

No. 658,377.

Patented Sept. 25, 1900.

J. L. LEE.

BRIDLE BIT.

(Application filed Mar. 6, 1900.)

(No Model.)

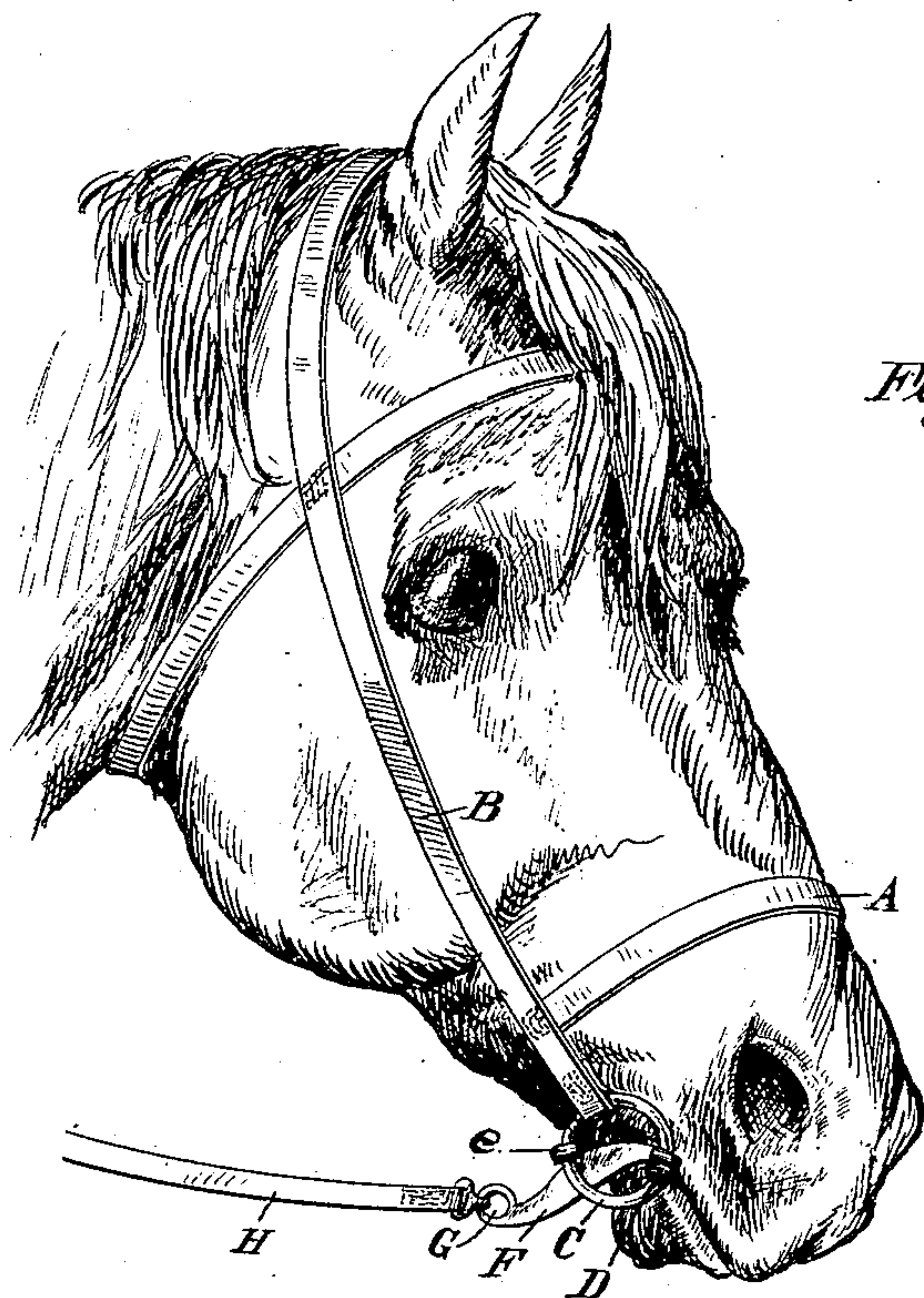


Fig. 1.

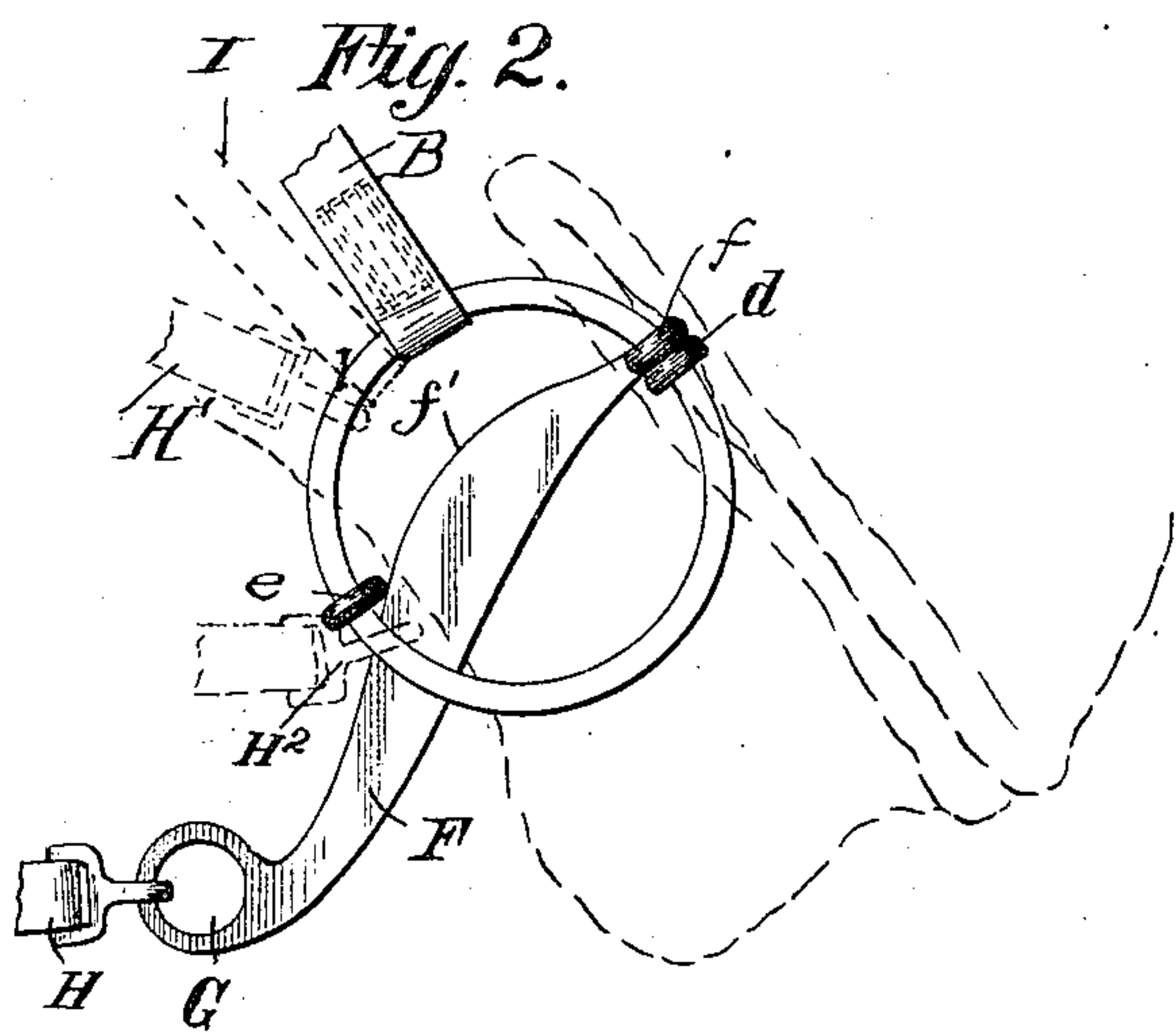


Fig. 2.

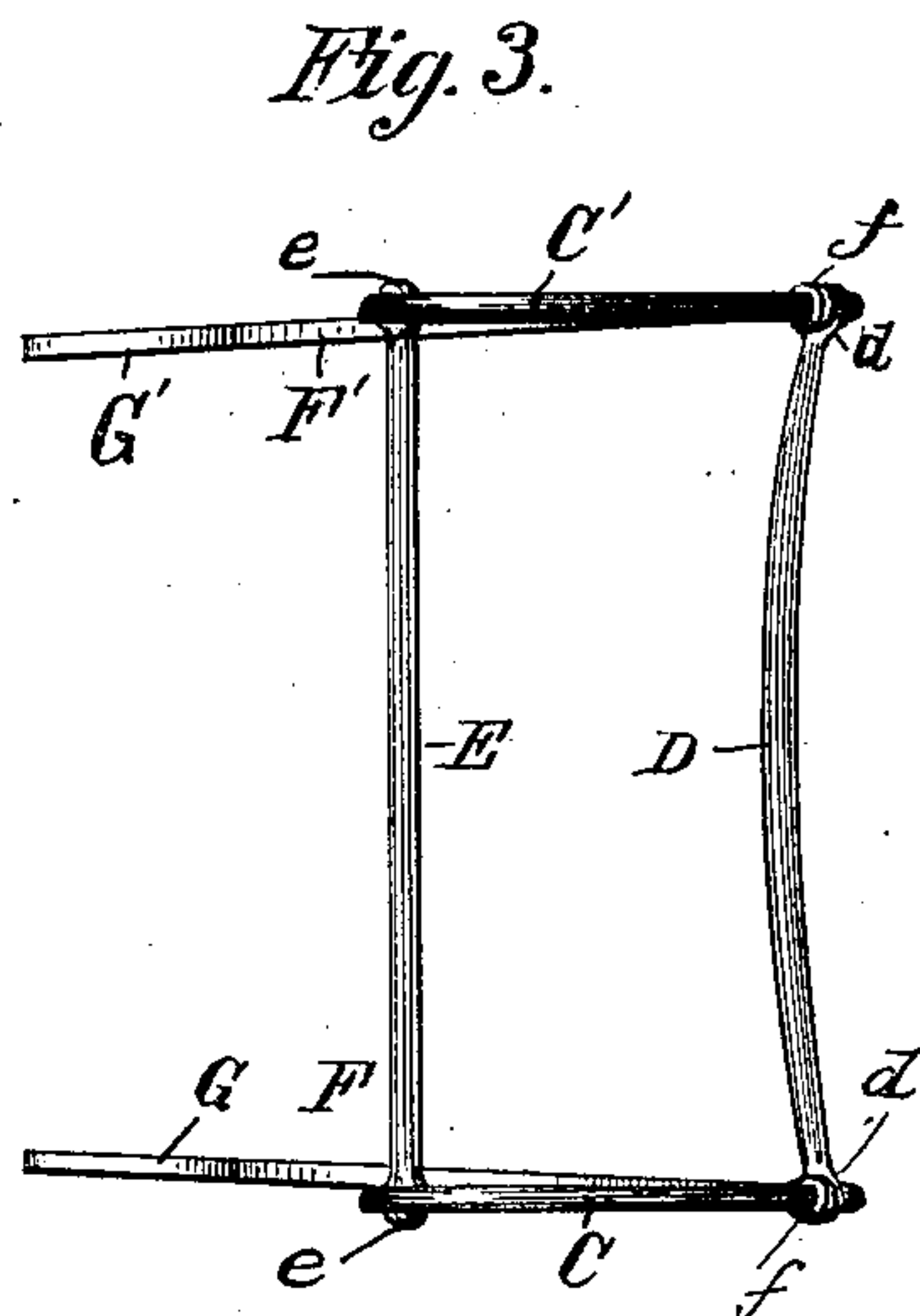


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

Chas. Austin,

Joseph Lee,

Joseph L. Lee,
by Jos. H. Hunter
his Attorney

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSEPH LOVEREL LEE, OF EVANT, TEXAS.

BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 658,377, dated September 25, 1900.

Application filed March 6, 1900. Serial No. 7,532. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSEPH LOVEREL LEE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Evant, in the county of Coryell and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits; 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.

This invention relates to improvements in bridle-bits, and has for one object to construct a bit serving a four-fold purpose—that is, a bit which can be made to bring severe pressure on the mouth of the horse to which it is applied, enabling a person to control a mean or dangerous animal, one which can be used to produce a moderate or medium pressure, and one which can be made a very mild bit for use in driving a quiet and kind horse, and also a bit which can be used to hold a hold-back or pull-back horse when hitched.

A further object is to provide a bit capable of performing the above-named functions of an exceedingly simple and durable nature, and one which can be produced at a small cost.

A further object is to provide a bit with a bar for the mouth, a curb-bar adapted to lie under the lower jaw or lip of the animal to which it is applied, and levers so arranged that when a pull is exerted thereon they will cause a twisting or turning movement of the bit, bearing down upon the mouth-bar and up upon the curb-bar, thereby bringing pressure on the inside and outside of the lower jaw of the horse, forming a very effective means of controlling a mean horse.

A further object is to provide a bit of a generally simplified, improved, and effective construction.

With such and other objects in view the invention is embodied in the several novel parts and arrangement and combinations of parts hereinafter described, and particularly set forth in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings is shown a practical embodiment of the invention; but it is to be distinctly understood that the invention is not limited in its useful applications to the construction which for the sake of illustration is there delineated.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective

view showing a bridle provided with a bit embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is an end view of the bit, showing by dotted lines different positions of the driving-rein and the check-rein. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the bit.

Referring to the drawings, A indicates a bridle, which may be of the usual or any convenient style, the same comprising the side stalls B.

The improved bit comprises, as will be seen in the accompanying drawings, two side rings C C', which correspond with the rings at the sides of the bit-bar of the usual or ordinary bit. These rings, as shown, are secured to the side stalls B. Connecting the rings is an inside bit-bar D, adapted to be placed in the horse's mouth, as with the usual straight-bar bit. This bar D is provided at its ends with eyes d, through which the rings C C' pass, the eyes permitting movement of the bar on the rings. This bar D, as shown in the drawings, is conveniently slightly curved. E indicates a bar also connecting the two rings C C', this bar having two eyes or loops e, through which the rings C C' pass, the bar being movable on the rings. This bar E, as shown, is conveniently straight and when in position on the horse occupies the position shown in the drawings—that is, outside of and back of the lower jaw.

F F' indicate two curb-levers of similar construction, one being secured to each of the side rings C C'. Each lever is provided at its forward end with an eye or loop f, sleeved on the side ring between the two bars D and E, the forward or loop end of the lever being positioned above the bar D and the rear end of the lever passing under the curb-bar E inside of the rings C C'. At their lower ends the levers F are provided with loops or rings G for the attachment of the driving-rein, which is indicated at H. As shown in the drawings, the levers F F' are bowed downward, having the upper convex edges f'.

I (see dotted lines, Fig. 2) indicates a check-rein, which, as will be seen from the drawings, is secured to the side rings C C' between the curb-bar E and the side stalls of the bridle B.

With the parts arranged as shown in the drawings and above described it will be evident that a rearward pull on the lower ends

of the levers F F' by the driving-rein H will cause the levers to bear upwardly on the curb-bar E, tending to move the same on the rings C C' and downwardly on the bar D, tending to move the same on the rings C C' in the horse's mouth, thereby pinching or biting the lower jaw between the two bars and enabling a very severe pressure to be brought on the horse's jaw, thus rendering it possible to control a very dangerous animal. The bars being movable on the rings, it is not necessary for the latter to turn or slip in the bridle connections. When it is desired, however, to bring a medium or intermediate pressure on the horse's jaw, the driving-rein H is detached from the levers and secured to the side rings C C', as indicated by dotted lines H', between the curb-bar E and the side stalls of the bridle. In this case, while practically the same effect is produced of biting or pinching the lower jaw of the horse, yet the action is not so severe, as will be evident. In this case the curb-levers F F' fall loosely at the chin of the animal. If the driving rein or line H be attached to the side rings C C' beneath the curb-bar E—that is, at the point indicated at H²—it will be evident that the curb-bar is not brought into use, and the mildest form of driving-bridle is secured. A further use of the invention is in the hitching of the animal. When the rein of the bridle, as the checkrein I, is thrown over the head of the animal and hitched to a post or analogous hitching device, no rope or halter is needed to hold the worst horse, as the pressure when

pulling back will be thrown on the lower jaw.

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

1. A bridle-bit comprising an inside bit-bar, a curb-bar, means connecting the two bars and permitting the independent movement of each bar, and curb-levers operatively engaging said bars so that when moved a downward pressure is brought on the inside bit-bar and an upward pressure on the curb-bar, substantially as described.

2. A bridle-bit comprising two side rings, an inside bit-bar connected to said side rings, a curb-bar connected to said side rings, and curb-levers connected to said side rings and engaging said curb-bar and said inside bit-bar and adapted to operate in substantially the manner described and for the purposes set forth.

3. A bridle-bit, comprising two side rings, an inside bit-bar, movably connected to said side rings, a curb-bar movably connected to said side rings, and curb-levers movably connected to said side rings between said inside bar and curb-bar and extending from above one bar below and engaging the other bar, substantially as described.

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

JOSEPH LOVEREL LEE.

Witnesses:

T. J. BROOKS,
R. G. AUSTIN.