

(No Model.)

C. RUSSWURM.

CHEEK PIECE FOR BRIDLES.

No. 373,097.

Patented Nov. 15, 1887.

Fig. 1.

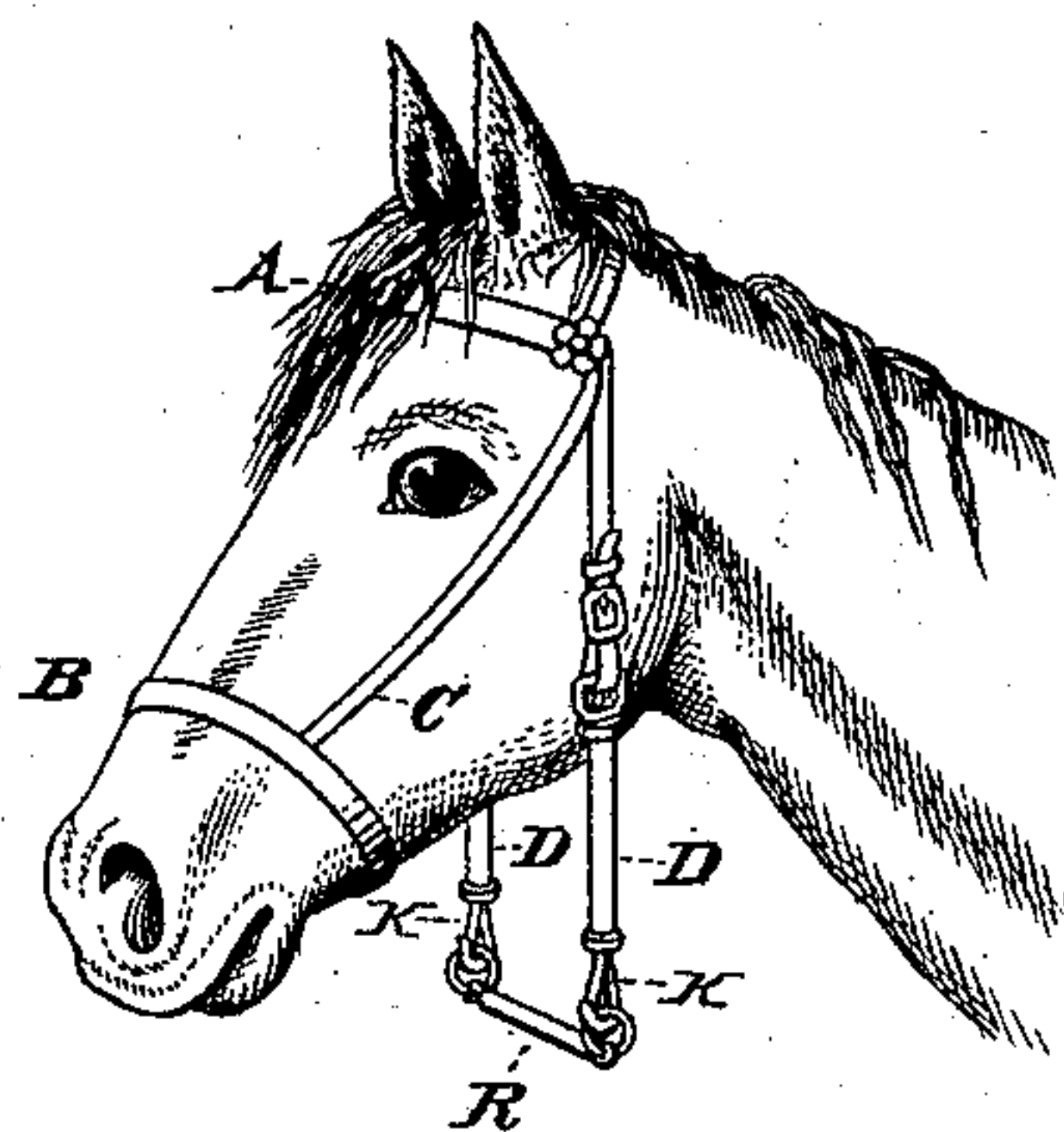


Fig. 2.

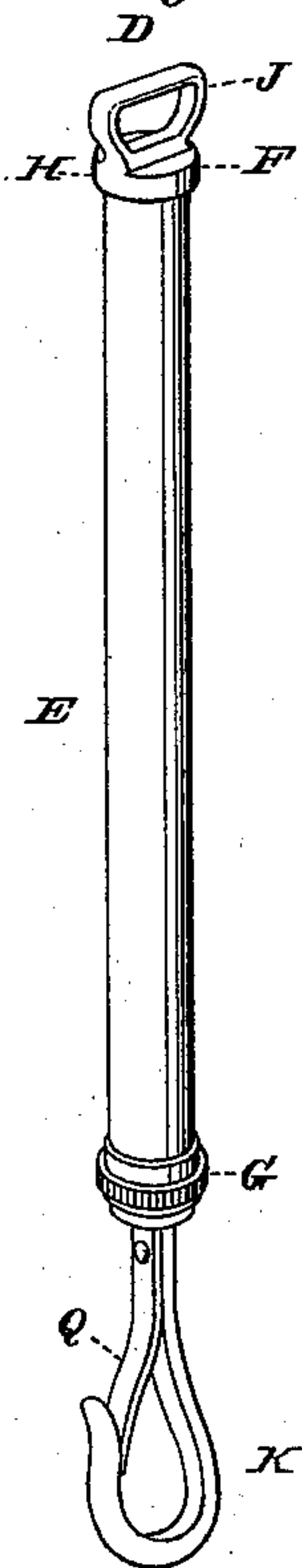
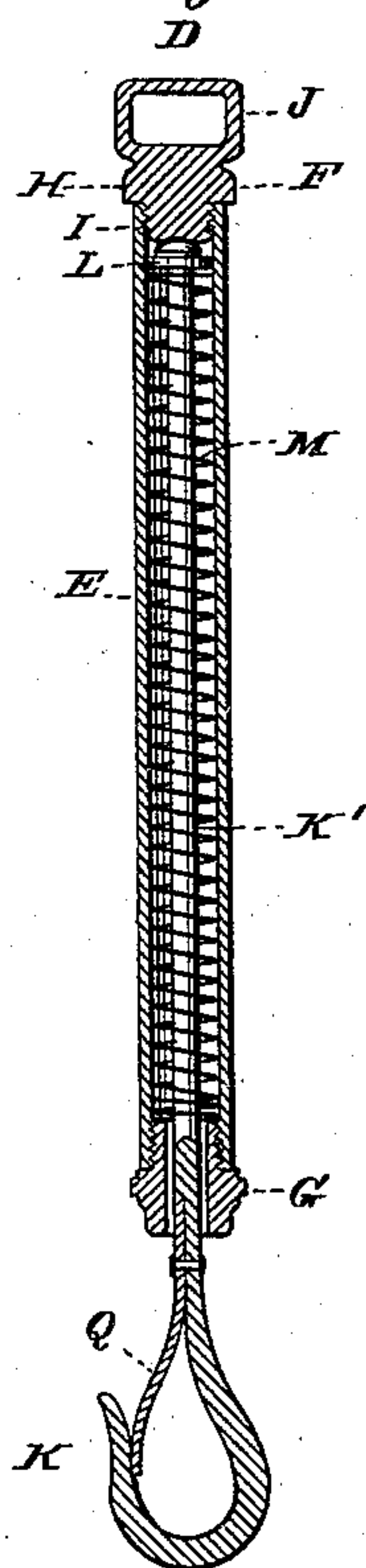


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHRIST. RUSSWURM, OF SOUTH BEND, INDIANA.

CHEEK-PIECE FOR BRIDLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 373,097, dated November 15, 1887.

Application filed March 9, 1887. Serial No. 230,267. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHRIST. RUSSWURM, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of South Bend, in the county of St. Joseph and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Cheek-Pieces for Bridles; 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 letters or figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of this invention, and shows the cheek-pieces as they would hang when the bit is not in the horse's mouth. Fig. 2 is a perspective view. Fig. 3 is a vertical section.

My invention relates to cheek-pieces for bridles, and is designed to facilitate the adjustment of bridle-bits into the mouths of fire-horses, patrol-horses, and others; and it consists in the construction and novel combination of parts, as hereinafter claimed.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, A designates the head-stall, B the nose-band, and C the side straps or cheek-straps, of the bridle or halter, which may be of any of the constructions commonly used.

D designates one of the cheek-pieces, there being two used with each bridle or halter. A description of one of the cheek-pieces will answer for both, they being similar in construction.

E designates a metal tube which is threaded internally at both its upper and lower ends for short distances to form seats for the upper screw plug or cap, F, and the lower screw-plug, G. The upper screw-plug, F, is provided with an annular flange or head, H, above its threaded portion I, and this head H is provided with a rigid loop or eye, J, by which the screw plug or cap F is attached to the bridle or halter. The screw plug or cap F, being screwed into the upper end of the tube E, connects the tube E with the bridle or halter.

K is a headed hook slipped to place on the rod, and the end of the rod upset to prevent the spring M, which encircles the rod, from pushing the head or collar L from the rod K'.

Before the spring M and head or collar L are

put to place the lower screw-plug, G, is slipped upon the rod K', said screw-plug being prevented from coming off at the lower end of the rod K' by an integral hook, K, which is provided with a tongue or snap-spring, Q, which converts said hook K into a snap-hook.

The snap-hooks K of the cheek-pieces support the bit R and permit it to be removed therefrom at any time for the purpose of changing the bit to suit the driver or to suit the mouth of the horse.

In lieu of the coil-spring, I may, and sometimes do, use a rubber spring or other spring that will serve the purpose of the coil-spring.

When the horse is in the stable or is feeding, the bit is removed from its mouth and hangs under the lower jaw of the animal.

When an alarm is sounded, it is only necessary to pull down upon the bit, open the horse's mouth, and let go of the bit, which will then be drawn into and adjusted in the horse's mouth by the springs in the tubes.

Instead of employing the snap-hook K at the lower end of the cheek-pieces to secure the bit in place, the bit R may be attached to the rods by a buckle and strap, or the snap-hook may be made with the bit and engaged with eyes on the cheek-pieces.

Having described this invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination, with the bridle, of the metal tubes connected on each side to the bridle, the rods and controlling-springs in said tubes, and the bit having its ends detachably secured to the lower ends of said rods by means substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the bridle, of the tubes E, outwardly threaded at both ends, the screw-plugs F, provided with the loops or eyes on their outer ends, the hollow screw-plug G, the rods K', having the collars L secured to their upper ends in coiled springs surrounding said rods within the tubes, the snap-hooks on the ends of the rods K', and the bit having loops on its ends engaged by said hooks, substantially as specified.

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

CHRIST. RUSSWURM.

Witnesses:

BENJ. F. BERGER,
WM. BRESSLER.