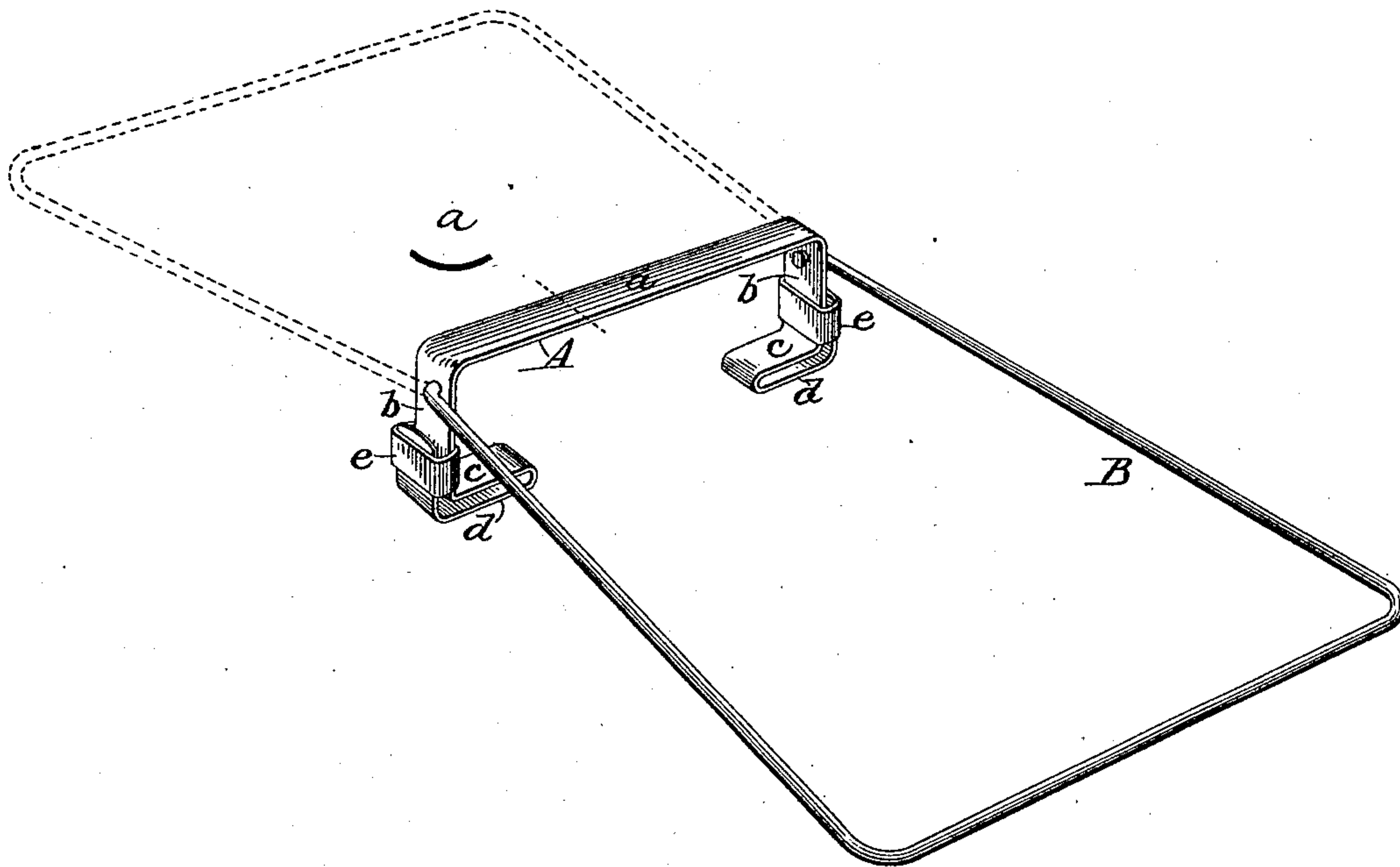


(No Model.)

D. L. CROFT.
REIN HOLDER.

No. 428,666.

Patented May 27, 1890.



Witnesses:

James F. Duhamel
Horace A. Dodge.

Inventor:

David L. Croft,
by Dodge & Sons,
Attys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DAVID L. CROFT, OF SPRINGFIELD, OHIO.

REIN-HOLDER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 428,666, dated May 27, 1890.

Application filed February 26, 1890. Serial No. 341,851. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DAVID L. CROFT, a citizen of the United States, residing at Springfield, in the county of Clark and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Rein-Holders, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to rein-holders, and has reference more particularly to the class of devices which are attached or secured to a part of the harness.

The drawing is a perspective view of my improved device.

A indicates the main frame, and B the loop or bail hinged thereto and designed to rest upon the tail of the animal, so as to prevent the reins, which rest upon the upper face of the bail, from getting beneath the animal's tail.

The main frame comprises a horizontal cross-arm *a*, upright arms *b b* depending from the ends of arm *a*, and inwardly-projecting horizontal arms *c c*, which are bent backward upon themselves to form spring-arms *d d*, the said arms *a*, *b*, *c*, and *d* being preferably formed of a single piece of spring steel or brass, as shown.

It will be noted that the arm *a* is made convex on its under face and concave on its upper face—in other words, C-shaped in cross-section—so as to present a smooth rounded face to the reins and prevent chafing of the latter, and so, also, to give increased strength and stiffness to the frame.

The arms *b c* are separated from the parallel arm *d* a distance sufficient to permit the insertion between them of the crupper-straps, the latter resting in the horizontal portion of the spring strap-holder thus formed.

It will be noticed that the arms *d d* are on the outside of arms *b b*, so as to facilitate the insertion of the crupper-straps, said arms *d d* being made so as to spring or yield in inserting the straps.

In order to guard against the accidental release or escape of the straps, I provide each of the arms *b* with a sliding loop *e*, designed to pass over the upper end of arm *d* and hold the latter against the under side of the strap with sufficient force to prevent any movement of the frame A independently of the straps to which it is applied, the elasticity of the said arm *d* holding the loop *e* in its adjusted position.

The bail B is much wider at its free end than at its inner or pivotal end, so that it will be engaged by the tail of the animal when switched to one side or the other. When not in use, the bail may be swung forward out of the way, as shown by dotted lines.

No broad claim is made by me to a holder or support to be applied to the crupper, nor do I wish to be understood as claiming, broadly, the combination in such a device of a bow-shaped main frame and a loop or bail.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. In a rein-holder, the combination, with the frame having spring-arms *d d*, of the loops *e e*, adapted to clamp the spring-arms to the harness, and a bail B, hinged or pivoted to the main frame.

2. In a rein-holder, the combination, with the main frame having its ends bent back upon itself, of a bail, and the loops *e*.

3. In a rein-holder, the frame A, comprising horizontal arm *a*, depending arms *b b*, inwardly-projecting arms *c c*, and spring-arms *d d*, in combination with the loops *e e* and bail B.

In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

DAVID L. CROFT.

Witnesses:

A. E. SHOWERS,
H. S. SHOWERS.