

No. 696,259.

Patented Mar. 25, 1902.

R. L. OWENS.  
GIRTH.

(Application filed Nov. 14, 1900.)

(No Model.)

Fig. 1.

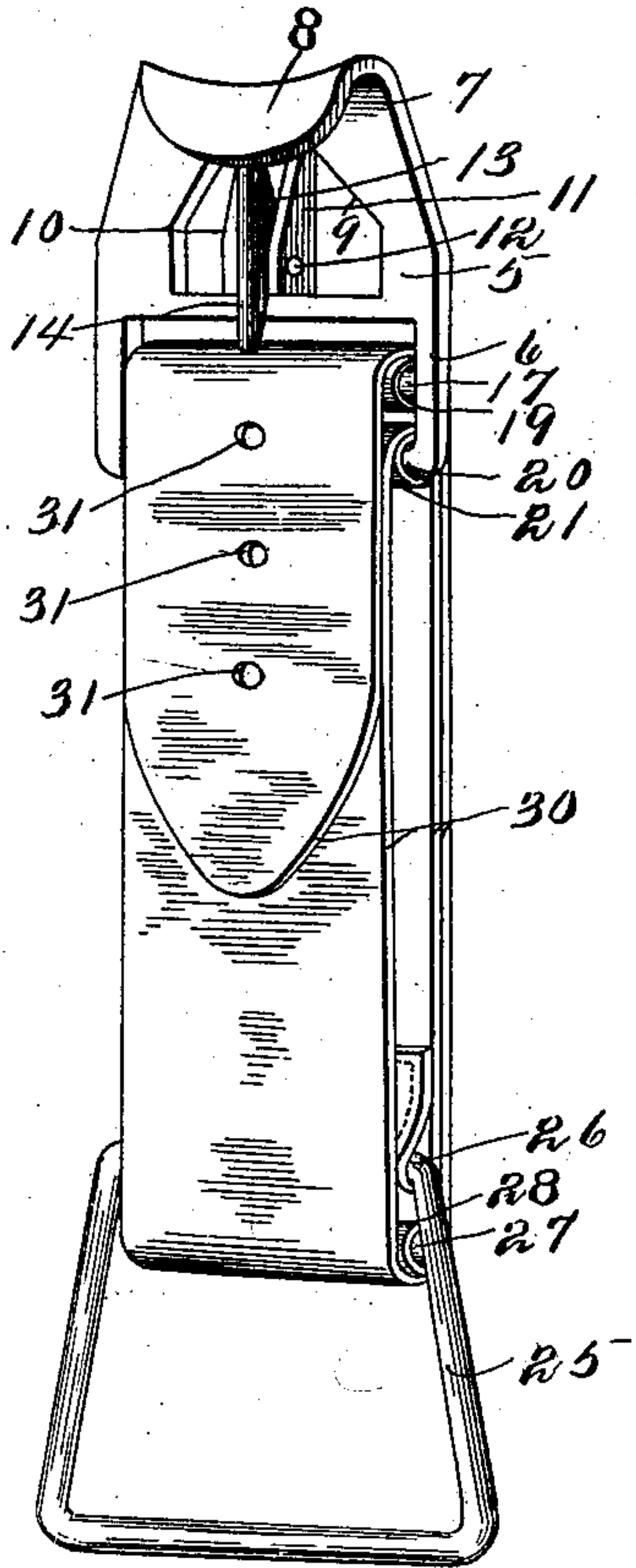


Fig. 2.

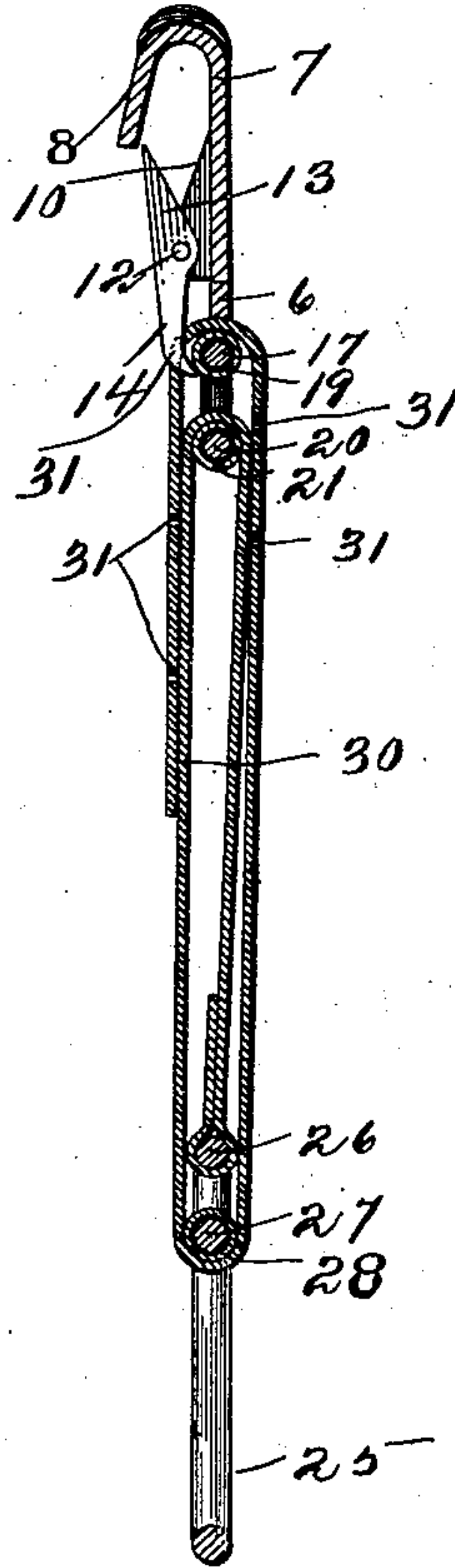


Fig. 3.

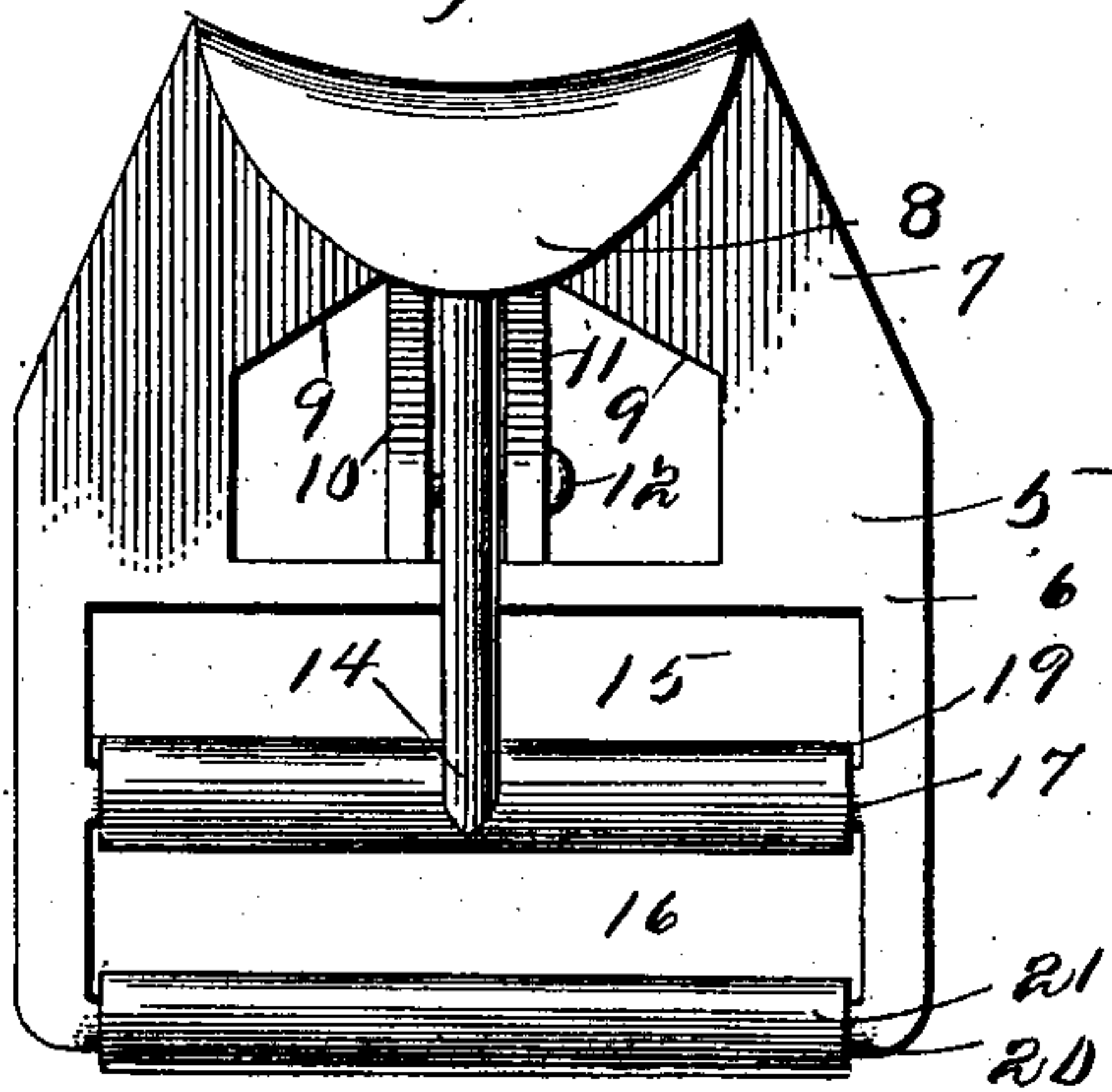
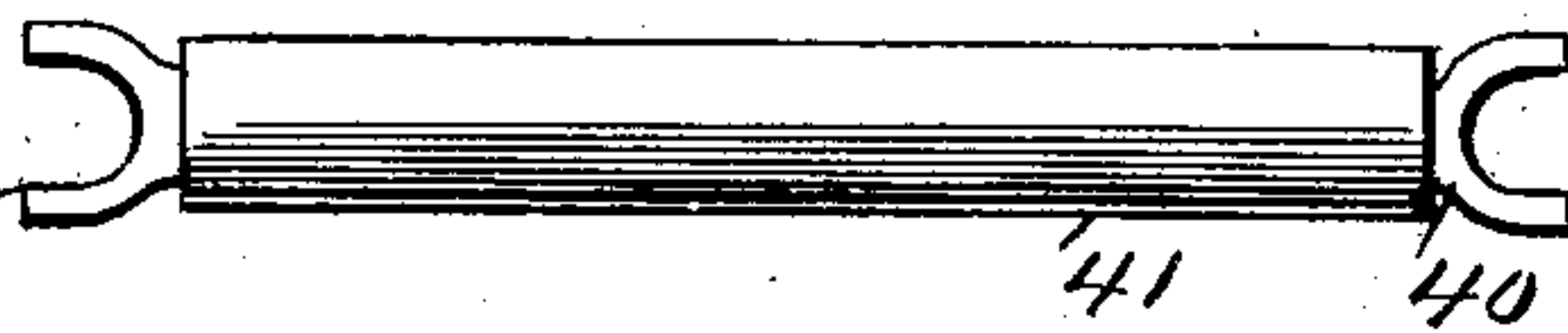


Fig. 4.



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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## GIRTH.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 696,259, dated March 25, 1902.

Application filed November 14, 1900. Serial No. 36,510. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, ROBERT L. OWENS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Ozona, in the county of Crockett and State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Girths; 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 saddles in general, and more particularly to the girths thereof, or what is known as the "cinch-strap," the object of the invention being to provide a construction wherewith the saddle may be quickly and firmly secured to or removed from a horse with a minimum of labor, a further object of the invention being to provide a construction wherein there will be no sticking of the straps and in which the parts are simple, cheap, and durable.

Further objects and advantages of the invention will be evident from the following description.

In the drawings forming a portion of this specification, and in which like numerals of reference indicate similar parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the cinch-strap, with its attachments. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section taken through the strap and its attachments. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the buckle of the strap.

Referring now to the drawings, the buckle of the device consists of a blank 5 of steel or other suitable metal and comprises a body portion 6, having one end tapered, as shown at 7, this tapered portion being bent upwardly and forwardly to form a hook 8, the bill of which lies above the body of the blank and the web 9 of which is bent to project inwardly between the bill of the hook and the body of the blank, whereby the hook may fit the curvature of a ring when engaged therewith.

From the body of the blank 5 and at the base of the tapered portion thereof there are struck up two parallel ears 10 and 11, having alining perforations to receive the pivot-pin of a tongue 12, comprising a triangular body portion 13, one angle of which is disposed between the bill of the hook of the buckle and the body of the blank 5, whereby it may be

pivotally moved into and out of contact with the under side of the bill of the hook. At the opposite angle of the triangular head is formed a cylindrical stem 14, which forms a buckle-tongue proper, while the head or body portion 13 forms merely the keeper for the hook 8.

In the lower portion of the body of the blank 5, remote from the hook 8, there are formed two parallel transverse slots 15 and 16, separated by a transverse bar 17, and upon this bar 18 is disposed a roller 19, against which the stem 14 is adapted to lie. At the opposite side of the slot 15 upon the bar 20, which forms the side thereof, is disposed a second roller 21, for a purpose that will be presently explained. In connection with this combined hook and buckle there is employed a loop 25, having two parallel bars 26 and 27 at one side thereof, the bar 27 lying within the inclosure of the ring and having a roller 28 thereon, while bar 26 forms a side of the loop. This loop 25 is adapted for attachment with one end of a short girth-strap or cinch-strap secured to one side of the saddle, while the hook 8 is adapted for engagement with a ring attached to the opposite side of the saddle by means of a short strap. A cinch-strap 30 is attached at one end to the bar 26 and is then taken around roller 21, then backwardly and around roller 28, and then forwardly and around roller 19, said strap having a series of perforations therein adapted to successively receive the stem 14, said strap being passed over the roller 19 in that direction to insure a pull of the stem 14 down upon roller 19 when strain is applied to the strap. With this construction it will be seen that with the hook 8 engaged with the cinch-ring the strap may be adjusted to any desired point and engaged with the stem 14, when the strain upon the strap will draw said stem down upon roller 19 and throw the head 13 against the under face of the bill of hook 8 and will prevent disengagement of the hook from the cinch-ring. When the strap is loosened, the hook may be disengaged, the strap, however, remaining at all times in position over the roller 19 for engagement with the stem 14. It will be thus seen that to cinch up it is only necessary to engage the hook 8 with the cinch-ring and



draw on the cinch-strap 30 to the proper extent and then move the strap to engage the stem 14 with a perforation thereof when all parts will be held firmly in place. Conversely by loosening the strap 30 slightly the hook may be disengaged from the cinch-ring and the saddle removed.

In Fig. 4 of the drawings there is shown an attachment for adapting an ordinary ring for use in connection with the present buckle and strap. This consists of a bar 40, having its ends bifurcated and formed to engage the sides of a ring, said bar having a roller 41 thereon, the ends of the bifurcations being bent around the ring to hold it in place.

It will be further seen that with the present invention the sections of the strap 30 are held separated, thus preventing sticking when they become damp.

What is claimed is—

In a device of the class described, a buckle comprising a plate having a narrowed end bent to form a hook, the material of the plate adjacent to the bill of the hook being struck up to form parallel ears, slots in the body of the plate in the rear of the ears, and a tongue pivoted between the ears at a point intermediate of the ends of the tongue and disposed for the ends of the tongue to lie against the inner face of the bill and the upper face of that portion of the plate separating the slots, respectively.

In testimony whereof I hereunto set my hand in the presence of two witnesses.

ROBERT L. OWENS.

Witnesses:

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