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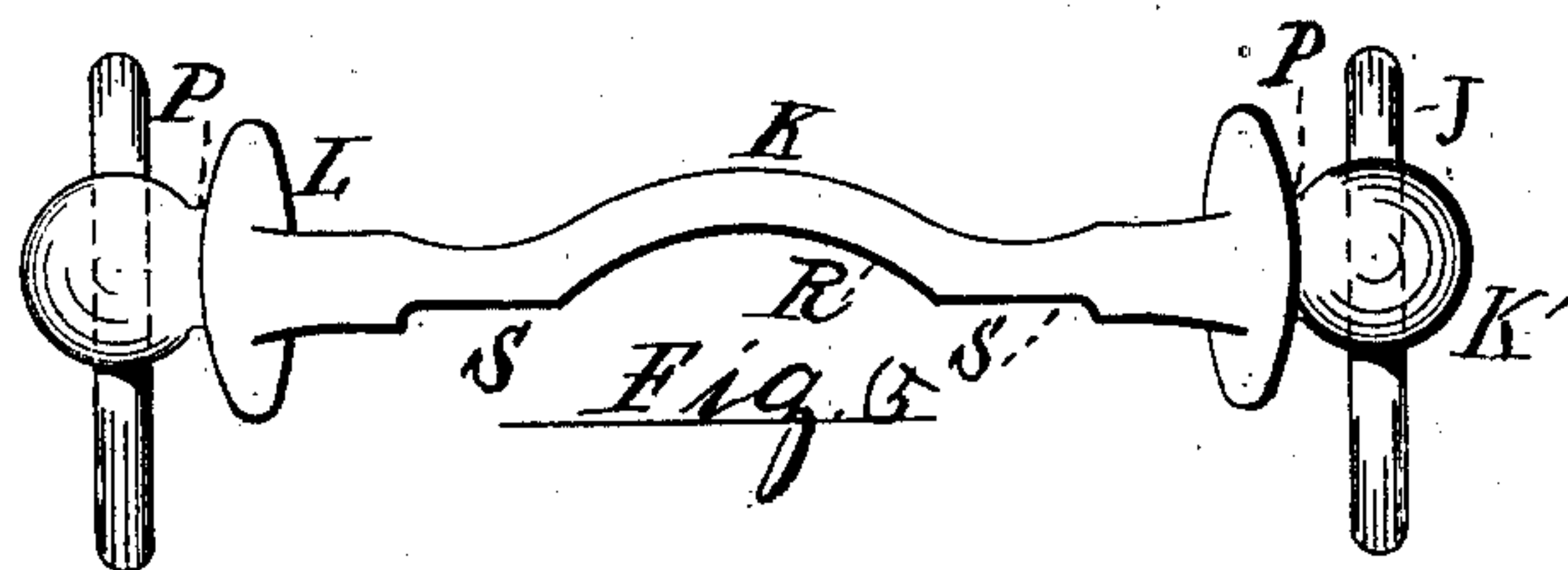
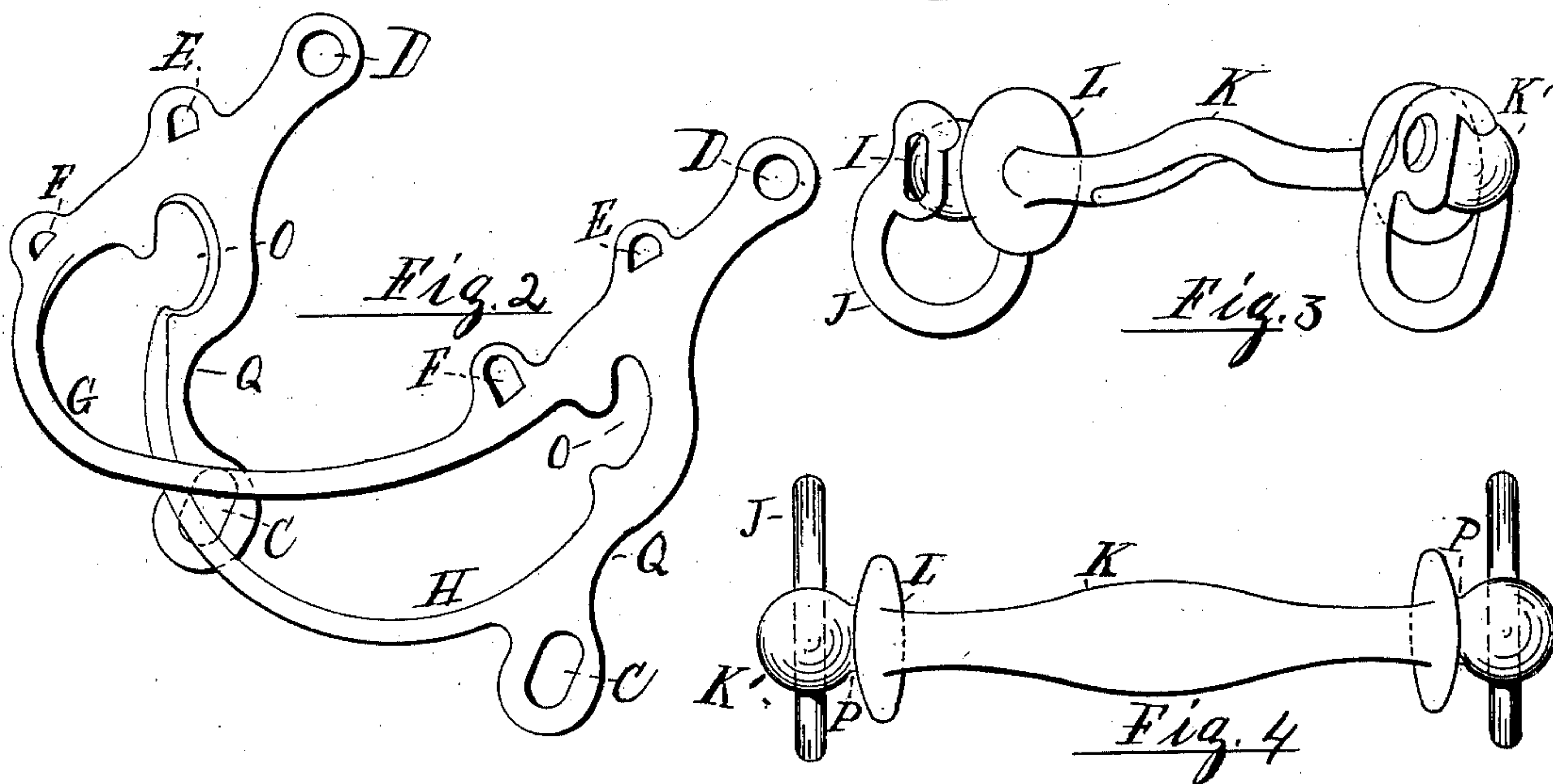
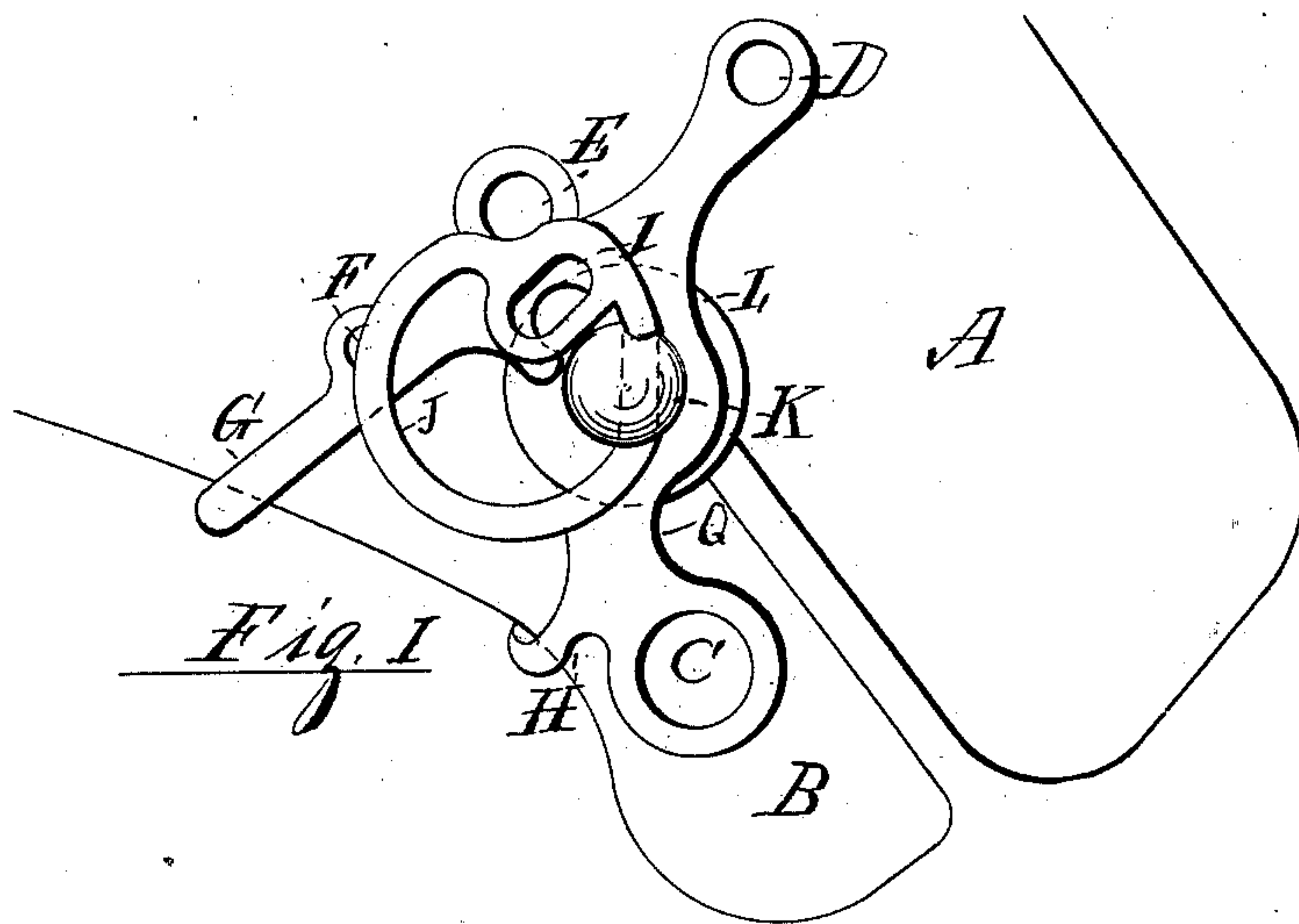
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L. F. DEAN.

BRIDLE BIT.

No. 374,352.

Patented Dec. 6, 1887.



WITNESSES:

INVENTOR

Oscar A. Michel

Harace Harris

L. F. Dean

(No Model.)

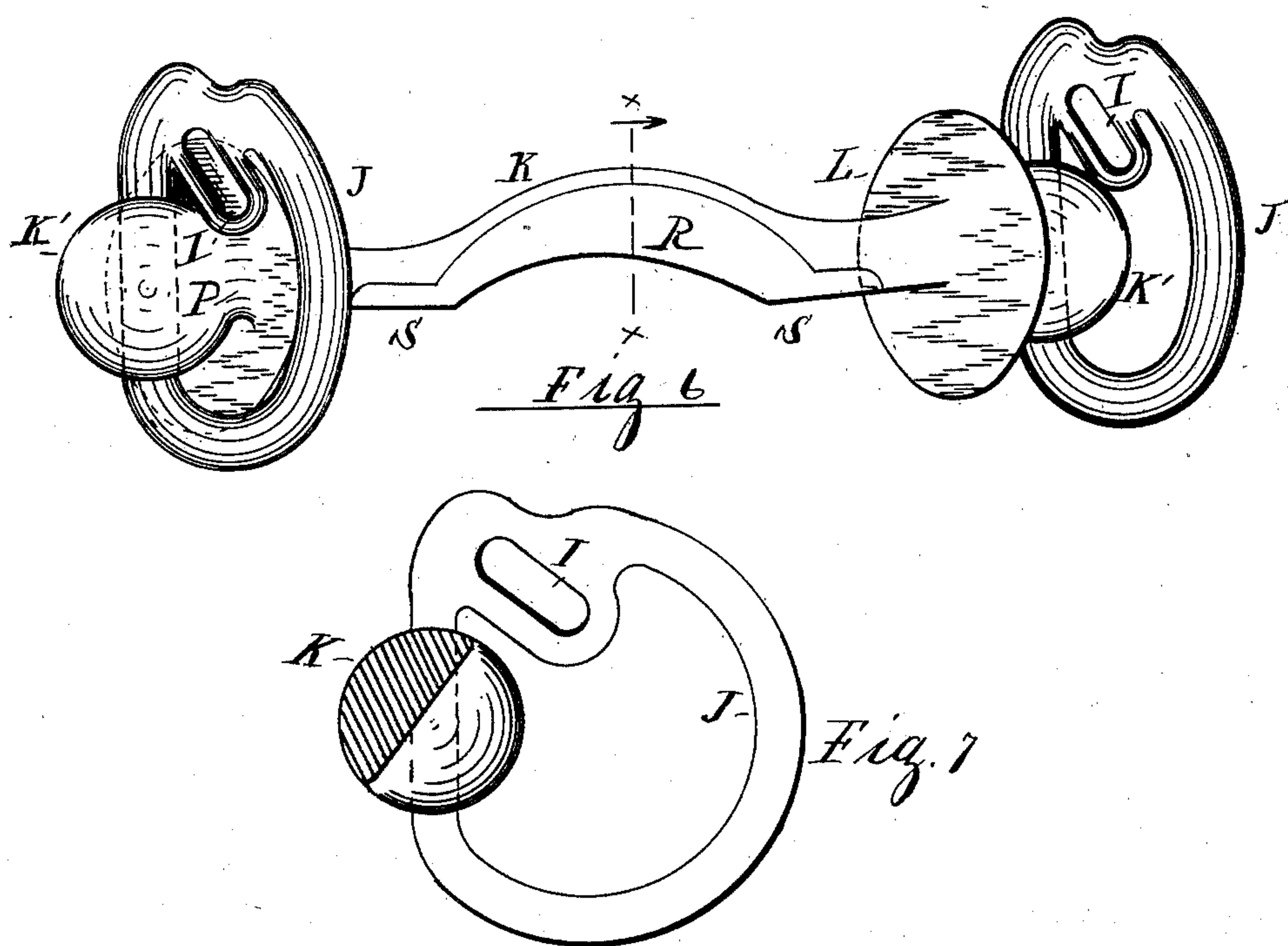
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INVENTOR

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Horace Harris

Levi F. Dean



# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI F. DEAN, OF NEW MILFORD, PENNSYLVANIA.

## BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 374,352, dated December 6, 1887.

Application filed February 24, 1887. Serial No. 222,610. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEVI F. DEAN, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Milford, in the county of Susquehanna, State of Pennsylvania, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

My invention relates to an improvement in bridle-bits for controlling hard-bitted horses, or those having a tendency to push the nose forward too far or curb it in too much, or to toss the head; and, besides, it is an improvement on all ordinary bits; and it consists in a solid mouth-piece flattened on the under side, so that it shall rest easily on the jaws, and made concave in the center to give more room for the tongue, and provided with a flange near each end, to unite with the head of the mouth-piece in forming a groove for connecting a jaw-bar attachment, and to protect the lips of the horse from contact with said attachment, and has a ring at each end passing through the head of the mouth-piece at an angle of about forty-five degrees from the flat side of the mouth-piece, to hold the said mouth-piece in a position easy to the mouth when the head is in its proper position, the loop in the ring being arranged at about a right angle from the said flat surface, for the purpose of keeping the bit in its proper position in the mouth when there is no draft on the driving-reins, and also avoid the need of a nose-piece for holding the cheek-pieces of a bridle in their proper place.

It further consists in a jaw-bar or jaw-bars to be attached loosely at each end of the mouth-piece, and to have arms, loops, and rings to connect with the checkreins and driving-reins, for the purpose of assisting to keep the head of a horse in proper position and the horse under proper control, all substantially as hereinafter set forth.

In my drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a complete bit as seen in use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the jaw-bars as detached from the mouth-piece. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the bit without the jaw-bars. Fig. 4 is a partially perspective view of the bit from the upper side as it lies in the mouth. Fig. 5 is

the same turned over at right angle from the position seen in Fig. 4. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the bit, being a modification of the view in Fig. 3. Fig. 7 is a sectional view of a bit on line *x* on Fig. 6, looking to the right, with the flange removed.

In my construction I have a solid bar, K, for a mouth-piece, having the flat surface S on the under side near each end, so that it shall rest easily on the jaws when the horse's head A B is in proper position, and having a curved and flattened part, R, in the center to avoid excessive pressure on the tongue.

The flange L unites with the enlarged head K' to form a groove, P, for connecting a jaw-bar attachment and to keep the lips from contact with it.

I have a ring, J, at each end of the bar K, made to pass through the head K' at about an angle of forty-five degrees from the flat side of the bar K, (see Fig. 7,) so that when the horse's head is in proper position it will hold the bar in a position easy to the mouth, having a broad surface resting upon the tongue and jaws; but when the nose of the horse is thrown forward too far or curbed in too much the mouth will encounter the narrow surfaces or edges of the bar and not be comfortable, thus causing him to be inclined to keep his head in proper position.

To assist in holding the head of a horse in proper position, as required above, and more effectually to accomplish the purpose, I provide a jaw bar or bars, to be attached to the ends of the bar K outside of the flanges L, the notch O resting in the groove P, where it swings. This attachment may be made double, as intimated, having the two sections G H, or having either one left off, as will be seen.

The lever-rings D are for connecting with the overdraw head-checkreins, and thereby to draw the bar H up against the under jaw when the horse is inclined to curb in his head too much, and cause him to throw it out again. The loop E, in place of ring D, is used for the same purpose for horses needing a lighter check; but in case the horse is disposed to push his nose forward too far I use the bar G, to which the side checkreins are attached by means of the loops F, thus lifting the bar G up against the jaw B, but allowing him to swing



his head in as far as he pleases. And by the use of the rings C, which are connected with the driving-reins by an attachment which unites with them back of the rings J some 5 eight or ten inches, more or less, the whole draft of the driving-reins is thrown on the bar G, pressing it severely against the jaw; but when the head regains a proper position the draft is wholly on the bar K, and this pressure from bar G is relieved, and at the same 10 time the horse's mouth does not come in contact with the severe edges of the bar K, and the two together dispose him to keep his head in proper position. Thus it will be seen that 15 these bars G H may be made and attached separately or combined, as above named; but in case the bar H is dispensed with the levers Q and rings C will be retained, and if only the bar H be used the rings C may be left off. 20 Therefore, what I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The flattened bar K, substantially as set forth, provided with the rings J, made to pass through the ends K' of the bar K at an angle 25 of about forty-five degrees from the flat side S of the bar, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. The bar K, in combination with rings J, substantially as set forth, the said rings having the loops I, which are made to stand at about a right angle from the flat surface S of the bar K, substantially as and for the purpose 30 named.

3. The bar K, provided with the flange L, uniting with the head K' to form a groove, P, 35 adapted to receive the jaw-bar attachment, substantially as specified.

4. The bridle-bit, substantially as shown and described, provided with the jaw-bar attachment H, having the notches O, rings D, and 40 loops E, and adapted by said notches to be hung on the bar K in the grooves P, substantially as and for the purpose specified.

5. The bridle-bit, substantially as set forth, provided with the bar G, having the notches 45 O, loops F, levers Q, and rings C, and adapted to be hung on the bar K, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

LEVI F. DEAN.

Witnesses:

HORACE HARRIS,  
M. MYERS.