No. 622,261.

Patented Apr. 4, 1899.

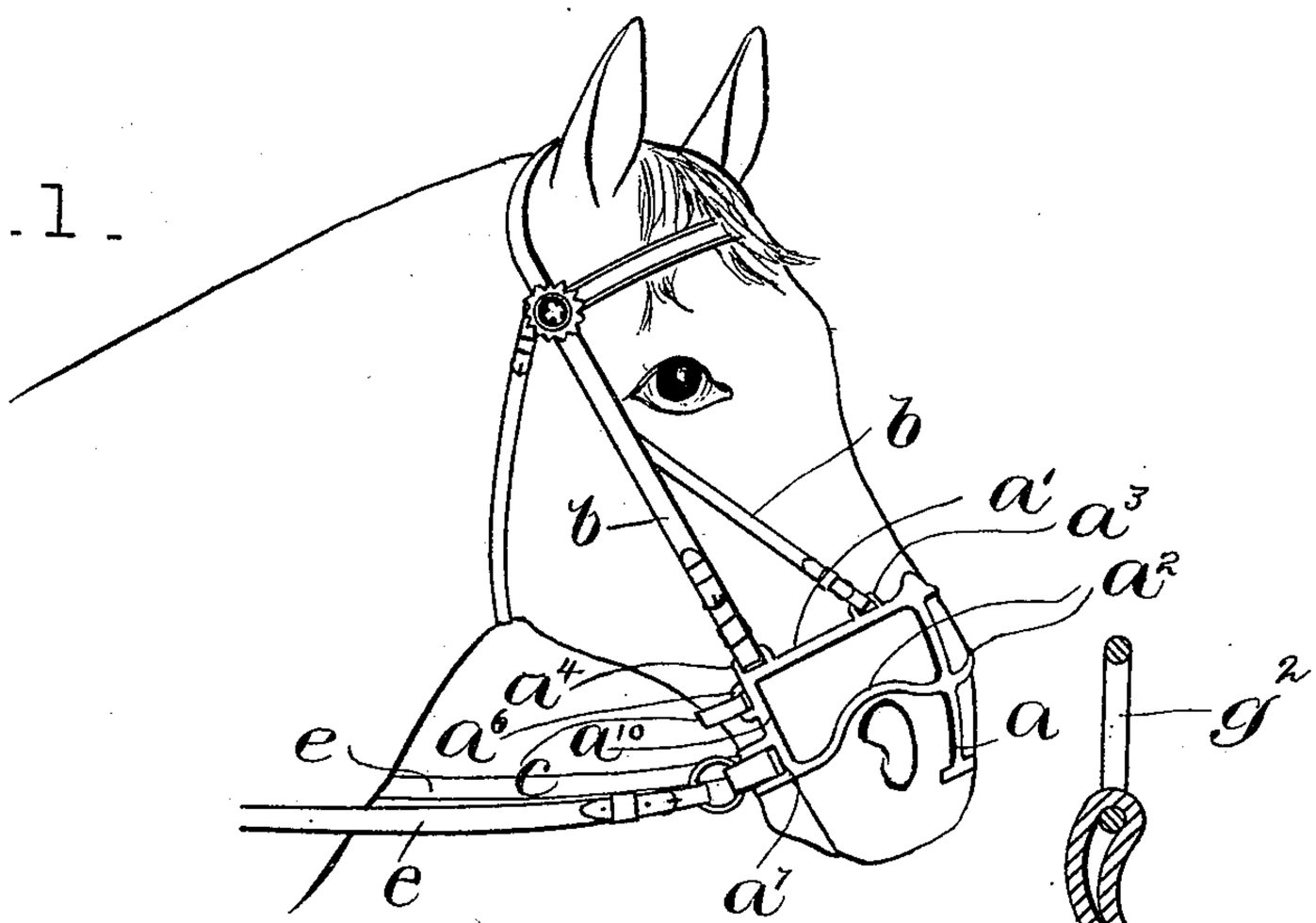
D. R. PORTER.

HORSE CONTROLLER.

(No Model.)

(Application filed Mar. 21, 1898.)

FIG. 1.



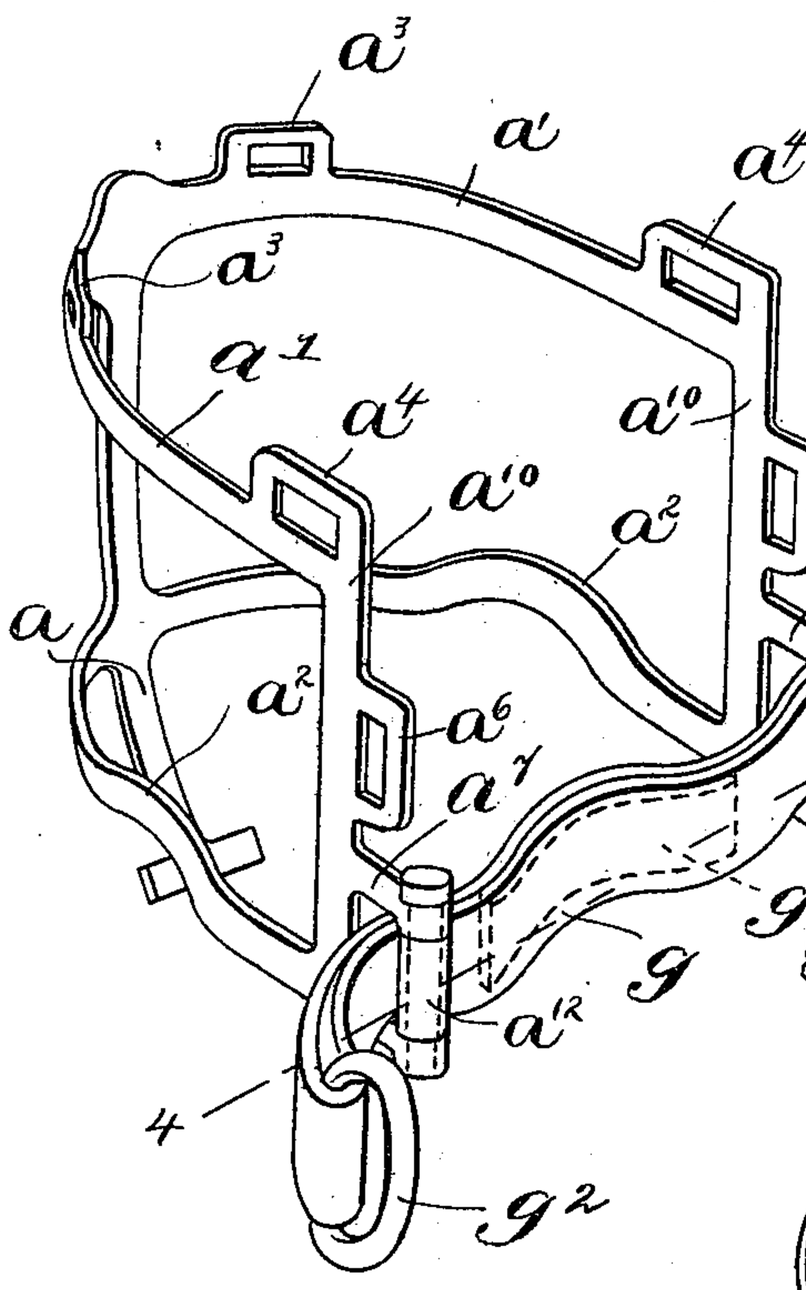


FIG. 3.

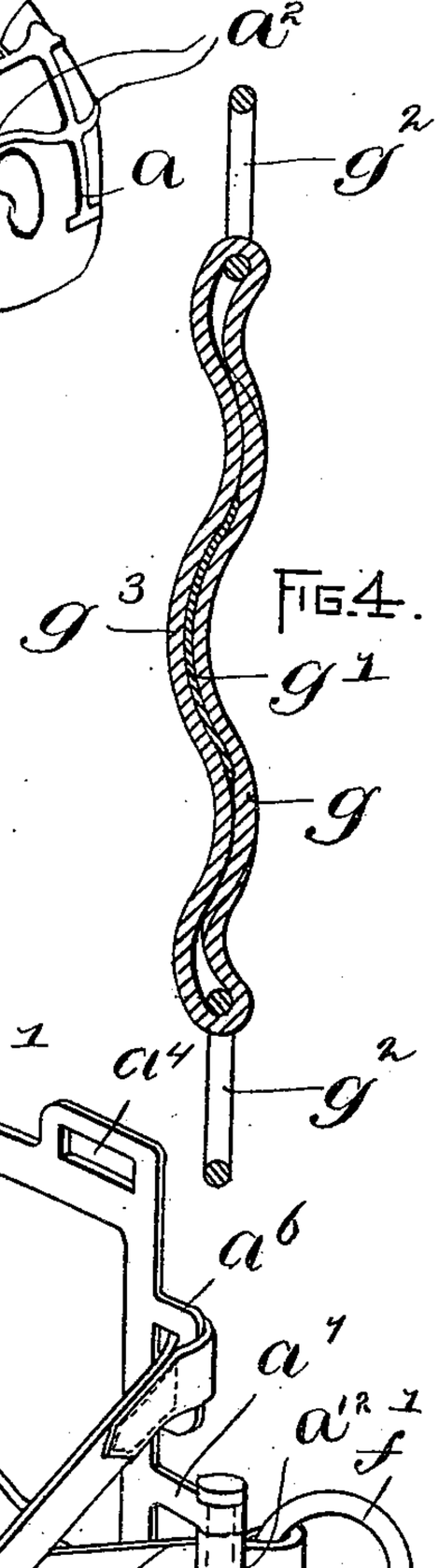


FIG. 4.

FIG. 2.

WITNESSES:

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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL R. PORTER, OF CHELSEA, MASSACHUSETTS, ASSIGNOR, BY DIRECT AND MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, TO THE INTERNATIONAL BRIDLE COMPANY, OF KITTERY, MAINE.

HORSE-CONTROLLER.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 622,261, dated April 4, 1899.

Application filed March 21, 1898. Serial No. 674,582. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, DANIEL R. PORTER, of Chelsea, in the county of Suffolk and State of Massachusetts, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Horse-Controllers, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to a horse-controller, and has for its object to provide a device to be used instead of a bit in guiding a horse.

The invention consists in the improved device which I shall now proceed to describe and claim.

Of the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved horse-controller applied to a horse. Figs. 2 and 3 are perspective views showing the controller removed. Fig. 4 represents a sectional view of the compressing device shown in Fig. 3.

Referring to the drawings, my improved horse-controller, as here shown, comprises a middle bar a, upper transverse arms a' a', extending laterally from the upper end of the said bar and formed to bear on opposite sides of the head, and lower transverse arms a^2 a^2, extending laterally from the bar a below the arms a' a' and connected with the latter by vertical bars a^{10}. The bar a occupies the median line of the lower portion of the horse's head and is curved inwardly at its lower portion to follow the contour of the nose, its lower portion bearing against the flexible portion of the nose between the nostrils.

a^3 a^3 and a^4 a^4 represent eyes formed on the lateral arms for receiving the straps b b, which pass over the horse's head and support the controller.

The bars a^{10} are preferably provided with eyes a^6, adapted to receive a strap c, which passes back of the under jaw and prevents forward displacement of the controller, and eyes a^7, adapted to receive the reins e e.

The arms a' a^2 and the connecting-bar a^{10} constitute rigid side portions adapted to bear on the sides of the lower portion of the horse's head.

A backward pull on the two reins creates pressure of the middle bar a against the flexible portion of the nose and effectually holds the horse back, while a pull on one rein creates pressure both of the middle bar on the nose and of one of the rigid side portions on the corresponding side of the head and turns the horse's head in the direction desired.

It will be seen that I have provided a device for controlling and guiding horses which is far more humane than the bit and can be easily applied and cheaply manufactured.

The arms a^2 are preferably curved to accommodate the nostrils, as shown in Fig. 2.

In Fig. 2 I show a nose-compressing device comprising straps f f, secured to the eyes a^6 a^6 and crossing each other behind the lower jaw of the horse, said straps sliding freely in the eyes a^7 and having rings f' f' at their outer ends for engagement with the reins. When both reins are pulled, the straps f f exert pressure against the under jaw, the nose being thus compressed and the animal controlled.

In Fig. 3 I show as a substitute for the straps f f a single strap g, which is made practically rigid at its central portion by a curved metal stiffener g', its ends being flexible and adapted to slide freely in the eyes a^7, said ends having rein-engaging rings g^2. The central portion of the stiffener g presents a protuberance g^3, formed to enter the hollow between the side bones of the under jaw of a horse. The strap g is pressed forward against the under jaw by a backward pull on the reins, the controlling device being thus caused to compress the nose. A pull on one rein causes pressure of the protuberance g^2 against one side of the said hollow, the said protuberance thus aiding in guiding the horse.

When a compressing device is employed, the eyes a^7 are preferably provided with anti-friction-rollers a^{12} to permit the straps f f or the flexible ends of the strap g to move freely in said eyes. This device, as well as that shown in Fig. 2, is to be used only on refractory horses.

I claim—

1. A horse-controlling device comprising a rigid bar formed to extend along the median line of the lower portion of a horse's head, its lower portion being curved inwardly and formed to bear on the flexible portion of the nose between the nostrils, and side portions

extending from the said bar and formed to bear on opposite sides of the head.

2. A horse-controlling device comprising a rigid bar formed to extend along the median line of the lower portion of a horse's head, its lower portion being curved inwardly and formed to bear on the flexible portion of the nose between the nostrils, and side portions extending from the said bar and formed to bear on opposite sides of the head, said device having suitable strap and rein engaging devices.

3. A horse-controlling device comprising a bar formed to extend along the median line of a horse's head, its lower portion being curved inwardly and formed to bear on the flexible portion of the nose between the nostrils; upper transverse arms extending laterally from the upper end of said bar and formed to bear on opposite sides of the nose; lower transverse arms extending from the bar below the upper arms; rigid connections between the rear portions of said upper and lower arms; and eyes or loops formed to engage suitable straps and reins.

4. A horse-controlling device comprising a rigid bar formed to extend vertically along the median line of the lower portion of a horse's head, its lower portion being curved inwardly and formed to bear on the flexible portion of the nose between the nostrils, and side portions extending from said bar and formed to bear on opposite sides of the head, rein-engaging eyes on said side portions, and a nose-compressing device movable endwise in said eyes and having means for engagement with a pair of reins.

5. A horse-controlling device comprising a rigid bar formed to extend vertically along the median line of the lower portion of a horse's head, its lower portion being curved inwardly and formed to bear on the flexible portion of the nose between the nostrils, and side portions extending from said bar and formed to bear on opposite sides of the head, rein-engaging eyes on said side portions, and a strap movable in said eyes and formed to extend across the under jaw, said strap having a central protuberance formed to enter the hollow of the under jaw.

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

DANIEL R. PORTER.

Witnesses:
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P. W. PEZZETTI.