

No. 614,015.

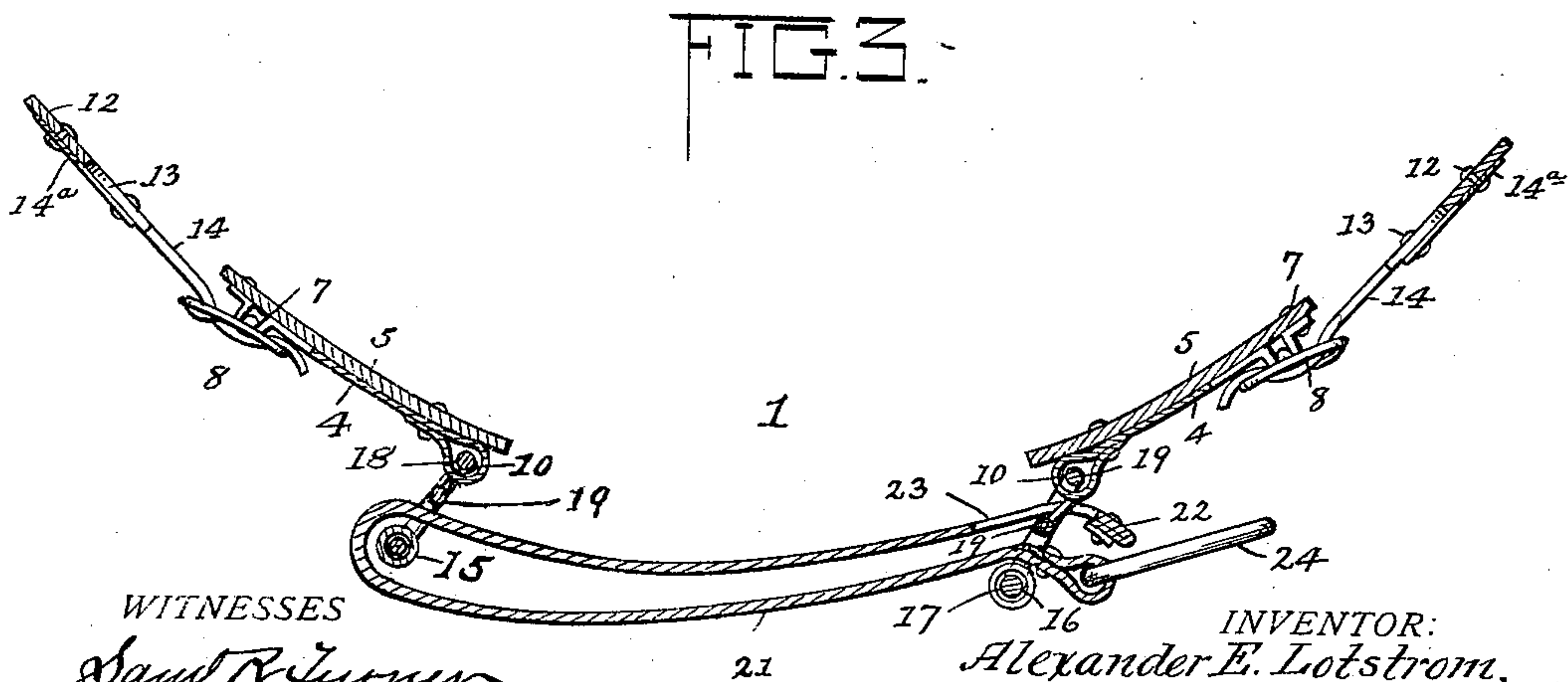
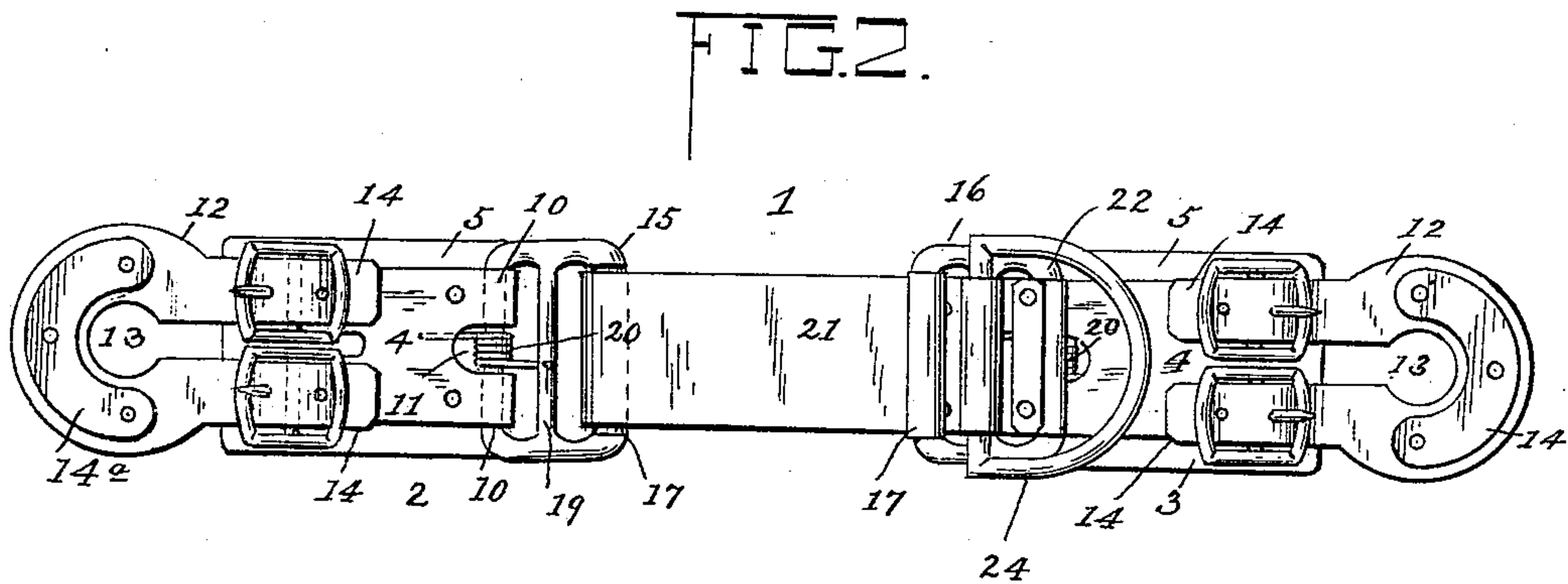
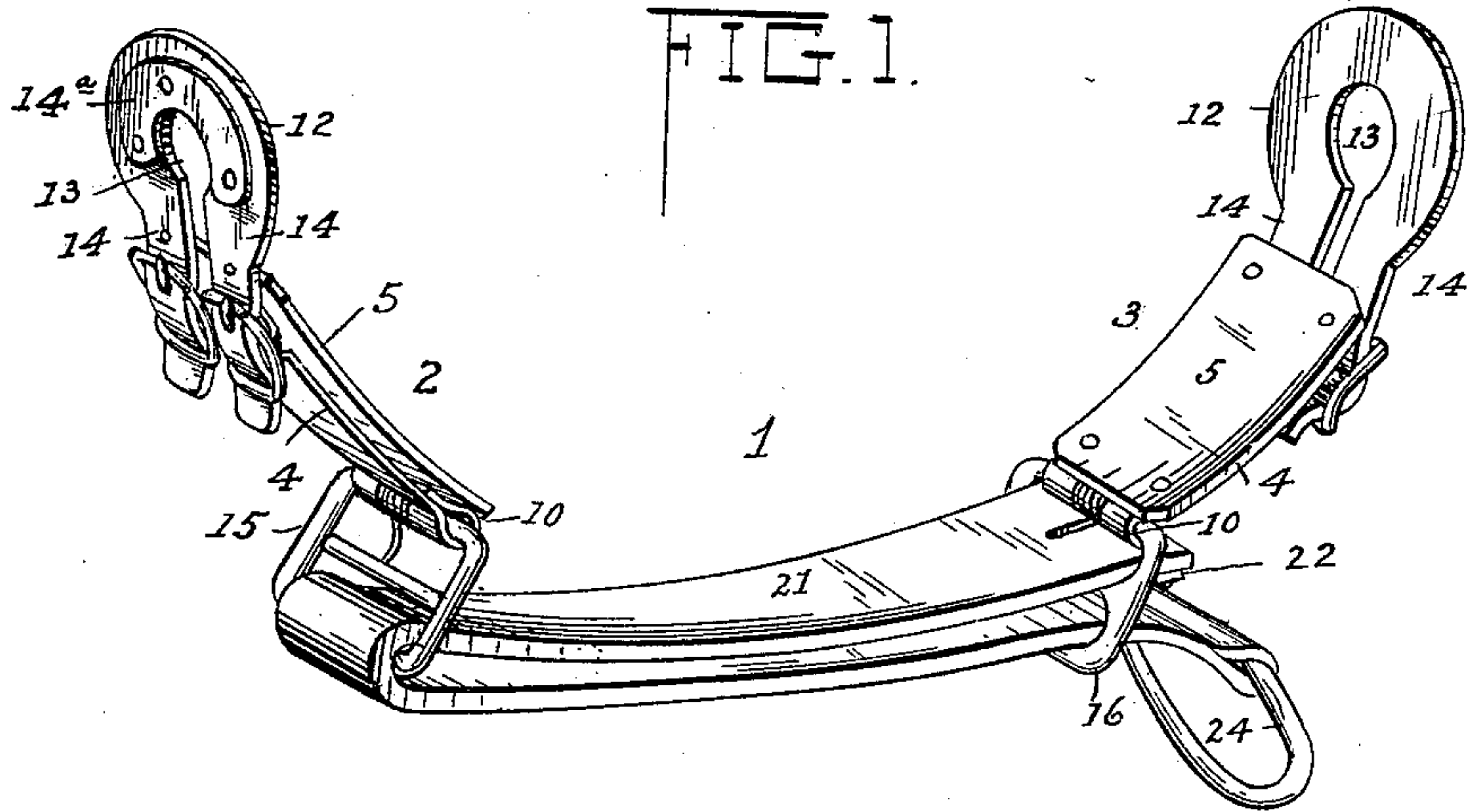
Patented Nov. 8, 1898.

A. E. LOTSTROM.
HITCHING AND GAGGING ATTACHMENT.

(Application filed Nov. 2, 1897.)

(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.



WITNESSES

Saml. Turner
C. C. Vines

INVENTOR:

Alexander E. Lotstrom,

By R. A. Lacey,
his Attorneys.

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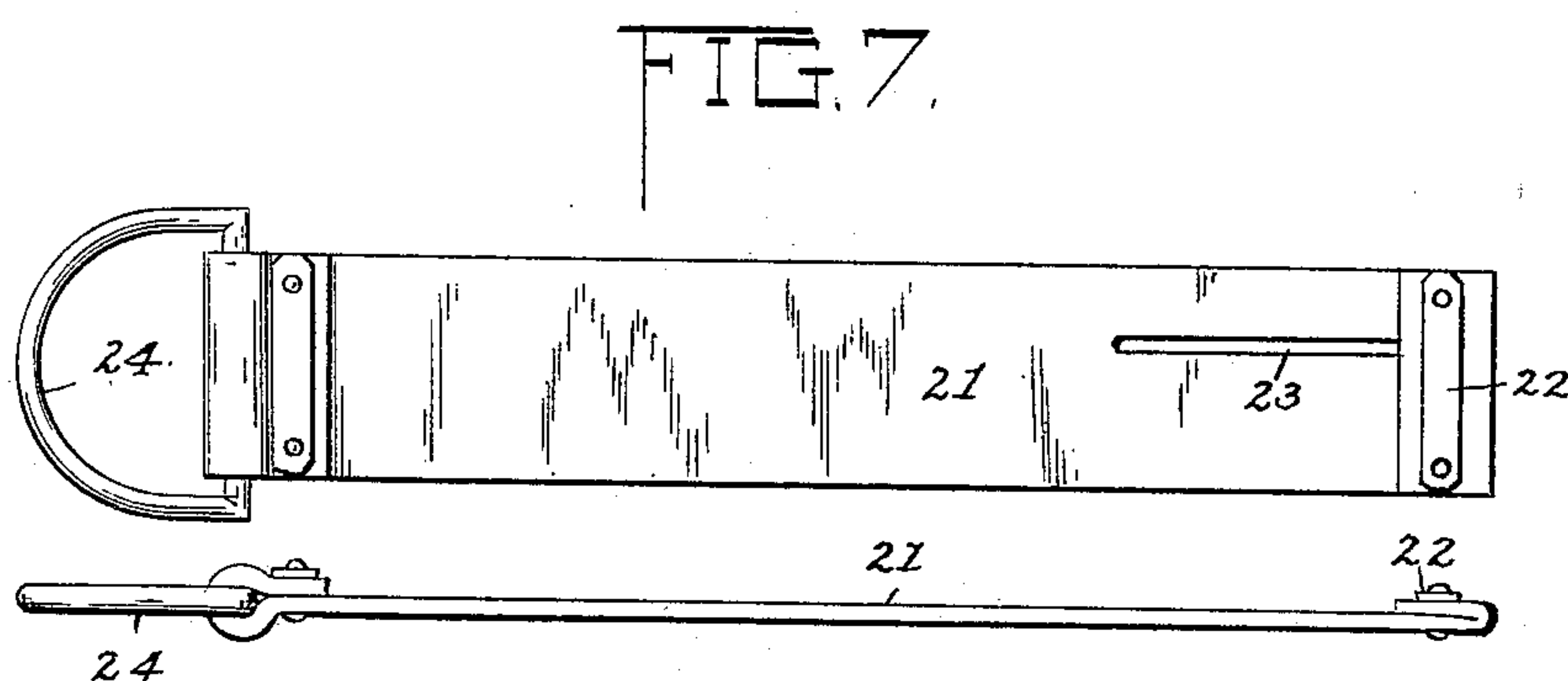
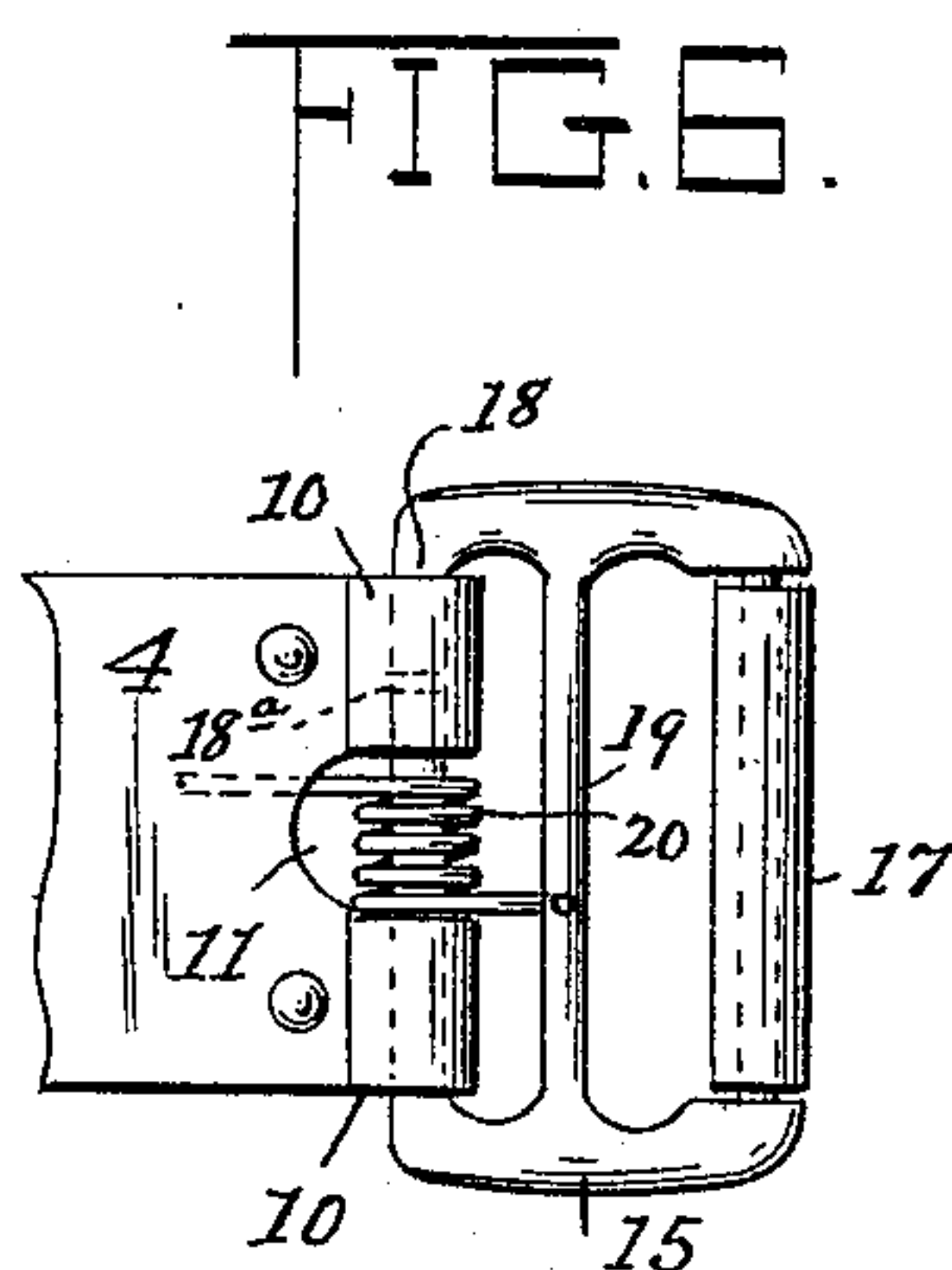
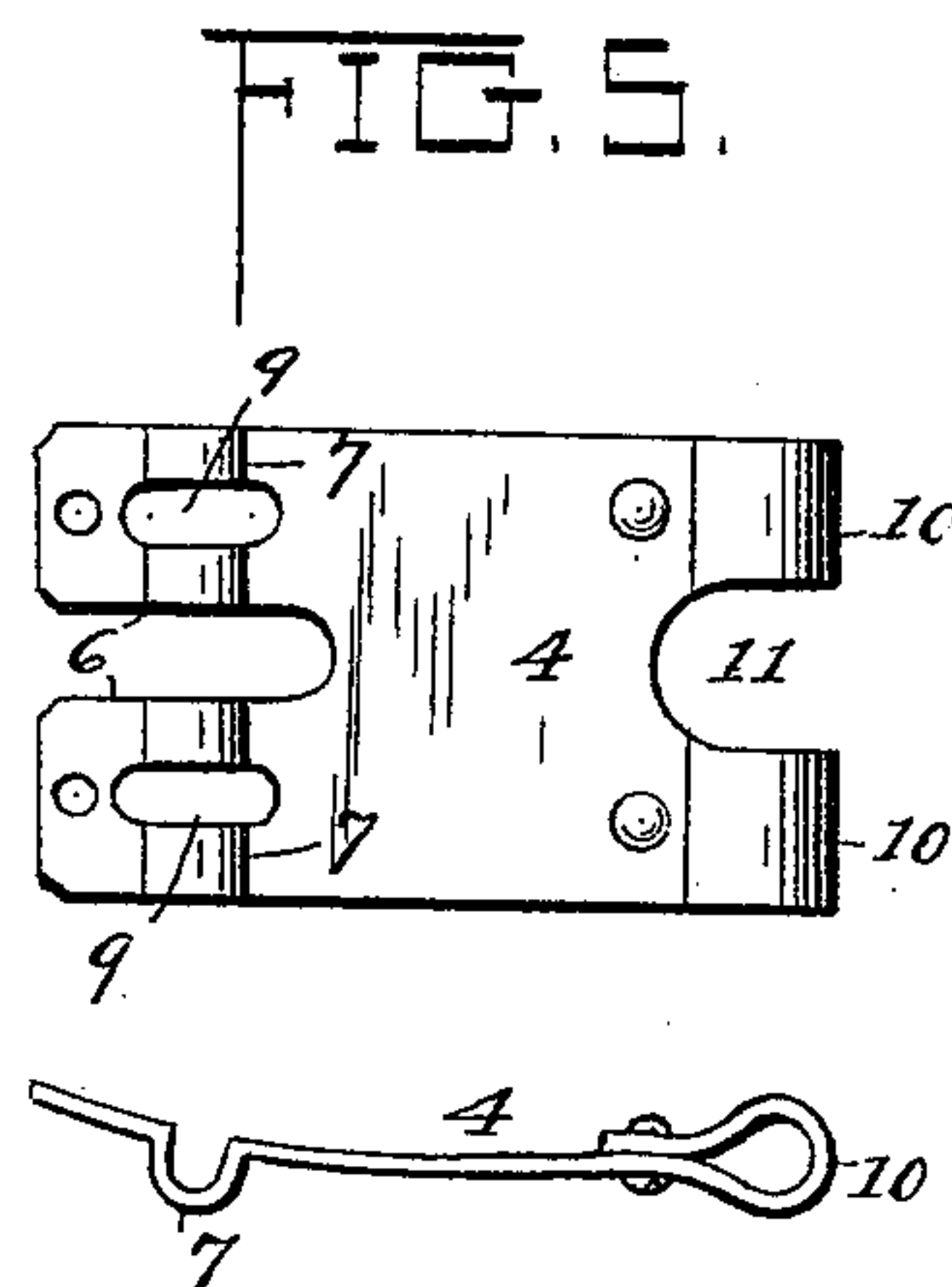
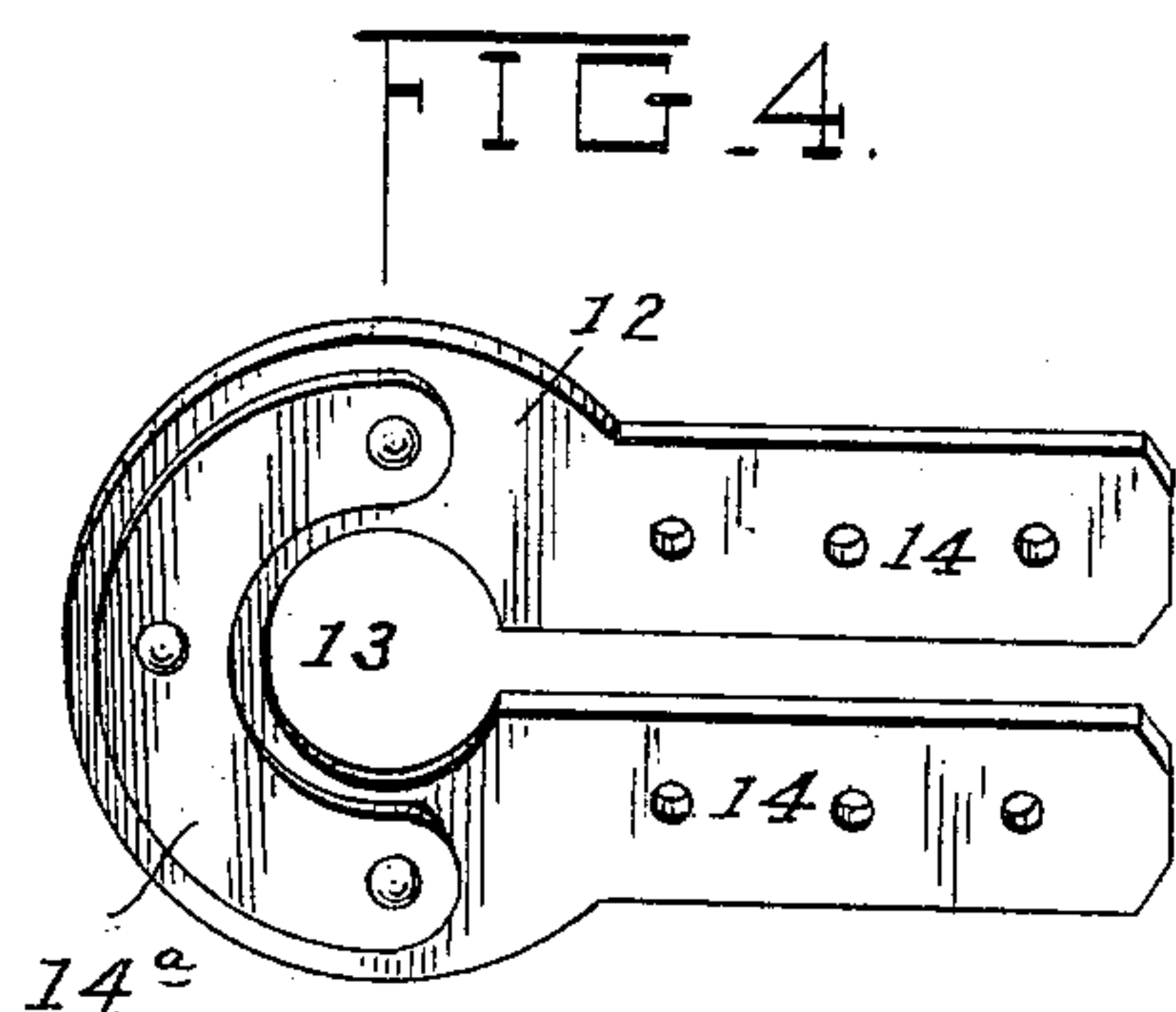
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WITNESSES
Sam R. Turner
C. C. Hines

INVENTOR:
Alexander E. Lotstrom.
By *R. M. D. Lacey,*
his Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER E. LOTSTROM, OF SPOKANE, WASHINGTON.

HITCHING AND GAGGING ATTACHMENT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 614,015, dated November 8, 1898.

Application filed November 2, 1897. Serial No. 657,185. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER E. LOTSTROM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Spokane, in the county of Spokane and State of Washington, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combination Hitching-Strap and Gagging Attachment for 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 has relation to a novel and improved combination hitching-strap and gagging attachment for bridles; and its object is to provide a device of this character having movable jaw-pieces adapted to be operated from a vehicle to partially throttle and subdue a fractious horse or by a sudden and forceful pull of the horse on the hitching-strap to prevent breaking of said strap or dragging of a weight carried thereby.

My invention consists in certain novel details of construction and combination of parts for carrying the same into practical effect, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the drawings hereto annexed and forming part of this specification like reference characters designate corresponding parts of the invention throughout the several views.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hitching-strap and gagging attachment embodying my invention; Fig. 2, a bottom plan view; Fig. 3, a longitudinal sectional view of same; Fig. 4, a side view of one of the bit-attaching pieces; Fig. 5, a bottom plan and an edge view of one of the metallic jaw-piece plates; Fig. 6, an enlarged detail view of a portion of one of the metallic jaw-piece plates and its connecting-loop, showing the tension-spring attached thereto; and Fig. 7, a plan and a side edge view of the draw-strap.

The numeral 1 in the accompanying drawings represents my improved bridle attachment, which in practice extends beneath the lower jaw of the horse. This attachment comprises in its construction two oppositely-disposed jaw pieces or clamps 2 3, adapted to normally bear lightly against opposite sides of the horse's jaw, each consisting of a curved

metallic stiffening or backing plate 4 and a soft facing of leather, rubber, or padded material 5, riveted or otherwise secured thereto. The said backing-plate is bifurcated at one end, and the two oppositely-disposed parallel arms 6 of the bifurcation are bent to form semicircular bearings 7 to receive the cross-bars of buckles 8, said bearings being provided with slots 9 for passage of the buckle-tongues. The opposite or lower end of the backing-plate is bent or turned back upon the body of the plate to form bearing-loops 10, separated by a slot 11, as shown, for a purpose hereinafter described.

The attachment is supported upon the bridle by segmental-shaped leather bit-pieces 12, each having a central orifice 13 and two parallel pendent apertured straps 14, which are secured to the buckles 8. These bit-pieces are fitted upon the bit-bar, which extends through the orifices 13 thereof, inside of the bit-rings and are provided with segmental stiffening and wear plates 14^a to prevent undue wear of the leather from contact with said bar.

To the clamping-piece backing-plates 4 are secured metallic guide-loops 15 16, each having one of its side bars provided with a friction-roller 17 and its opposite side bar 18 fitted in the bearing-loop 10 of said plate. Each guide-loop is further provided with a central cross-bar 19. A spiral spring 20 encompasses the side bar 18 of each guide-loop and has one of its ends bearing against the upper side of the plate 4 and its other end rigidly secured to the said central cross-bar 19 of the guide-loop.

The jaw-clamping pieces are connected to move in unison toward each other by a draw-strap 21, having its inner end fitted in the guide-opening between the bars 18 19 of the guide-loop 16 and provided with a transverse stop-plate 22 to abut against the said bar 19 and prevent disconnection of said end from the loop. The draw-strap is also provided contiguous to said stop-plate with a longitudinal slot 23 for passage of the end of the spring 20, secured to the bar 19, to permit the strap to slide freely without interfering with said spring. The main portion of the draw-strap extends across to the guide-loop 15 and around the friction-roller 17 thereon,

and thence doubles back and has its outer free end passed over the friction-roller 17 on the guide-loop 16. A ring 24 is secured to the said outer free end of the draw-strap. To

5 this ring a gag-rein leading to the vehicle or a hitching-strap attached to a post or carrying a weight may be secured.

Fig. 1 of the drawings shows the parts of the device in normal operative position. From
10 this it will be seen that the guide-loops 15 16 are normally held at an angle by their springs so as to maintain the two jaw-pieces in proper relation, and it will be understood that said springs will permit the jaw-pieces to yield or
15 move outwardly to a limited extent to accommodate for ordinary movements of the horse's jaws and head without affecting the draw-strap. The draw-strap is also held taut by the springs. When, however, a gag-rein at-
20 tached to the ring 24 is pulled or the horse attempts by a forceful pull to free himself from a hitching-strap or to drag a weight carried thereby, the free end of the draw-strap 21 will be drawn outward and the jaw-clamp-
25 ing pieces moved simultaneously inward to clamp the lower jaw and press upon the windpipe of the horse. By this means a fractious horse may be readily and conveniently controlled and deterred from bolting.

30 I desire it understood that I do not limit my invention to the specific construction and arrangement of parts herein shown and described, as it is obvious that slight changes and modifications of the parts may be made
35 within the scope of the invention without departing from the spirit thereof.

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

40 1. A gagging attachment for bridles, comprising a pair of clamps adapted to bear upon opposite sides of a horse's jaw, a guide-loop connected with each clamp, a spring acting on each guide-loop to press the same out-
45 wardly at an angle to the clamp, and a sliding draw-strap extending through said guide-loop and adapted when drawn upon to move said clamps toward each other, substantially as described.

50 2. A gagging attachment for bridles, comprising a pair of clamps adapted to bear upon opposite sides of a horse's jaw, bit-attaching

pieces adjustably secured thereto, a guide-loop connected with each clamp, a spring acting on each guide-loop to press the same out- 55 wardly at an angle to the clamp, and a sliding draw-strap extending through said guide-loops and adapted when drawn upon to move said clamps toward each other, substantially as described. 60

3. A gagging attachment for bridles, comprising a pair of clamps each having a metallic backing-plate carrying buckles at one end and provided with a bearing-loop at the other end, a bit-strap adjustably secured to the 65 buckle of each plate, a guide-loop fitted in the bearing-loop of each plate, and a draw-strap sliding in said guide-loops, substantially as described.

4. A gagging attachment for bridles, com- 70 prising a pair of clamps each having a metallic backing-plate carrying buckles at one end and provided with a bearing-loop at the other end, a bit-strap secured to the buckle of each plate, a guide-loop fitted in the bearing-loop 75 of each plate, a spring acting on each guide-loop to hold it at an outward angle to the plate, and a draw-strap sliding in said guide-loops, substantially as described.

5. A gagging attachment for bridles, com- 80 prising a pair of jaw-clamping pieces, each consisting of a backing-plate having a facing of leather and provided with parallel arms at one end having semicircular bearings and at the other end with bearing-loops separated 85 by a slot, buckles secured in said semicircular bearings, a guide-loop fitted in said bearing-loop, a spring encompassing the guide-loop and having one of its ends bearing against the backing-plate and its other end 90 fixed to the guide-loop, bit-pieces having straps engaging said buckles, and a draw-strap extending through said guide-loops and connecting the jaw-clamping pieces, said strap having at its inner end a stop-plate and at 95 its outer end a ring, substantially as described.

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

ALEXANDER E. LOTSTROM.

Witnesses:

JOHN B. HESS,

J. MELVIN THOMAS.