(No Model.)

A. W. HELMS.

BRIDLE BIT.

No. 475,110. Patented May 17, 1892.

Fig. 1.

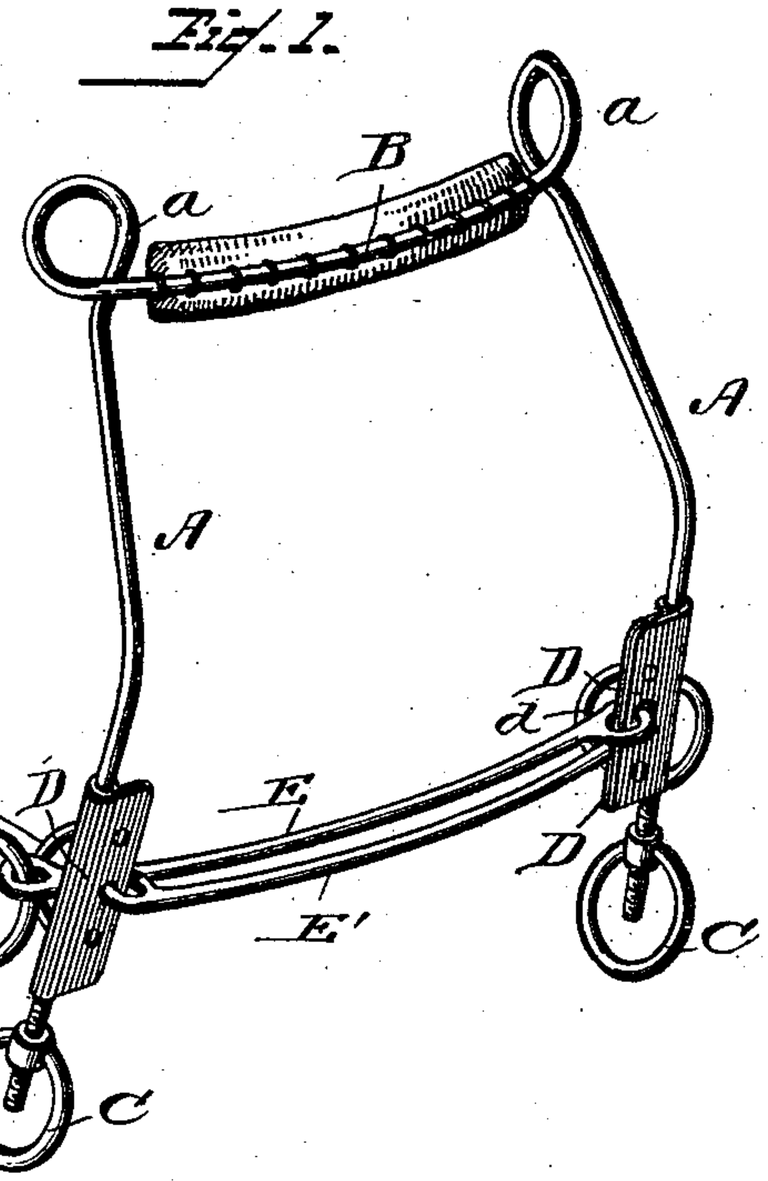


Fig. 2.

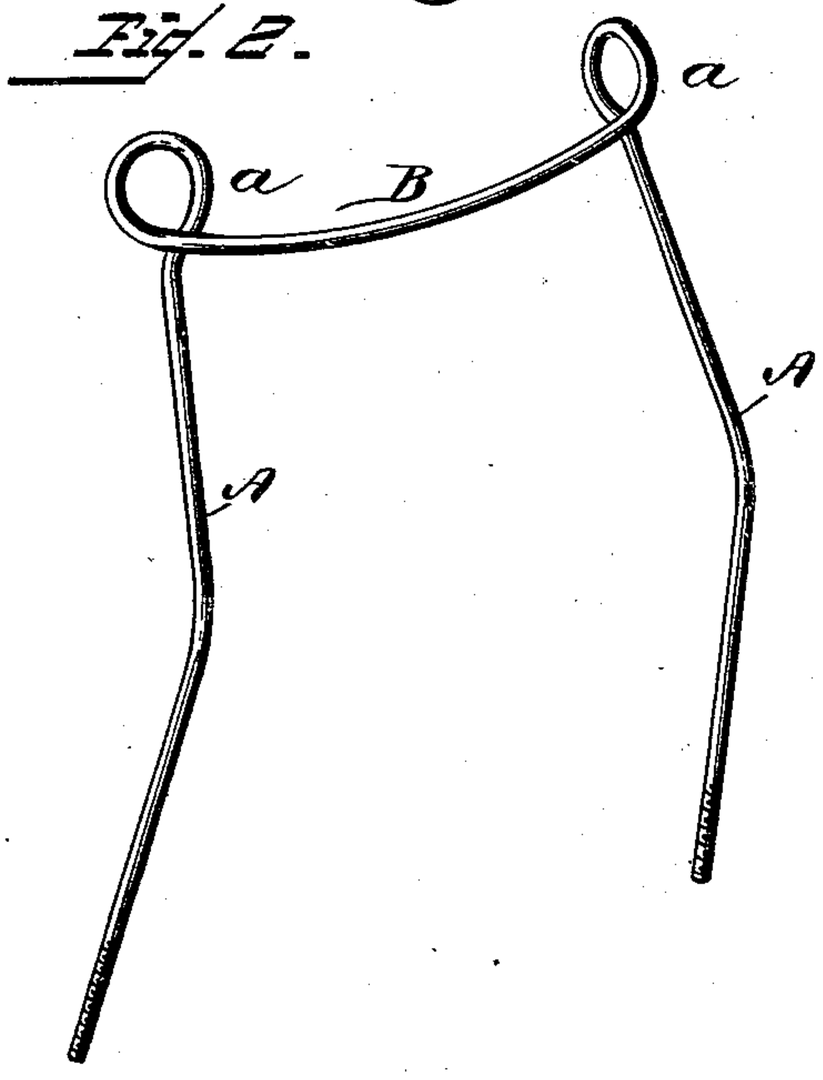
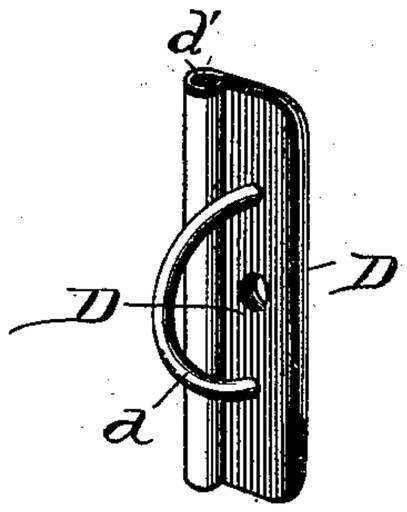


Fig. 3.



Witnesses
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Van Burrn Hillyard.

Inventor
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALLEN W. HELMS, OF AYLESWORTH, INDIANA.

BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 475,110, dated May 17, 1892.

Application filed February 12, 1892. Serial No. 421,311. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALLEN W. HELMS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Aylesworth, in the county of Fountain and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits; and I do hereby 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.

This invention relates to bridle-bits, and aims to provide a bit that can be conveniently and quickly converted into either of the variously-known bits without entailing any very great expense, and which will be efficient and give satisfactory results.

The improvement consists of the novel features and the peculiar construction and combination of the parts, which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed, and which are shown in the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bit embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the frame. Fig. 3 is a detail view of the slide which attaches the bit to the frame, and which is constructed to bind upon and grip the side bars of the said frame and hold the bit at the adjusted position.

The frame, which is formed from a single piece of stout wire, comprises the side bars A and the nose-bar B. The side bars A are deflected at a point about midway of the ends of the said side bars to bring the nose-bar B in the proper position, and the latter is slightly curved to conform to the animal's nose. The side bars A are constructed to spring apart at their free ends, and to assist this action and obviate a too great tension on the said side bars spring-loops *a* are provided at the corners of the frame. These loops *a* also serve as points of attachment for the overdraw or check reins.

The bit is supported between the side bars A and may be of any desired form. In the present instance it is shown as composed of two bars E and E′, which are secured at their opposite ends to slides D, that are mounted upon the side bars A, and which are held in the located position upon the said side bars by frictional contact. The free ends of the bars E E′ extend through and are supported by staples *d*, which are attached to the said slides D. The rings C at the lower or free ends of the side bars are removable to permit the removal of the said slides D from the side bars A, and are held upon the said side bars by a screw connection. The nose-bar is suitably cushioned to add to the comfort of the animal. The slides are preferably constructed of stout sheet metal, which is cut to the required form and bent about as shown in the drawings, forming an opening *d′* at one edge, which receives the frame-wire. This construction admits of opening *d′* being slightly smaller than the frame-wire, so that the said slide can be forced on the frame-wire and will bind thereon by friction, the meeting parts of the slide yielding slightly to admit the passage of the said frame-wire.

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

1. A bridle-bit composed of a frame having the side and the nose bars integrally formed, slides removably attached to the said side bars, and a bit secured to the said slides, substantially as described.

2. A bridle-bit composed of a frame having the side and the nose bars integrally formed and having spring-loops *a*, slides removably attached to the said side bars of the frame, and a bit attached to the said slides, substantially as described.

3. The hereinbefore shown and described bridle-bit, composed of a frame having the side bars A and the nose-bar B integrally formed and having spring-loops *a* at the corners of the frame, the rings C, removably attached to the free ends of the side bars A, the slides D, removably connected with the said side bars, and the bit supported by the said slides D, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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

ALLEN W. HELMS.

Witnesses:
L. G. DYNES,
J. A. DYNES.