between the two sides E E is sufficient to permit the strap C to pass between the bar F and the plate D.

The guard is set onto the strap before the 50 strap is passed through the buckle, then the strap is engaged with the buckle in the usual manner, then the hook G is introduced through a corresponding hole, H, in the strap C, and so that its hooked end passes inside the strap, 55 and then the end of the strap is tucked through the loop in the usual manner. This leaves the guard upon the outside of the strap and over the buckle-tongue. The sides of the plate, being turned backward, inclose the edges of the 50 strap, so that the guard not only performs a very useful function in connection with the buckle, but adds greatly to the ornamentation of the harness.

I claim—

The herein-described buckle-guard, consisting of the guard-plate D, having backwardly-curved extensions from one end, connected by a bar, F, so as to leave a space between said bar and plate for the insertion of the strap 70 through the guard, the other end of the plate terminating in a backwardly-turned hook, G, substantially as described.

W. H. CHAPMAN.

Witnesses:

GEO. D. CHAPMAN, E. C. MURPHY.