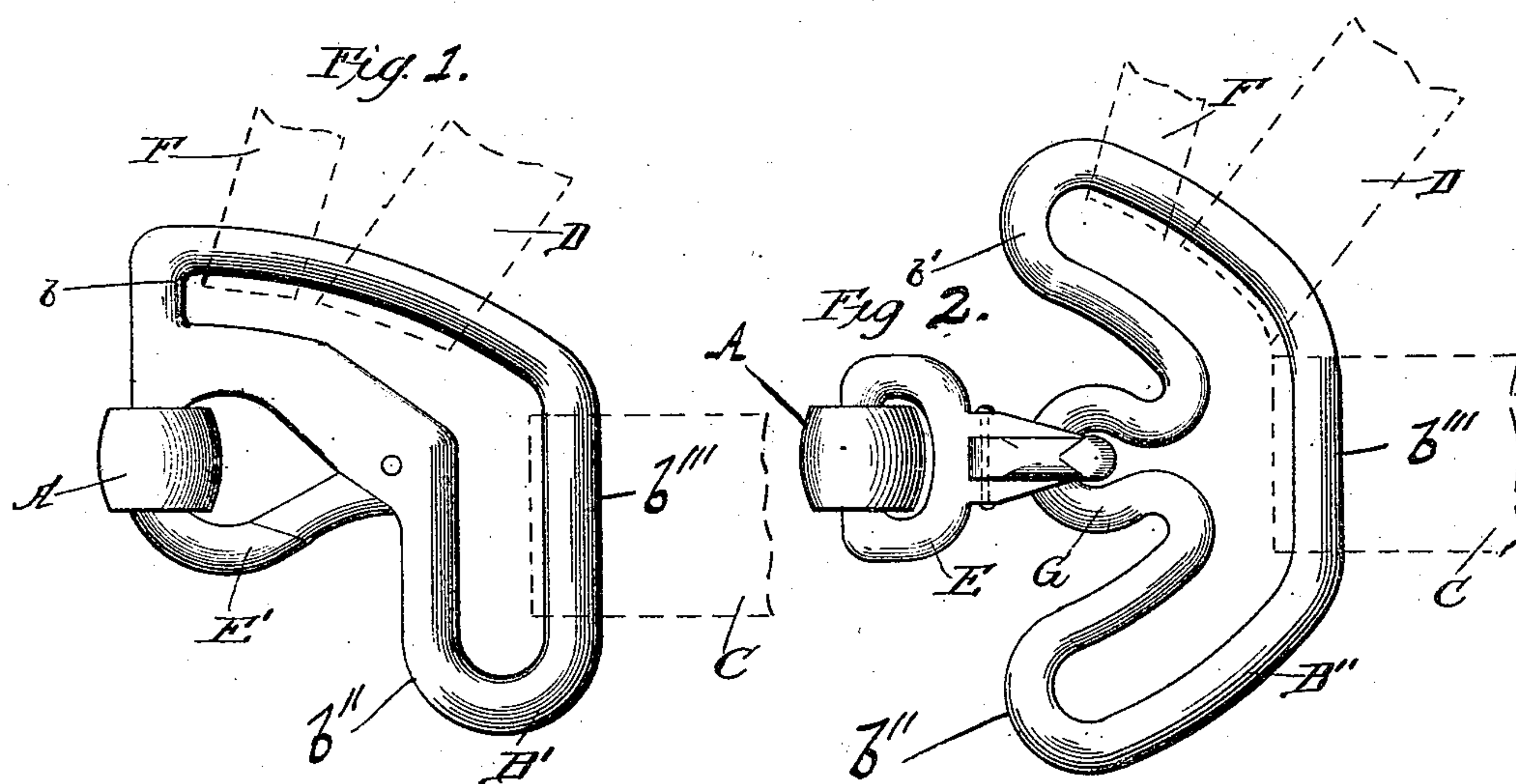


(No Model.)

R. M. DEVEREAUX.  
BRIDLE BIT.

No. 515,326.

Patented Feb. 27, 1894.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 515,326, dated February 27, 1894.

Application filed October 13, 1892. Serial No. 448,721. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT M. DEVEREAUX, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact specification.

My invention relates more particularly to means for detachably connecting the bit to the reins and various straps or members of the head stall or bridle.

I am aware that it has heretofore been proposed to provide the ends of the bit with rigid cross bars arranged like cheek pieces and having snap hooks secured to their upper ends, whereby the bit may be attached to either an ordinary halter or to a bridle, but such a device is not the equivalent of my invention, nor do I wish to claim the same, for the reason that the said rigid bars interfere with the removal of the bit unless both ends are removed and detached at once, and furthermore such rigid bars prevent the bit being neatly turned up on one side of the horse's head, without disarranging the members of the head stall and producing a cumbersome bunch that would interfere with the insertion of the horse's nose into the feeding bag. Moreover, these cross bars carry the point of attachment of the reins, &c., to a great distance from the axis of the bit, and hence the pull on the reins is communicated directly to the upper ends of said cross bars instead of directly to the ends of the bit where the pull is needed. Consequently the cross bars have to straighten out into line with the reins before the pull can be communicated to the bit, and to do this necessitates the rearward and downward movement of the upper ends of the cross bars, and when the nose strap of the bridle is connected to them as it would be if one were used, this movement is impossible. Therefore, the pull instead of being conveyed to the bit proper is conveyed to and sustained by the nose strap.

The object of my invention is to secure the various members of the head stall and other parts, usually connected to the bit, to a common attachment, which in turn, is capable of ready attachment to, and detachment from the bit, and which shall be of such form as

to cause the pull on the reins to be in radial line with the bit.

With these ends in view my invention consists in certain features of novelty in the construction, combination and arrangement of parts by which the said object and certain other objects hereinafter described are attained, fully described with reference to the accompanying drawings, and particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the said drawings, Figure 1 is a side view of a bit illustrating one form of my improvements, and Fig. 2 is a similar view of a modification which will be hereinafter described.

Like signs of reference indicate like parts in both views.

In carrying out my invention I connect the various members of the head stall which are ordinarily connected to the bit, to a separate connection or attachment, to which if desired, both the check or over-draw and driving reins may be secured, and which attachment and bit are provided with a detachable connection such as an ordinary snap hook, with each other, the said connection being so formed and arranged that each of the various straps will pull in a line with the bit so that a pull on any one of them will not disturb the proper relative arrangement of any of the others. With such a construction all of the straps and reins will remain in their proper places relatively to each other, while the bit may be taken out of the horse's mouth, and if desired, entirely detached from the head stall and reins.

Referring now more particularly to Fig. 1 of the drawings, A represents the bit bar or bit proper which may be of the usual or any suitable construction, and B' the separate attachment to which the driving reins C, the cheek strap D of the head stall and the over-draw E may be secured, such attachment being itself secured to the bit by a snap hook E'.

The separate attachment B' for the various straps which are usually connected to the bit, may be detachably secured to the bit A by means of a snap hook E, by passing it through or linking it in the eye ordinarily formed on the end of the bit bar as will be understood.

The snap hook E' is formed in one piece with the attachment B' which is provided with an extension or loop b extending over



the end of the bit A whereby the cheek strap of the head stall and the over-draw will pull more directly in line with the bit. The attachment B' is also formed with a downward  
 5 extending portion or loop in which the driving rein C, and any other straps that need be connected to the bit, may be secured.

In the form shown in Fig. 2 the snap hook E engages in an eye G formed on the attachment B'' which latter in this instance, is so  
 10 bent or formed as to have a projection or loop b' extending forward over the eye G and toward the bit and forming means for the attachment of the straps of the head stall, the  
 15 loop b' being carried forward for the sake of bringing it nearer to the bit, and getting the pull or strain on the straps connected therewith more directly in line with the bit. In this form the attachment B'' may also be pro-  
 20 vided with a forwardly extending loop b'' at its lower side into which the standing martingales or any other connection of the harness, not shown, may be secured if desired. The driving reins C may be secured to the  
 25 upright portion b''' of the attachment B'' so as to have a direct pull in line with the bit and the eye G, the eye f of the snap hook being secured in the usual eye at the end of the bit bar proper, as will be understood. Thus  
 30 it will be seen that should it be desired to remove the bit from the animal's mouth, it is only necessary to disengage the snap hook at one end, or if desired at both ends, whereupon the bit will be freed from the reins and the head  
 35 stall or other connections, and may be entirely removed or turned up on one side of the bridle,

and there secured in any convenient way so as not to interfere with the horse while feeding.

I have herein described my improvements 40 as at both ends of the bit, but it will of course be understood that the same will be of great advantage even when used at one end only, as it is not always necessary or desirable to entirely detach the bit. 45

I claim—

1. The combination with a bit bar and a snap hook secured to the end thereof, of a connection B'' having the eye G in which said snap hook is linked, and the loops b' b'' 50 turned back respectively over and under said eye G, toward the bit bar, substantially as set forth.

2. The combination with a bit bar and the various straps and reins of a bridle, of a flattened ring having snap-hook connected directly with the end of said bit and being 55 formed with loops arranged approximately at right-angles to the various reins and straps, whereby the line of pull on each strap or rein will be in radial line with the bit, substantially as set forth. 60

3. The combination with a bit, of the connection B'' having the eye G and loop b' projecting toward the bit, and a snap-hook secured directly to the bit and engaging in said eye, substantially as set forth. 65

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