

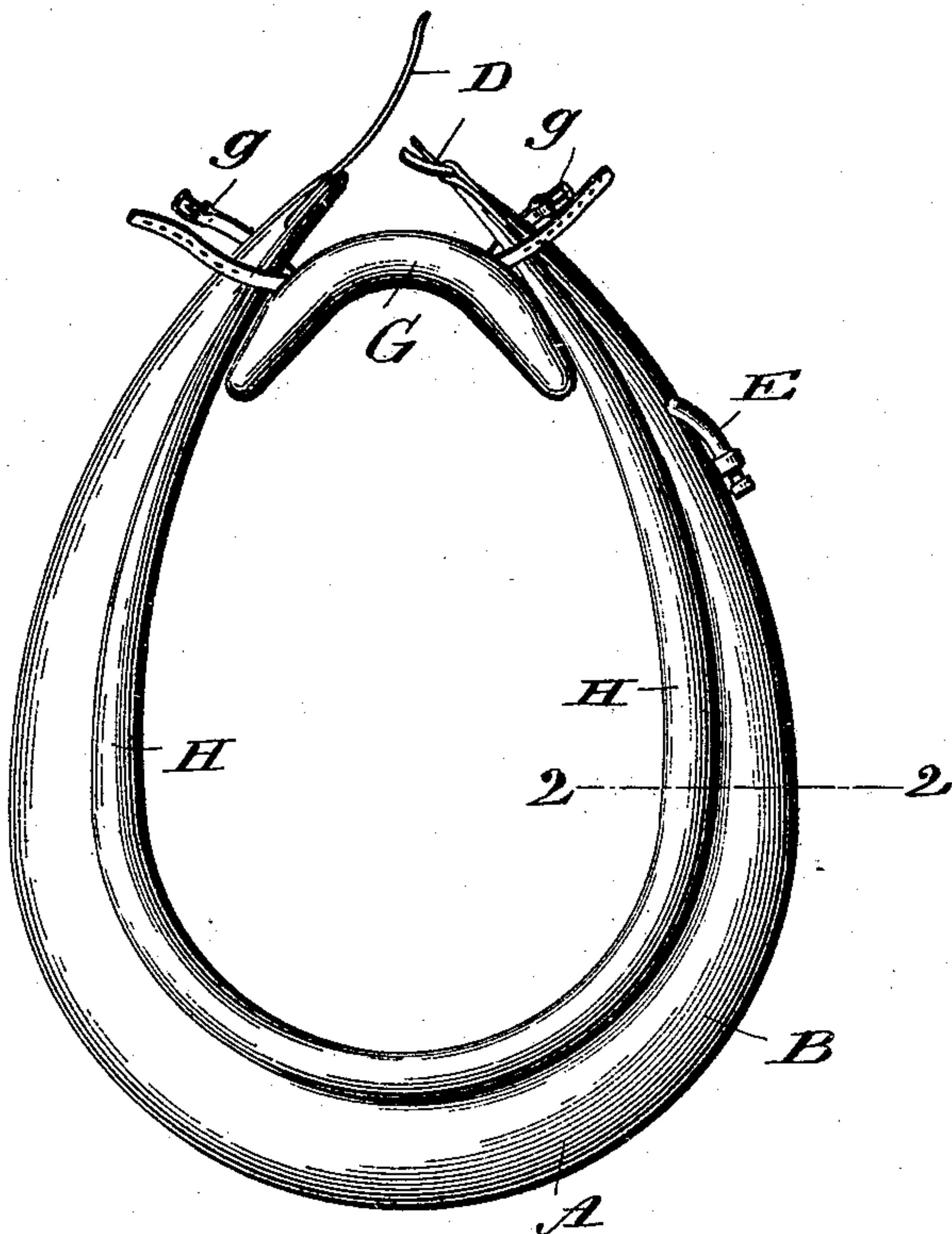
(No Model.)

J. MILLIDGE.  
HORSE COLLAR.

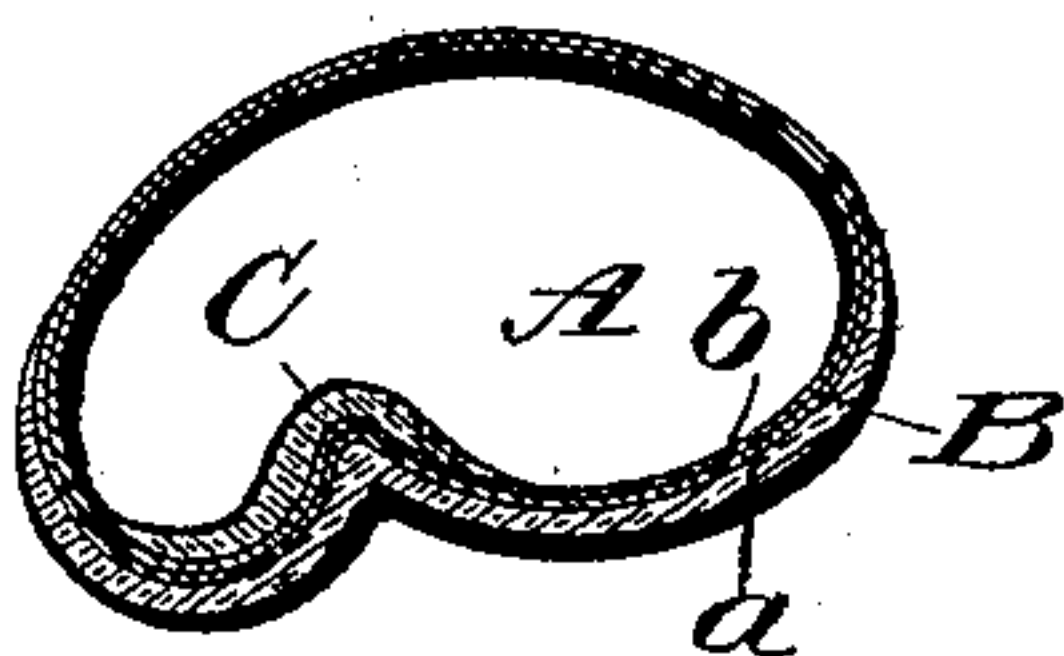
No. 488,572.

Patented Dec. 27, 1892

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



Witnesses

*L. C. Hills.*  
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Inventor

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per *Cha. H. Fowler.*  
Attorney

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN MILLIDGE, OF BAILEY'S HARBOR, WISCONSIN.

## HORSE-COLLAR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 488,572, dated December 27, 1892.

Application filed July 5, 1892. Serial No. 439,015. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JOHN MILLIDGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bailey's Harbor, in the county of Door and State of Wisconsin, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Collars; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters of reference marked thereon.

The present invention has for its object to provide an inflatable horse-collar that will be simple in construction, possess strength and durability and perfectly retain the air therein after being inflated, also re-enforcing it at the juncture of the body and roll and provide the collar with a detachable and inflatable neck-pad, which objects are attained by a collar constructed substantially as shown in the drawings and hereinafter described and claimed.

Figure 1 of the drawings represents a front elevation of my improved horse-collar. Fig. 2 a cross section taken on line 2 2 of Fig. 1.

In the drawings A represents the collar, which in its contour is similar to the collars now in use, being of course made in various sizes and shapes.

In the construction of the collar an outer covering B of leather is used after the inflatable portion is formed, which consists of rubber cloth or if preferred a layer *a* of silk cemented or otherwise firmly secured to a backing *b* of stout linen or other fabric. This constitutes the interior lining of the collar and the silk forming a part thereof prevents the escape of the air and thus hermetically seals it after being inflated, the silk being both light, strong and fine in its texture, is particularly adapted to this purpose, the fabric such as stout linen, giving strength to the silk without destroying its flexibility.

Where the hames chafe or in other places where it is found desirable, extra pieces of leather as shown at C are stitched onto the collar at the juncture of the body and roll whereby the same is reinforced and thus rendered more durable against the wear inci-

dent to the hames coming in contact therewith.

The collar is open at the top and straps D are employed to fasten it in place, and to inflate the collar, any suitable means may be employed, but I have shown in the present instance a tube having a valve or other contrivance common in devices where it is desired to inflate a body and yet prevent the escape of air.

The collar is provided with a neck-pad formed in a similar manner and also inflated with air, said neck-pad G having suitable straps *g* with buckles, for securing the pad in position on the collar.

It is intended to fill the collar and neck-pad with a sufficient amount of air to make it slightly yielding and elastic, but not so full as to present a hard and unyielding surface.

Shape is given to the collar by making the parts H where the hames come of sufficiently hard rubber to make it hold its shape.

A collar constructed as above described is both cooler and lighter than the collars in common use and the use of the sweat-pad is entirely unnecessary, the collar fitting itself to the neck of the animal as well as the shoulders and preventing soreness thereto. The neck-pad also being inflatable is possessed of lightness and has the same advantages as the collar, as it will relieve the neck from the dead weight of the wagon-tongue.

The lining of the collar which as previously stated may be of soft rubber or rubber cloth or of silk cemented to a backing of linen or other fabric, forms an air-sack of great strength and durability against the escape of the air and also against the pressure thereof, and the leather covering to the sack forms a finished collar, the leather protecting the material from which the air-sack is composed but not destroying the yielding and elastic effect thereof.

Having now fully described my invention, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is:—

As an improved article of manufacture, an inflatable horse collar having integral inflatable body and roll thickened or re-inforced



at the juncture of the two, straps at the ends  
of the collar, and an independently inflatable  
neck-pad independent of the collar and  
curved and provided at each end with straps  
5 for securing each end around a portion of  
the collar proper; substantially as shown and  
described.

In testimony that I claim the above I have  
hereunto subscribed my name in the presence  
of two witnesses.

JOHN MILLIDGE.

Witnesses:

HUGH G. SPRING,  
GELSON SPRING.