No. 617,583. Patented Jan. 10, 1899.

J. A. LEMONS.

COMBINED DRIVING AND MEDICAL BIT.

(Application filed Jan. 3, 1898.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

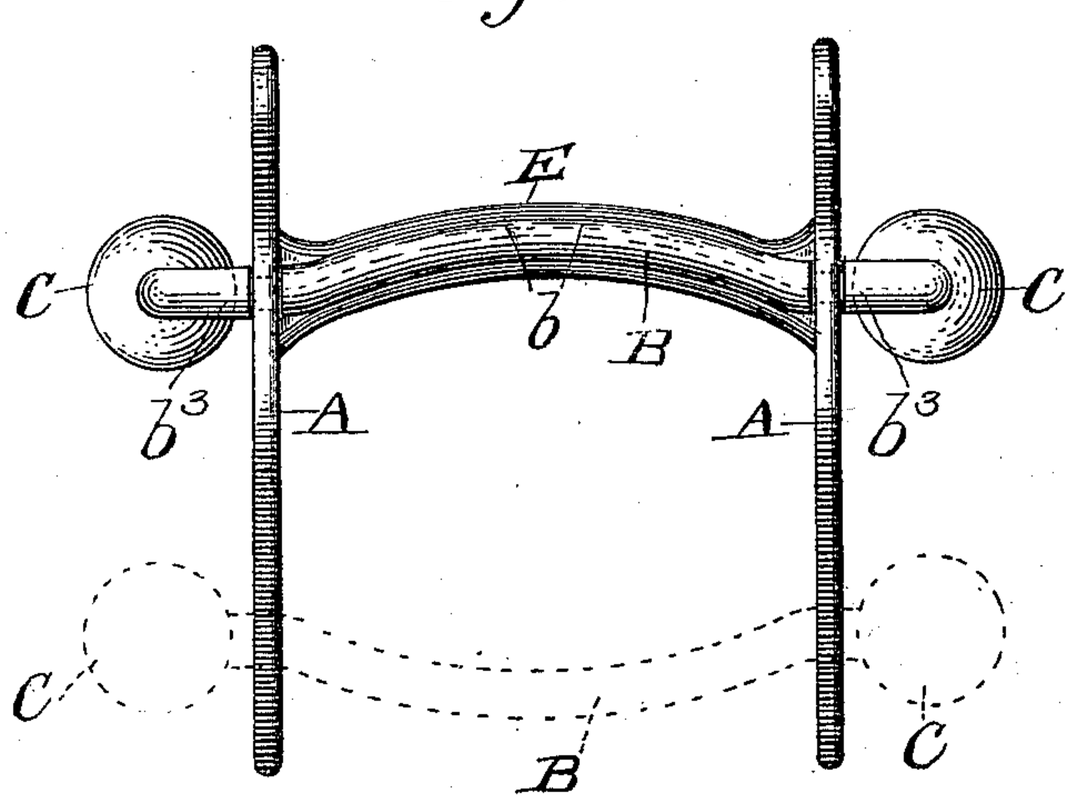


Fig. 2.

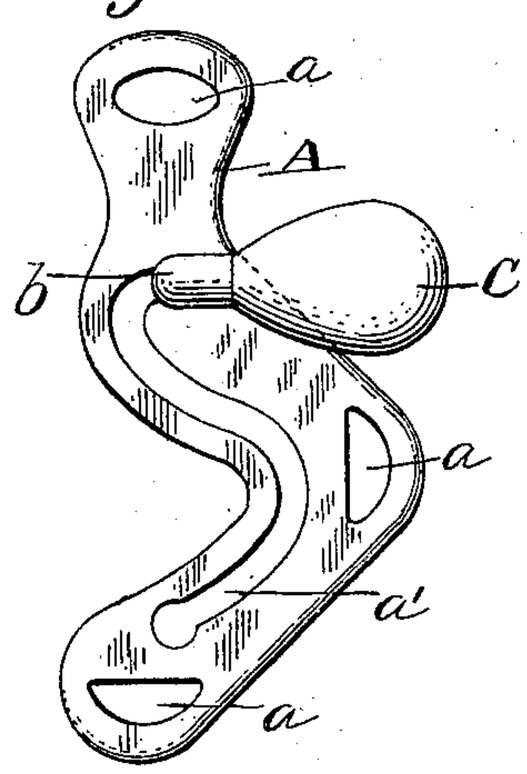


Fig. 3.

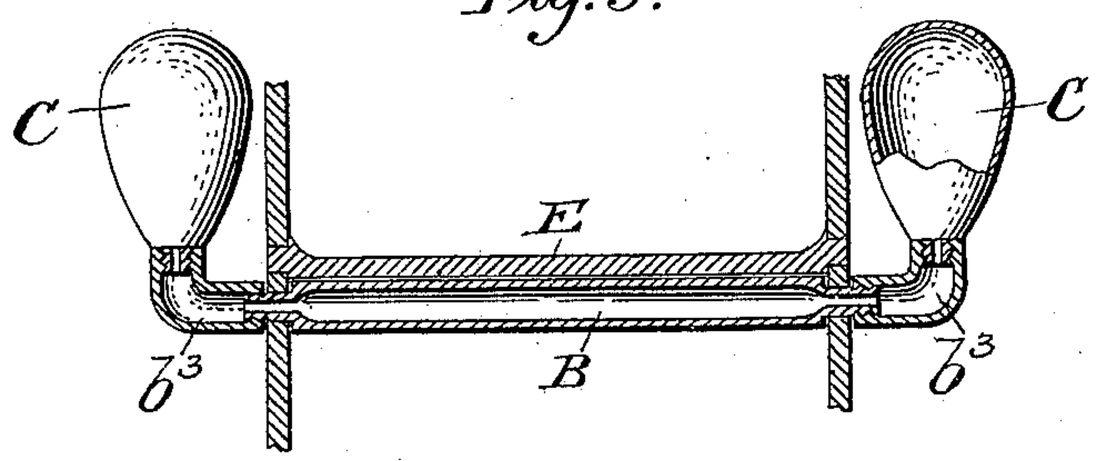


Fig. 4.

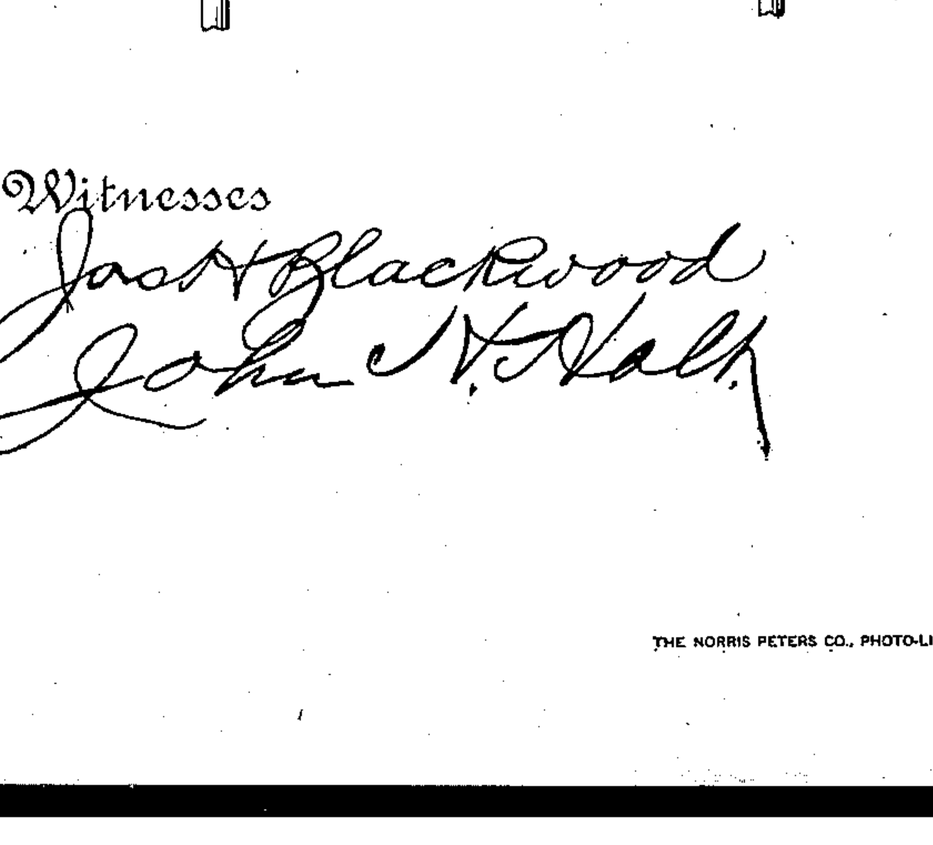
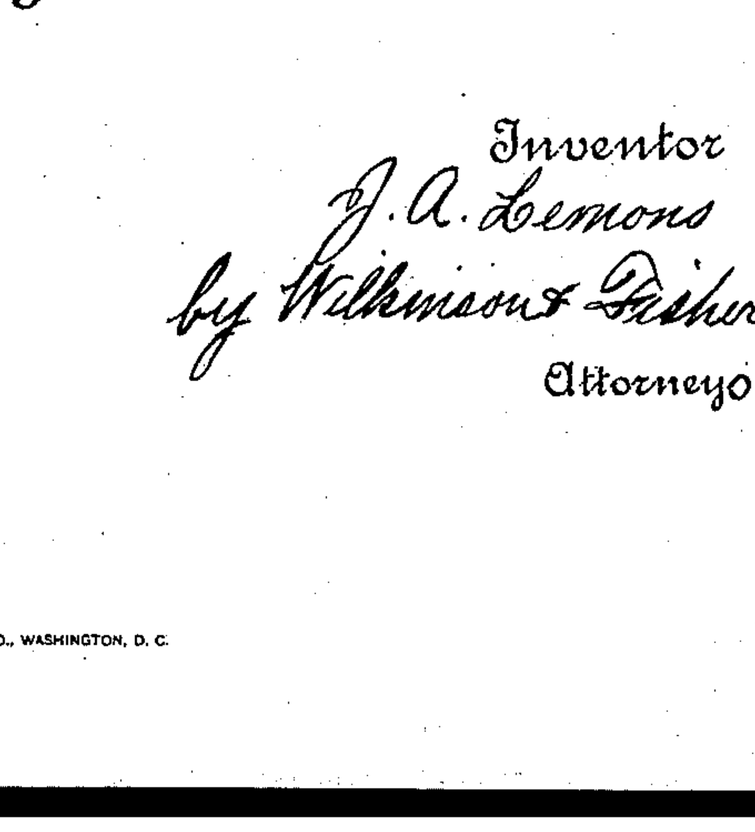


Fig. 5.



Witnesses
Jas. A. Blackwood
John V. Kalk

Inventor
J. A. Lemons
by Wilkinson & Fisher.
Attorneys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN A. LEMONS, OF BUFORD, GEORGIA.

COMBINED DRIVING AND MEDICAL BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 617,583, dated January 10, 1899.

Application filed January 3, 1898. Serial No. 665,445. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN A. LEMONS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Buford, in the county of Gwinnett and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in a Combined Driving and Medical Bit; 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 a combined driving and medical bit; and its object is to provide a cheap and effective device of this class which may be used for these purposes.

My invention consists in the construction and combinations of parts hereinafter described and claimed.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a top plan view of my device, showing the sliding bar in the position in which it is used for a driving-bit and also showing another position of the sliding bar in dotted lines. Fig. 2 represents a side view of the same. Fig. 3 represents a longitudinal vertical section through the bit in its usual position. Fig. 4 is a fragmentary view with the thumb-bobs removed and the ends of the sliding bar closed by thumb-nuts, and Fig. 5 is a longitudinal section through the sliding bar or medicine-bit.

A represents the side bars of the bit, provided with openings *a*, in which various parts of the harness may be fastened. The side bars are each also provided with a curved slot *a'*, in which the slide-bar or medicine-bit B is adapted to move. This slide-bar is hollow throughout and near its center is provided with openings *b* for the passage of medicine into the horse's mouth. It is provided with reduced portions *b'* near each end, which reduced portions engage the slots in the side bars A for purposes hereinafter to be explained. Outside of the reduced portions *b'* are screw-threads b^2, with which the hollow right-angled extensions b^3 are adapted to engage. The outer ends of these extensions are screw-threaded for the reception of the hollow thumb-bobs C of a size sufficient to hold about an ounce of medicine. These thumb-bobs may be made of elastic material, such as rubber, so that the medicine can be forced into the horse's mouth by pressure, or they may be made of any other material, such as wood or metal, so that the medicine may gradually trickle into the horse's mouth. If it is not desired to use the device as a medicine-bit, the extensions b^3 and thumb-bobs C may be removed and their places supplied by the thumb-nuts D, which are internally screw-threaded and adapted to engage the screw-threaded ends of the slide-bar B.

Connecting the side bars A is the fixed bar E, which is riveted or otherwise fastened to the side bars A. This from the shape I term the "shell-bit." It is smooth on the rear side and hollowed out on the front side and is of such a size and shape that it will exactly receive the medicine-bit B. Both of these bits are curved in the center, as shown in Fig. 1. The bit may then be used as an ordinary driving-bit. If it is desired to use the bit for the purpose of administering medicine, the thumb-nuts D are removed and their places supplied by the extensions b^3 and the thumb-bobs C, one or both of which has previously been filled with medicine. The bobs should then be turned up, so that the medicine will slowly work out into the horse's mouth. If it is desired at any time to shut off the flow of medicine, this may be done quickly and easily by turning the thumb-bobs down. If then the thumb-bobs are loosened on either end of the sliding bar B and the said bar be moved along the curved slot *a'* to the other end thereof, the bit is adapted for use in drenching the animal, both bars being placed in the horse's mouth and the headstall buckled into the openings in the center of the side bars of the bit. The animal's mouth will thus be held open while his head may be raised and the bottle-neck inserted into his throat between the bars of the bit, thus serving to prevent the animal from closing his mouth upon the bottle-neck and so possibly breaking the same. The animal's mouth being thus held open, he will be obliged to swallow. With the bars thus spread apart the bit may, if desired, be used as a mouth-gag. In this position a man can easily put his arm between the two bars and remove any obstruction in the horse's throat or perform any operation therein without danger. This bit is also capable of use as a severe driving-bit by placing the shell-

bar in the horse's mouth and letting the sliding bar rest under his lower jaw. The overcheck is then placed in the top of the bit, the head-stall in the center, and the reins at the bottom. In this position the horse's head can be lifted up and the horse kept completely under control. In all cases the smooth side of the shell-bit is exposed to the horse's mouth, and the sliding bar is round, so that neither bar cuts the horse's mouth.

I desire to have it expressly understood that I do not limit myself to the various uses and adjustments hereinbefore described, as it is obvious that these may be varied in many ways without departing from the spirit of my invention.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. In a combined driving and medical bit, the combination with the side bars provided with openings for the attachment of various parts of the harness, a curved bar upon the ends of which are rigidly mounted the said side bars, said curved bar being smooth and convex at one side and concave upon the opposite side, a movable bar cylindrical in cross-section and curved to fit the hollowed-out portion of the stationary bar, said movable bar being hollow throughout its length and provided with apertures, and means for closing the ends of the movable bar, substantially as described.

2. In a combined driving and, medical bit, the combination of two side bars provided with openings for the attachment of portions of the harness and each side bar being provided with a curved slot, a stationary bar attached to the side bars near one end of each of the said slots, said bar being curved and being smooth and convex upon one side and concave upon its opposite side, and the curved movable bar adapted to fit in the concave portion of the stationary bar and with its ends engaging the curved slots of the side bars and movable therein, said movable bar being hollow and provided with apertures near its center, the ends of said bar being screw-threaded, and screw-threaded devices for closing the ends of said hollow bar, substantially as described.

3. In a combined driving and medical bit, the means for administering medicine, which consists of a movable medicine-bit cylindrical in cross-section and hollow throughout, said bar being provided with apertures near its center and with screw-threaded ends combined with screw-thread extensions adapted to engage said ends, and hollow thumb-bobs adapted to contain medicine and to engage said extensions, substantially as described.

4. In a combined driving and medical bit, the combination of side bars each provided with apertures for the reception of parts of the harness, and with a curved slot, a stationary bar rigidly connecting the two side bars near one end of the respective slots, said stationary bar being curved, smooth and convex upon one side and concave upon its opposite side, a sliding bar curved to fit the concavity of said stationary bar, and cylindrical in cross-section, adapted to engage the concaved portion of the stationary bar, said sliding bar being hollow throughout and provided with apertures near its center, said sliding bar having also reduced portions engaging the slots in the side bars and having screw-threads at its ends, screw-threaded extensions adapted to engage said ends, and medicine-holding devices attached to said extensions, substantially as described.

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

JOHN A. LEMONS.

Witnesses:
E. O. WILLIAMS,
S. J. PATTILLO.