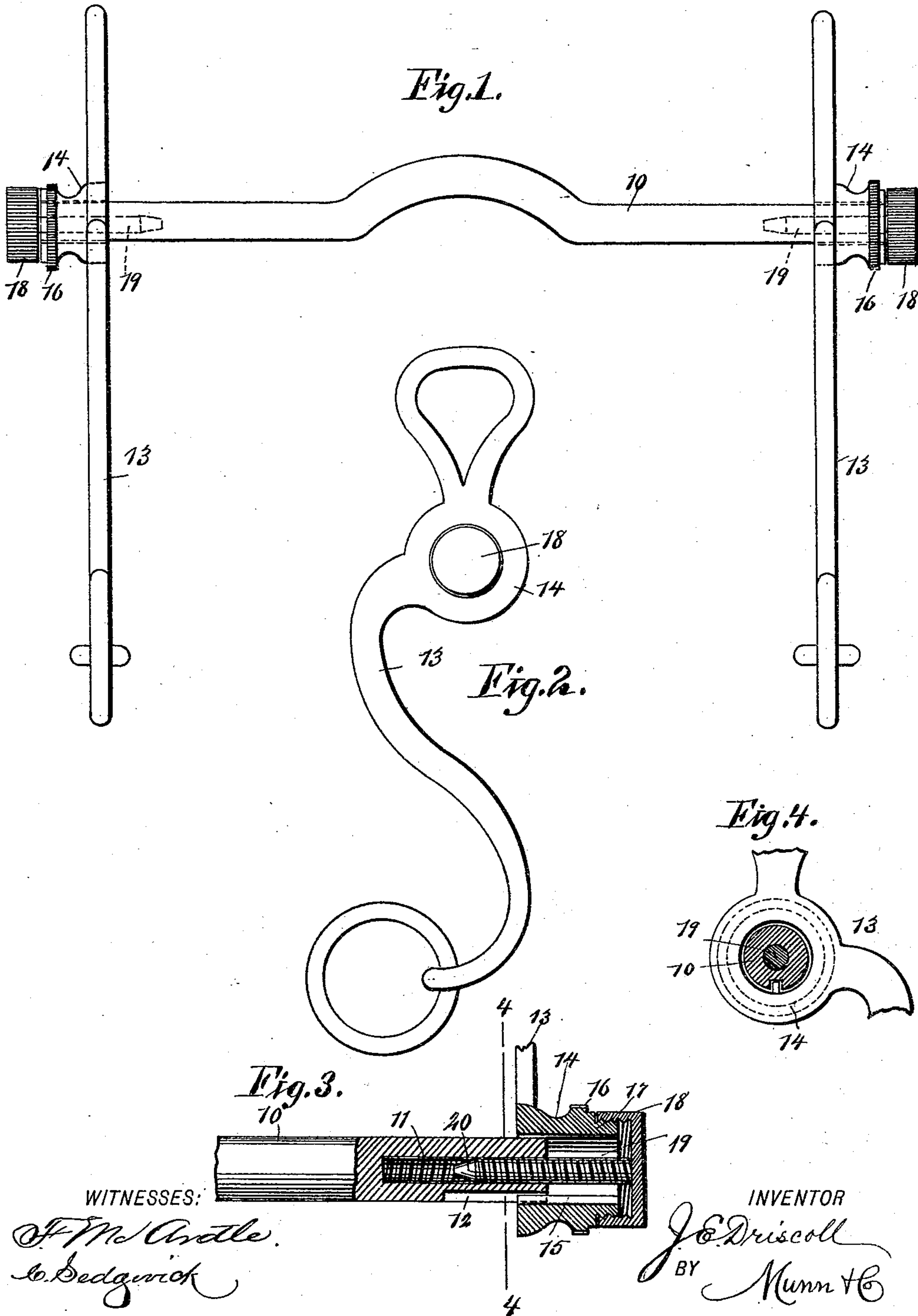


(No Model.)

J. E. DRISCOLL.
BRIDLE BIT.

No. 492,666.

Patented Feb. 28, 1893.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES E. DRISCOLL, OF ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA.

BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 492,666, dated February 28, 1893.

Application filed November 21, 1892. Serial No. 452,619. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES E. DRISCOLL, of St. Paul, in the county of Ramsey and State of Minnesota, have invented a new and Improved Bridle-Bit, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

My invention relates to improvements in bits for bridles; and the object of my invention is to produce a bit which may be adjusted to fit the mouth of any horse or mule, that is, to provide means for changing the length of the mouth bar and the distance between the cheek pieces.

A further object of my invention is to produce a bit of this kind which may be made in any usual style, which is exceedingly strong, and which has the adjustable parts covered in such a way that they cannot injure the mouth of the animal or fill up and clog with dirt.

To these ends my invention consists in a bridle bit, the construction of which will be hereinafter described and claimed.

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

Figure 1 is a front elevation of the bit embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation of the same. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view, showing the adjustable connection between one of the cheek pieces and the mouth bar; and Fig. 4 is a cross section on the line 4—4 in Fig. 3.

The bit may be provided with a mouth bar 10 of any usual kind, that is, either straight or curved, and the mouth bar at its ends is provided with a longitudinally threaded bore 11 and provided exteriorly at points opposite the bores with longitudinal key-ways 12. The cheek pieces 13 may also be of any style whatever, and they are provided with sleeves 14 at the points where they connect with the mouth bar, each sleeve 14 being adapted to slide on the mouth bar 10 and having a key extending through it which key is adapted to enter the key-way 12 on the mouth bar. This arrangement enables the mouth bar to be held so as not to turn in the horse's mouth, and also to assist in preventing the shifting of the parts. Each sleeve 14 is provided near its outer end with a milled collar 16 which enables it and the cheek piece to be moved easily in and out, and the outer end of the sleeve is reduced and exteriorly screw threaded,

as shown at 17, so as to receive the screw cap 18 which is adapted to close the outer end of the sleeve. This screw cap 18 has rigidly secured to its central inner portion a screw 19 which is preferably provided with a conical point 20, and the screw fits in the thread of the bore 11. It will thus be seen that when the cap 18 is in engagement with the sleeve 14 and the screw 19 in engagement with the mouth bar, the sleeve and the cheek piece, of which it forms a part, are held in a fixed position in relation to the mouth bar.

To adjust the bit, the caps 18 are loosened, that is, they are freed from engagement with the sleeves 14 and the cheek pieces are moved into the desired position, after which the screw caps are again turned up so as to engage the sleeves, and the cheek pieces are thereby fastened as described.

The construction of the adjustable parts of the bit is such that the bit may be made to fit the mouth of any horse or mule. If desired the mouth bar, near its ends, may be provided with gage marks to facilitate the easy adjustment of the cheek pieces, that is, to indicate when they are brought into the required position.

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

1. A bit comprising the cross bar having longitudinal threaded openings in its ends, cheek pieces having sleeves sliding toward and from each other on the ends of the bar and held against rotation thereon, and screws entering the threaded openings in the cross bar and having caps on their outer ends receiving the outer ends of the said sleeves and holding the sleeves in their adjusted positions, substantially as set forth.

2. A bit comprising the cross bar having longitudinal threaded openings in its ends and longitudinal external grooves at its ends, the cheek pieces provided with sleeves sliding on the ends of the cross bar and provided with internal splines engaging said grooves and with externally threaded outer ends, and screw threaded caps fitting said threaded ends and provided with screws entering said threaded apertures, substantially as set forth.

JAMES E. DRISCOLL.

Witnesses:

J. FORD KENT,
OTTO ABRAMSKY.