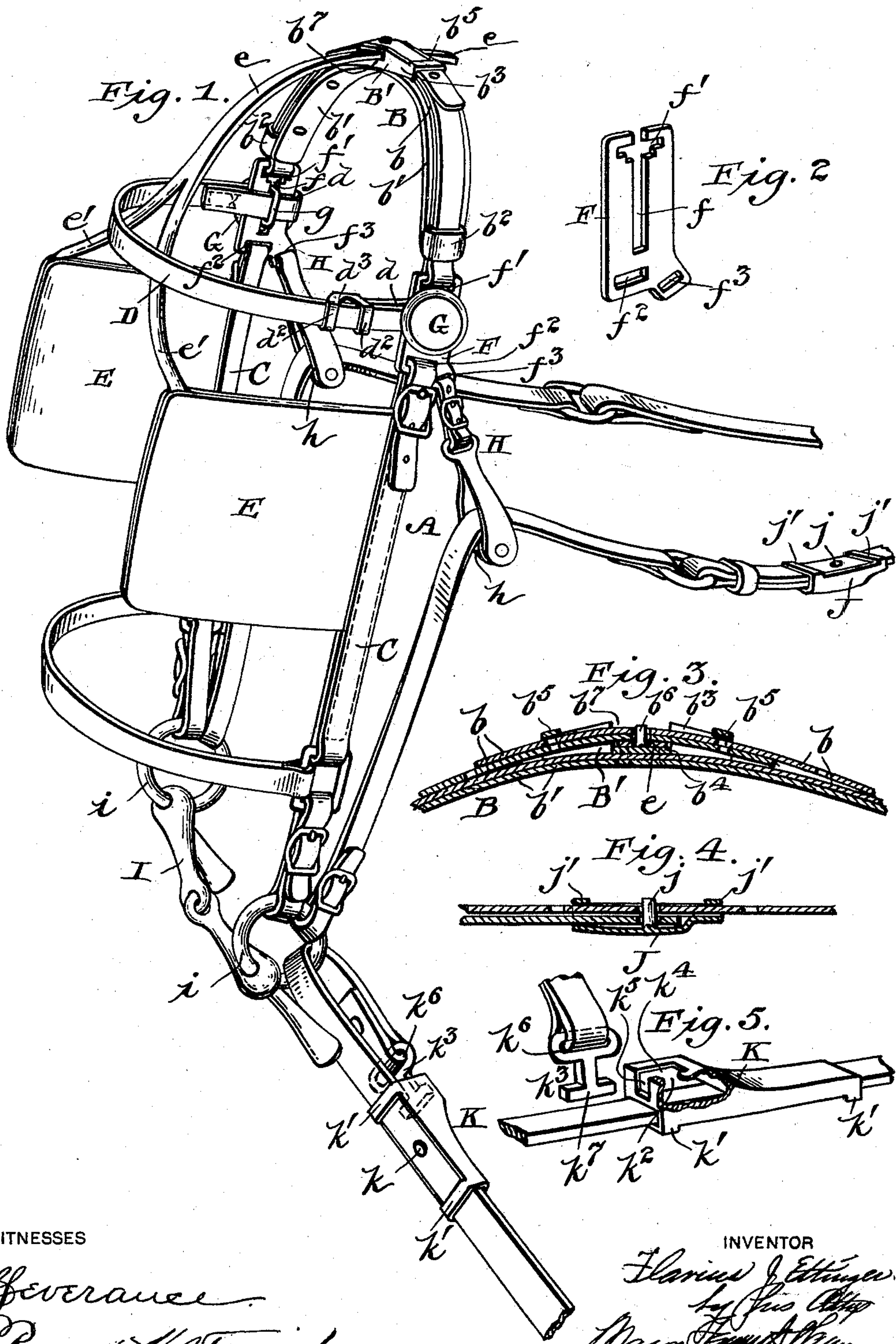


(No Model)

F. J. ETTINGER.
BRIDLE.

No. 586,020.

Patented July 6, 1897.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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BRIDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 586,020, dated July 6, 1897.

Application filed February 19, 1897. Serial No. 624,206. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FLAVIUS J. ETTINGER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spring Valley, in the county of Bureau and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridles; 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.

My invention relates to improvements in bridles; and it consists in certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, all of which will be hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bridle constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a detail view of the cheek-plate. Fig. 3 is a detail sectional view of a portion of the crown-strap, showing the manner of securing the same to the crown buckle or piece. Fig. 4 is a detail view showing the construction of the buckle used upon the checkrein, and Fig. 5 is a detail view of the buckle upon the hitching-strap.

A in the drawings represents the bridle; B, the crown-strap; C C, the cheek-straps, and D the brow band or strap.

In constructing my bridle I prefer to form the crown-strap with two attaching ends. The middle portion of said strap, as b , adapted to rest upon the horse's head, and the ends extending down to the cheek-plates, passes through a slot in said plates and extends thence back to the top of the head, where it is engaged by the crown piece or buckle B' . The said crown-strap B may be reinforced upon its under side, if desired, by a broad bearing-strap, as b' . Loops b^2 may also be used in proximity to the cheek-plates to assist in holding the return laps of said strap ends. The crown-piece B' is riveted or otherwise secured to the central portion of the crown-strap and comprises side pieces b^3 , connected by a central cross-piece b^4 , and end-retaining straps or pieces b^5 . The central cross-piece b^4 is provided with an upright

projection or pintle b^6 and, the sides b^3 are provided with notches b^7 opposite said pintle. These notches are adapted to receive the upper end of the blind or winker strap c , one of the holes in said strap being passed over the pintle b^6 . The ends of the crown-strap are next passed under the cross straps or pieces b^5 , the usual holes in one of said straps being passed over the pintle b^6 and the end of the strap being allowed to extend across the blind or winker strap e and projecting under the opposite retaining cross-strap b^5 . The other end of the crown-strap is next caused to engage the pintle b^6 by one of its holes and its free end is extended under the opposite cross strap or piece b^5 . It will thus be seen that by this construction the crown-strap may be readily and quickly adjusted or can be easily removed for repairing or replacing. It will also be seen that this construction further allows of the adjustment of the winker-strap.

The cheek-straps C and the brow-strap D are separated from said crown-strap by means of the cheek pieces or plates F F upon either side of the bridle.

The novel construction of the cheek-plates F F forms a very important part of my invention and enables me to secure the parts of the bridle together in a manner well adapted for quick and easy adjustment. The said plates F F are preferably formed of a single piece of metal of generally rectangular shape provided with a central longitudinal slot f , which slot is adapted to receive the shank or loop g or any suitable rosette or ornament G. The slot f is open at its upper end and crosses the slot f' at the upper end of the cheek-plate, which is engaged by the crown-strap. The lower end of the said cheek-plate is provided with slots $f^2 f^3$, the said slot f^2 being adapted to receive and sustain the upper end of the cheek-strap C. The slot f^3 is provided to support the side runners H, which carry the checkrein.

In assembling the parts attached to the cheek-plates F F the brow-band, which is provided at its ends with loops, is first passed through the shanks g of the rosettes G, the

said looped ends thereof being pushed through far enough to permit of the same being slipped down over the upper ends of the cheek-plates F F, while at the same time the shanks *g* are passed down through the longitudinal slots *f* of the cheek-pieces F. The ends of the crown-piece B are next inserted in the slots *f'*, thus locking the brow-band and the rosettes in place upon the said cheek-pieces.

10 The brow-band D has one of its end loops *d* preferably made adjustable, and for this purpose the end of the strap forming the same has riveted or otherwise secured to it a buckle or loop *d'*. This buckle or loop *d'* is preferably constructed of a back cross-piece, two side pieces, and two front cross-bands *d*² *d*².

15 It will be seen that by this construction the length of the brow-strap can be readily adjusted by moving the said buckle *d'* back and forth upon the said brow-strap. The cheek-straps C C are secured at their upper ends, as heretofore described, by passing the upper ends of the straps through the slots *f*² of the cheek-plates and buckling them back upon themselves in the usual manner. The blinds or winkers E are secured to the said cheek-straps in the usual manner and are provided with upwardly-extending winker-straps *e'*, which preferably join near the top with the adjusting-strap *e*, and the cheek-straps are provided with the usual nose-strap near their lower ends to hold them in place and support a bit I of ordinary construction by having their lower ends strapped to the rings *i i*.

25 The checkrein-straps are also secured to the said rings *i i* and extend rearwardly through the runners H in the usual manner. The runners H are preferably constructed with flat rollers *h h* in their lower ends, whereby they will accommodate the use of flat straps for the checkrein. The checkrein is preferably provided with a flat adjusting loop-buckle J. This buckle is formed with a base portion having an engaging pintle *j*, upon which the holes in the cheek-strap may be adjusted. The said buckle J is also provided with end cross straps or pieces *j'* to assist in holding the strap in place. It will be seen that by the use of this buckle the end of the strap forming the rear portion of the checkrein needs no stitching to secure it in place, it only being necessary to pass the hole in the end of said strap over the pintle *j* of the buckle J.

35 I also provide a buckle for use upon the hitching-strap to be used upon my bridle. This buckle consists of a body portion K, provided with a pintle *k* and cross retaining-bars *k'*. The forward end of said buckle is provided with a recess *k*², adapted to receive an end-engaging piece *k*³. The casing K is provided with a longitudinal slot *k*⁴ in its under surface and an end slot *k*⁵. The slots provide an opening for the entrance of the end-engaging piece *k*³. The end-engaging piece *k*³ is suitably secured to the hitching-strap by means of its loop *k*⁶, and is provided with a

T-head or cross-head *k*⁷. In the use of my buckle K the casing thereof is secured to the straps by passing the same through the casing beneath the retaining straps or pieces *k'* and allowing said pintle *k* to engage a hole in said strap. The end of the strap having the retaining-piece *k*³ is then passed through the ring *i* of the bit I and the cross-head *k*⁷ is inserted longitudinally into the slots *k*⁴ and *k*⁵ until the said head extends into the recess *k*² when the said cross-head *k*⁷ is turned cross-wise, so that it will engage the inner surface of the casing and will retain the end of the strap in place.

In using my hitching-strap it will be seen that the same can be readily secured to the bit-ring when desired and as readily disengaged at the proper time.

It will be observed that in the construction of my invention I am enabled to produce bridles of a very simple construction and yet strong and durable and capable of easy adjustment in every portion.

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

1. In a bridle, the combination of cheek-plates, each having strap-attaching apertures, cheek-straps secured to said plates, a crown-strap also secured to the said plates and provided with a central loop-buckle for securing the ends of said crown-strap, an adjustable brow-band also secured to said cheek-plates, and winkers secured to the cheek-straps and provided with a strap which is secured in place by a loop-shaped buckle on the crown-strap, substantially as described.

2. In a bridle the combination with cheek-straps provided with blinds or winkers, straps secured to said blinds, a brow-band and a crown-strap having a buckle secured thereto adapted to engage and hold in place the ends of said crown-straps and the said winker-straps, substantially as described.

3. In a bridle the combination with cheek-straps provided with blinds or winkers, straps secured to said blinds, a brow-band and a crown-strap having a buckle secured thereto, said buckle having a pintle adapted to engage holes in the winker-strap and the ends of the crown-strap for holding the same in place, substantially as described.

4. In a bridle the combination of a crown-strap, cheek-straps and a brow-band, cheek-plates for securing said parts together, comprising a plate provided with a longitudinal slot and a horizontal slot for engaging the ends of the said crown-strap and the said brow-strap and means for securing the cheek-strap thereto, substantially as described.

5. In a bridle the combination with cheek-straps of cheek-pieces secured thereto, the cheek-pieces comprising metal pieces provided with longitudinal slots open at one end adapted to receive the shanks of suitable rosettes for securing the brow-band in place and a crown-strap secured to said cheek-pieces

and adapted to hold said rosette and brow-band in place, substantially as described.

6. In a bridle the combination with cheek-straps, of cheek-pieces for supporting the same, having longitudinal slots open at one end for attaching the brow-band and rosettes to said cheek-pieces, the upper end being provided with transverse slots for receiving the crown-strap whereby the said strap is secured to said cheek-pieces and locks the said rosettes and brow-band in place, substantially as described.

7. In a bridle the combination of cheek-pieces provided with longitudinal slots open at one end adapted to be engaged by the shank of suitable rosettes, a brow-band adapt-

ed to be secured to said cheek-pieces by the shanks of said rosettes, said cheek-pieces being also provided with transverse slots near their upper ends for receiving the straps of the crown-piece and also provided with one or more slots near their lower ends for engaging and supporting the cheek-straps and runner-straps for said bridle, substantially as described.

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

FLAVIUS J. ETTINGER.

Witnesses:

C. A. MASON,
CHAS. H. MASON.