

(No Model.)

G. H. NICHOLLS.
STRAP AND BUCKLE SHIELD.

No. 447,158.

Patented Feb. 24, 1891.

FIG 1

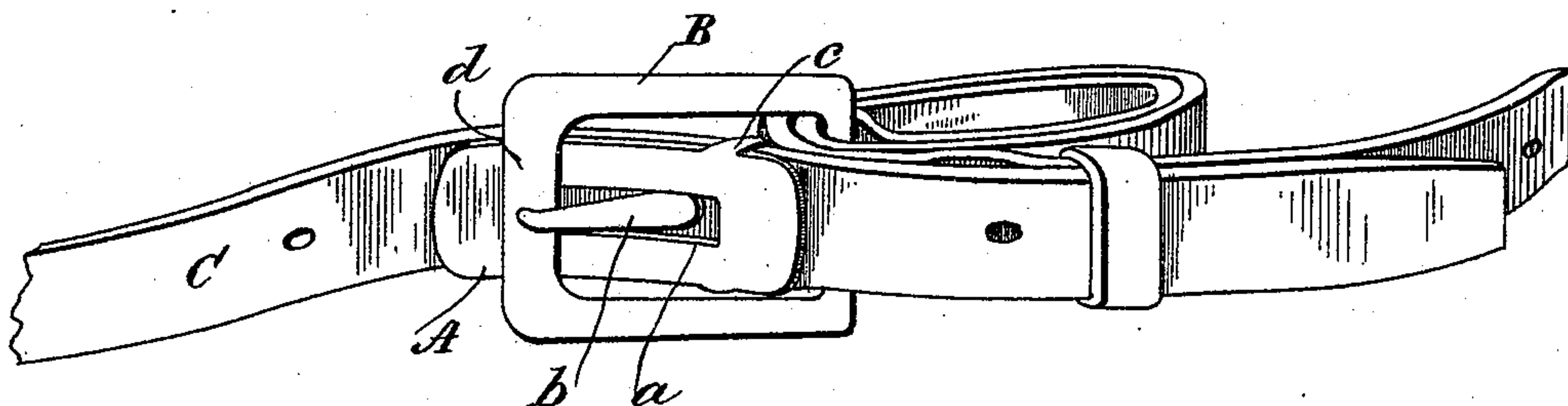
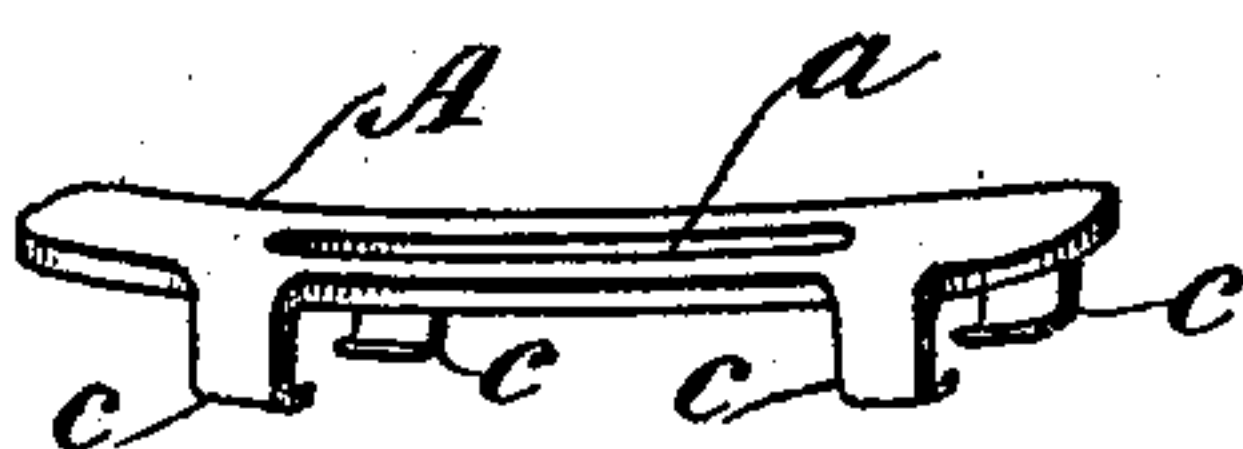


FIG 2



WITNESSES:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

GEORGE H. NICHOLLS, OF GALVESTON, TEXAS.

STRAP AND BUCKLE SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 447,158, dated February 24, 1891.

Application filed October 16, 1890. Serial No. 368,282. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE H. NICHOLLS, of Galveston, in the county of Galveston and State of Texas, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Strap and Buckle Shields, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to provide harness-buckles or other buckles which are liable to chafe engaged straps with an adjustable shield or strap-protector, which will effectually prevent wear on the strap which usually results from the action of the buckle.

To this end my invention consists in the construction of an adjustable shield or wear-plate and its combination with a harness or other strap, as is hereinafter described and claimed.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in both the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the device in position on a harness-strap and engaged by a buckle, that is also connected to the strap. Fig. 2 is a view of the device detached.

The improvement consists, essentially, of an elongated metallic plate A, made of proportionate width and length to suit the strap and buckle it engages. Said plate or "shield," as it is preferably designated, is made parallel on its side edges and of proper thickness to withstand the wear and strain it will receive in service. The width between the side edges of the shield A should be so proportioned to the strap it is to protect that the margins of the straps and edges of the shield will lie in the same planes, respectively. Near the transverse center of the shield A the longitudinal slot *a* is formed, of proper

length and width to admit the tongue *b* of a buckle B and allow it to freely vibrate therein. The shield is movably secured on the strap it is to engage by the claspings limbs *c*, that are formed on the side edges of the shield oppositely and near each end of the same. These limbs, having their free ends bent toward each other in pairs, are thus adapted to clasp a strap C near its edges and retain the shield in sliding connection therewith.

The preferred use for the improved strap protector or shield is in connection with harness-straps used to support the thills of vehicles or the shafts of carts or drays, where great chafing action is caused by the cross-bar *d* of the buckle B when in service and pressed upon by the tongue *b*.

It will be evident that when the shield A is located on the strap C so that the cross-bar *d* will rest upon the shield A all strain and rubbing action of said cross-bar is imposed upon the shield, and the strap thus protected from wear that would ordinarily result from a direct contact with the buckle.

Having thus described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

A strap-shield composed of a flat elongated plate having parallel side edges, a slot longitudinally formed in said plate near its transverse center, and two pairs of limbs projected in the same direction from the side edges of the plate and bent toward each other in pairs to loosely clasp a strap, substantially as set forth.

GEORGE H. NICHOLLS.

Witnesses:

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