

No. 647,973.

Patented Apr. 24, 1900.

H. LEEPER.
TERRET.

(Application filed Oct. 27, 1899.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

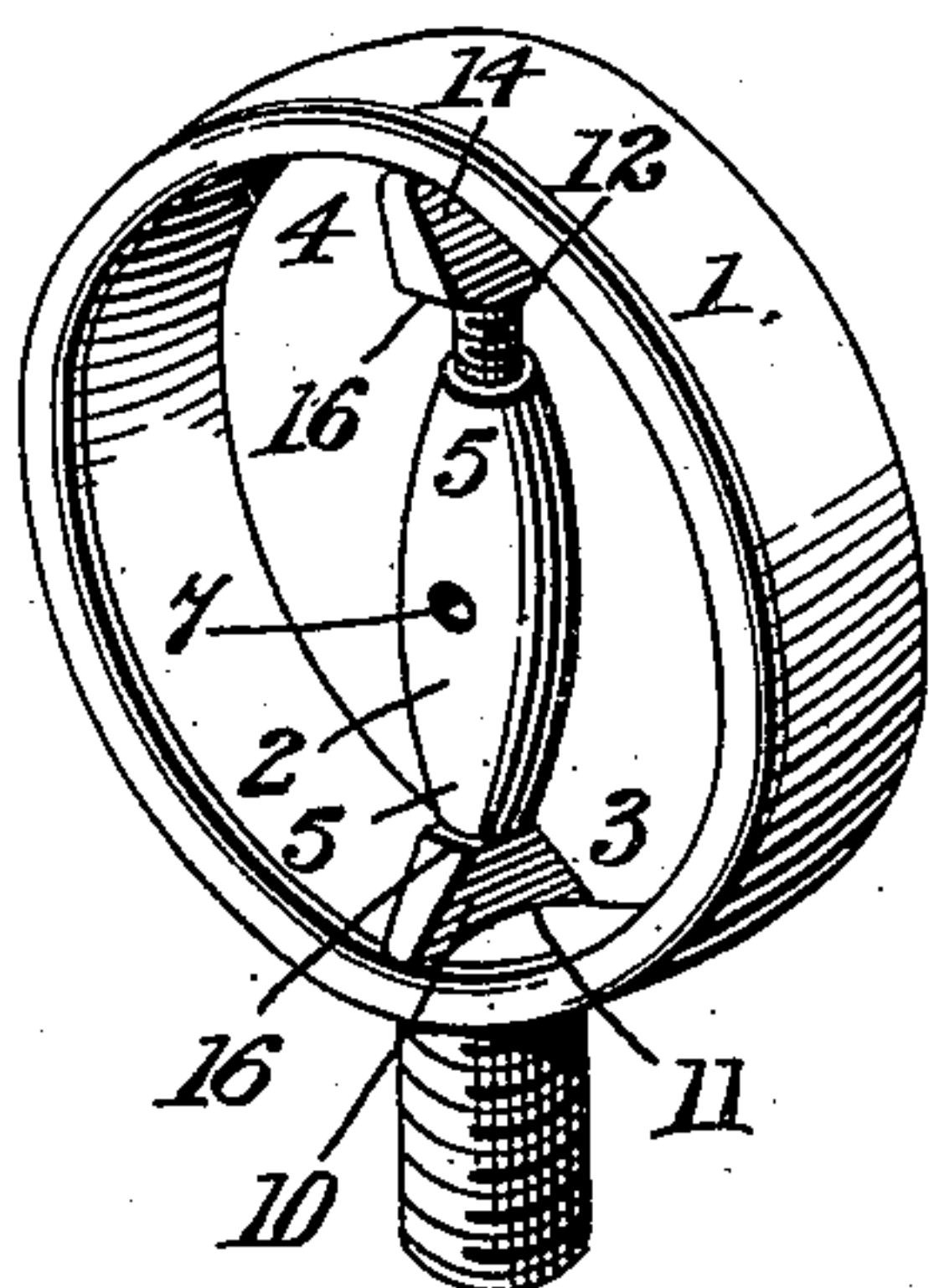


Fig. 2.

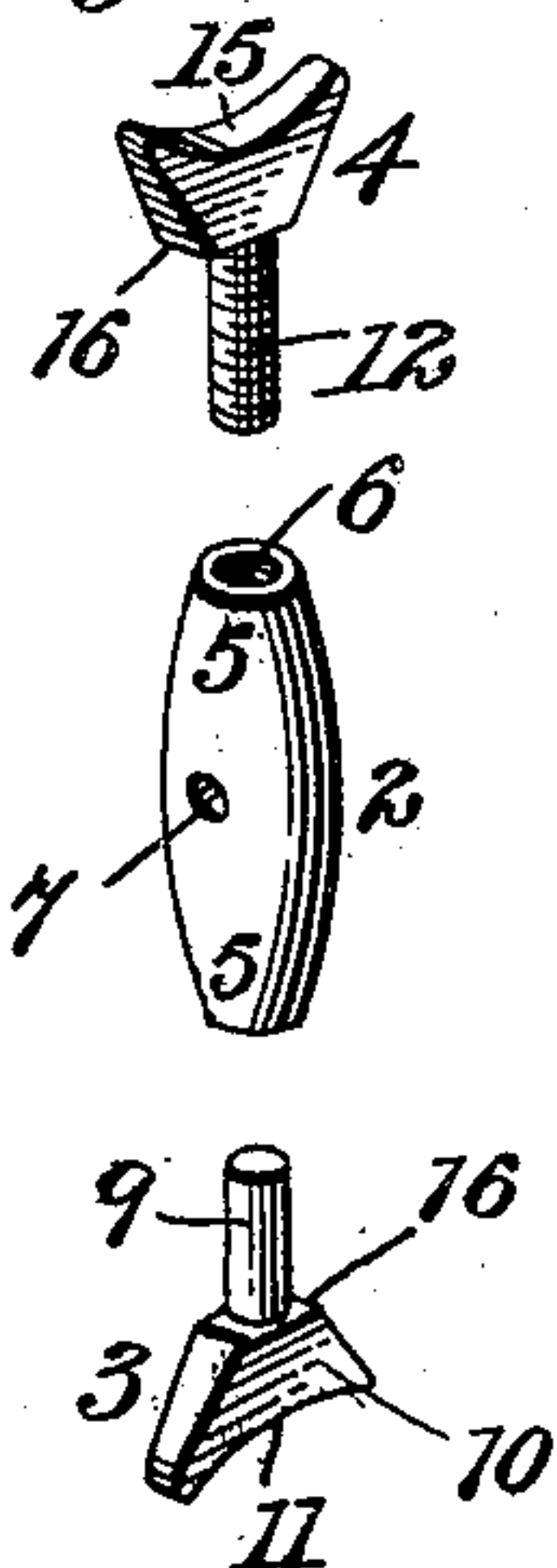
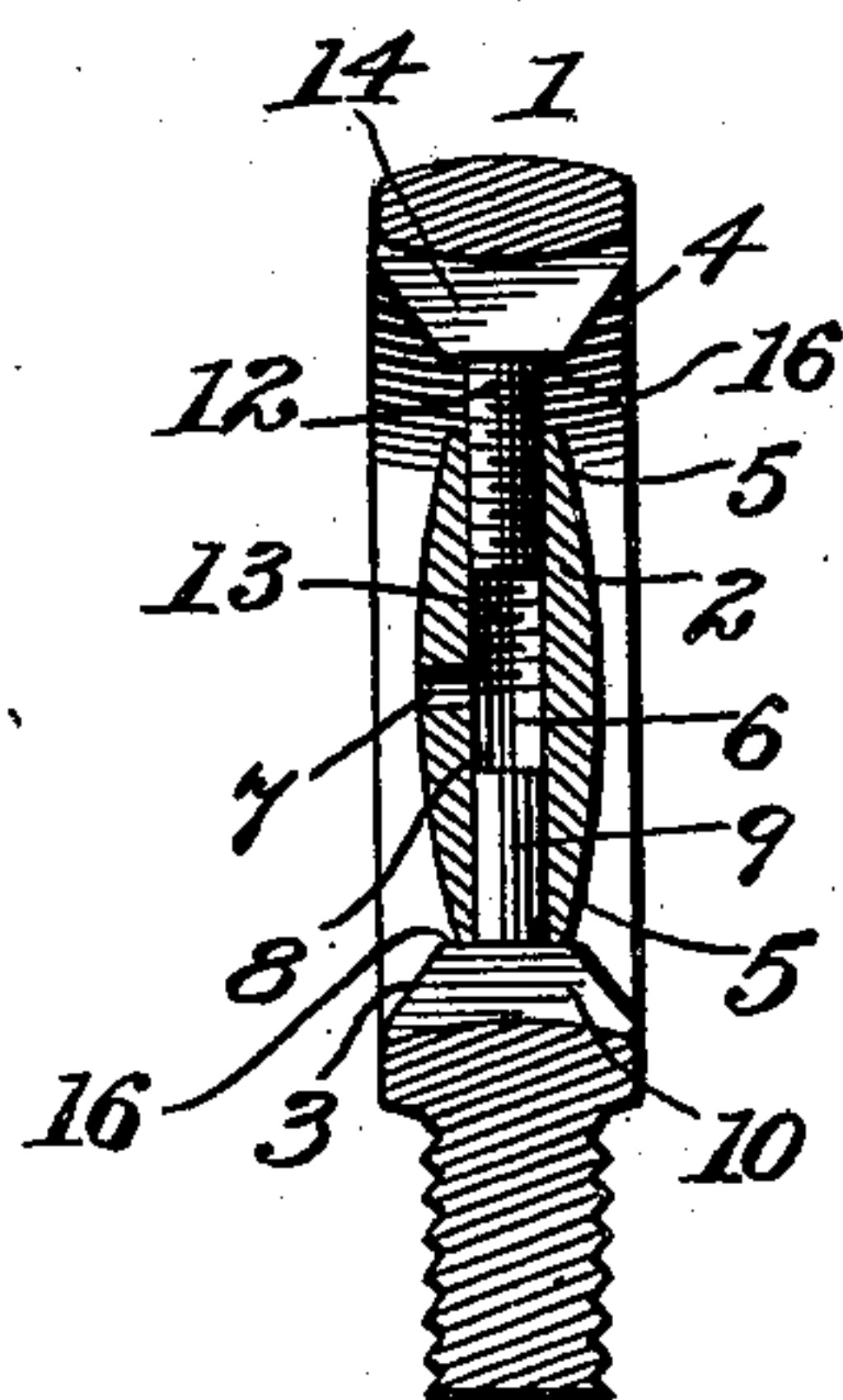


Fig. 3.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY LEEPER, OF CANTON, ILLINOIS.

TERRET.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 647,973, dated April 24, 1900.

Application filed October 27, 1899. Serial No. 734,972. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, HENRY LEEPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Canton, in the county of Fulton and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Ring-Divider, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to ring-dividers, and has for one object to provide a divider which is extensible in length and applicable to rings of different sizes employed in or about harness at any point where the reins, lines, or other straps pass through the harness rings or loops, the invention being designed to hold the lines, reins, or straps straight and effectually prevent them from becoming twisted and also prevent the buckles on same from drawing back through the rings. This will enable horsemen to see that the lines are straight by looking along the same to the ring or terret through which the lines pass—when snapping the reins or lines into engagement with the bridle, for example—thereby saving the trouble and annoyance of readjusting the lines. By the construction hereinafter described the divider is applicable to rings of varying sizes and may be employed in connection with the rings of a harness already in use, thus avoiding the necessity of manufacturing the rings with the divider attached.

Other objects and advantages will appear in the subjoined description.

The invention consists in a ring-divider embodying certain novel features and details of construction, as hereinafter fully described, illustrated in the drawings, and incorporated in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a terret-ring with the divider applied thereto. Fig. 2 is a similar view of the divider detached from the ring. Fig. 3 is a section through the ring and divider associated.

Similar numerals of reference designate corresponding parts in all the figures of the drawings.

The ring-divider is adapted to be applied to any harness-ring and for the purpose of illustration is shown as applied to a terret, (indicated at 1.)

The divider proper comprises three members—a main or intermediate member 2 and terminal members 3 and 4. The intermedi-

ate member 2 is in the form of a cylindrical sleeve, the end portions of which are preferably reduced by tapering the same, as shown at 5. The member 2 is provided with a longitudinal bore 6, passing entirely there-through, and also with a transverse opening 7, arranged centrally and intersecting the longitudinal opening. The longitudinal opening is left smooth at one end, as indicated at 8, and the terminal member 3 is provided with a smooth shank 9, which is rotatably mounted in the smooth portion 8 of the opening. The member 3 is also provided with a head 10, the outer engaging face of which is concaved, as shown at 11, to conform approximately to the cross-sectional curvature of the ring 1. The other terminal member 4 is provided with a threaded shank 12, which engages the opposite end of the longitudinal opening in the member 2, said portion of the opening being internally threaded, as at 13. Said terminal member 4 is also provided with a head 14, the outer face of which is concaved, as shown at 15, in a manner similar to the first-named head and for the same purpose. Both heads terminate at the point of junction with their respective shanks in transverse shoulders 16, and the shoulder of the terminal member 3 is designed to bear at all times against and form a seat for the adjacent end of the intermediate member or sleeve 2. The transverse opening in the sleeve admits of the insertion of a pin or other suitable implement for turning said sleeve and advancing the threaded terminal member against and in binding contact with the inner surface of the terret or ring 1.

By means of the construction above described it will be seen that the ring-divider is extensible in length, thereby adapting it to rings of different sizes. Preparatory to applying the divider to a ring the sleeve is rotated so as to shorten the divider. The divider is then inserted diametrically in the ring and the sleeve turned in the proper direction for forcing outward the threaded head or terminal part until it comes in firm contact and engagement with the ring at a point diametrically opposite to the other terminal part or head, whereupon the divider will be retained firmly in place. The reins or lines are passed through the ring on opposite sides of the di-

vider, and the latter acts to keep the lines separate and prevents them from becoming twisted upon each other in a manner that will be readily understood. This enables the
 5 lines or reins to be snapped into engagement with the bridle in the proper manner and obviates the necessity for readjusting the lines to the bridle, as by looking toward the terret or divided ring it may be readily seen which
 10 line or rein should be attached to the adjacent side of the bridle.

It is to be understood that the divider may be used at other points and is not limited in its application to terrets alone; also, that the
 15 divider may be manufactured in several different sizes, and that changes in the form, proportion, and minor details of construction may be resorted to without departing from the principle or sacrificing any of the advantages of the invention.
 20

Having thus described my invention, what is claimed as new, and desired to be secured by Letters Patent, is—

1. The combination with a ring, of an extensible divider having heads frictionally engaging with the inner face of said ring at opposite points, and means for holding said divider in its extended condition within said ring, substantially as described.

30 2. The combination with a ring, of a sectional divider comprising extensible members having heads engaging frictionally with the inner face of said rings at diametrically-opposite points, and a coupling member engaging
 35 with the extensible members for holding the same in aligned relation and for positively adjusting and holding said headed members in firm engagement with the ring, substantially as described.

3. The combination with a ring, of a divider detachably mounted within the ring and bearing at diametrically-opposite points against the inner surface thereof, said divider comprising a rotatable sleeve, and a pair of terminal members having concaved heads
 45 for engagement frictionally with the inner face of the ring at diametrically-opposite points, one of said members having a smooth shank journaled in one end of the sleeve, and the other member being provided with a shank
 50 having a screw-threaded engagement with the sleeve, substantially as described.

4. The combination with a ring, of a divider removably fitted therein, and comprising a sleeve having a longitudinal opening extending therethrough, said opening being left
 55 smooth at one end of the sleeve and threaded at the other, the sleeve being also provided with a central transverse opening intersecting the longitudinal opening, and a pair of
 60 terminal members at opposite ends of the sleeve, each of said members comprising a concaved head, and a shank which enters the sleeve, the shank of one member being smooth and the shank of the other member being
 65 threaded, the parts being combined and arranged for the concaved heads of said terminal members to engage frictionally with the inner face of the ring at diametrically-opposite points, substantially as and for the
 70 purposes specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

HENRY LEEPER.

Witnesses:

A. C. SHEPLEY,
 WM. CASLEY.