

No. 702,166.

Patented June 10, 1902.

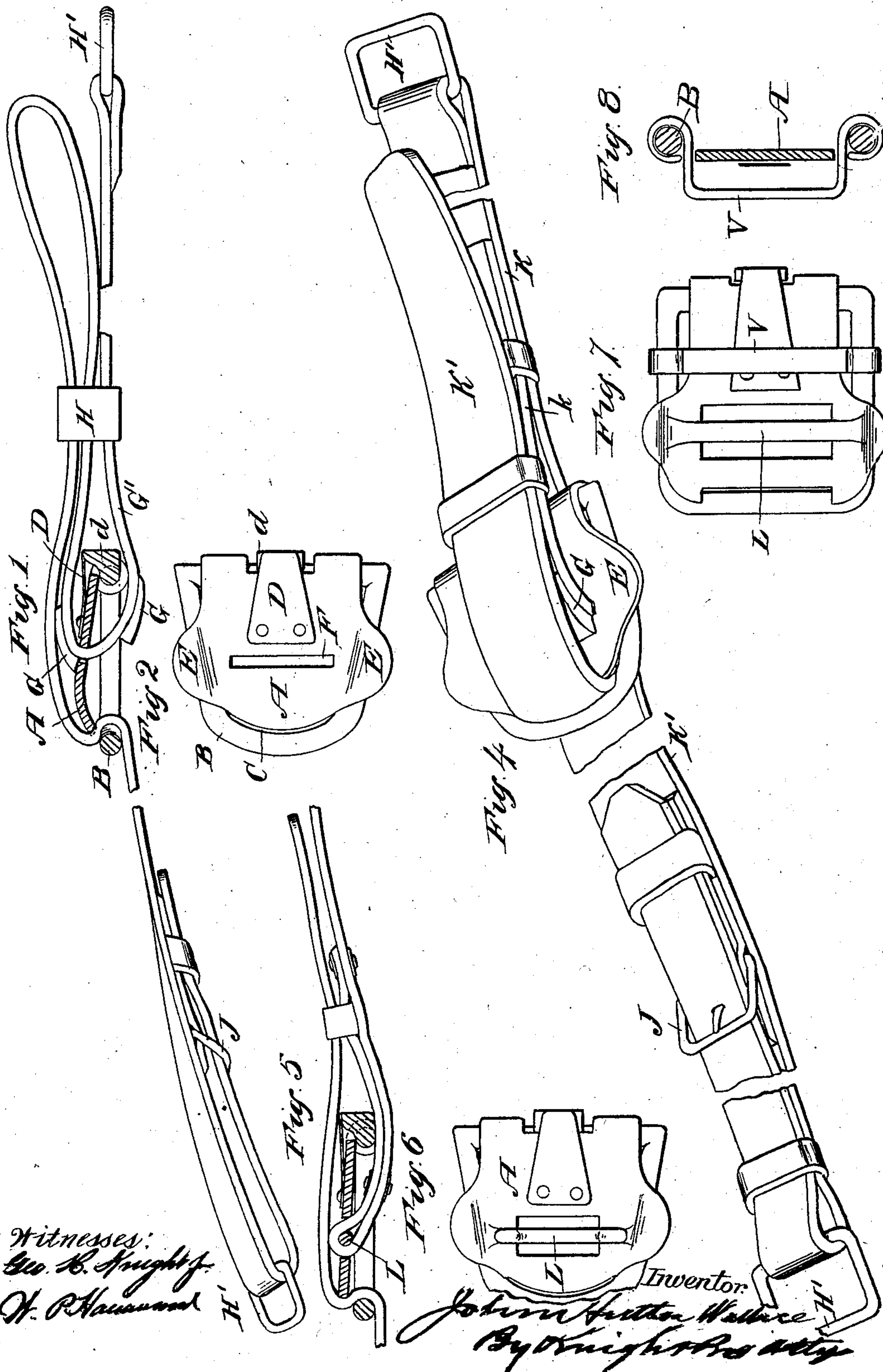
J. H. WALLACE.

STRAP GRIP FOR SNAFFLING HORSES, &c.

(Application filed Nov. 13, 1900.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

(No Model.)



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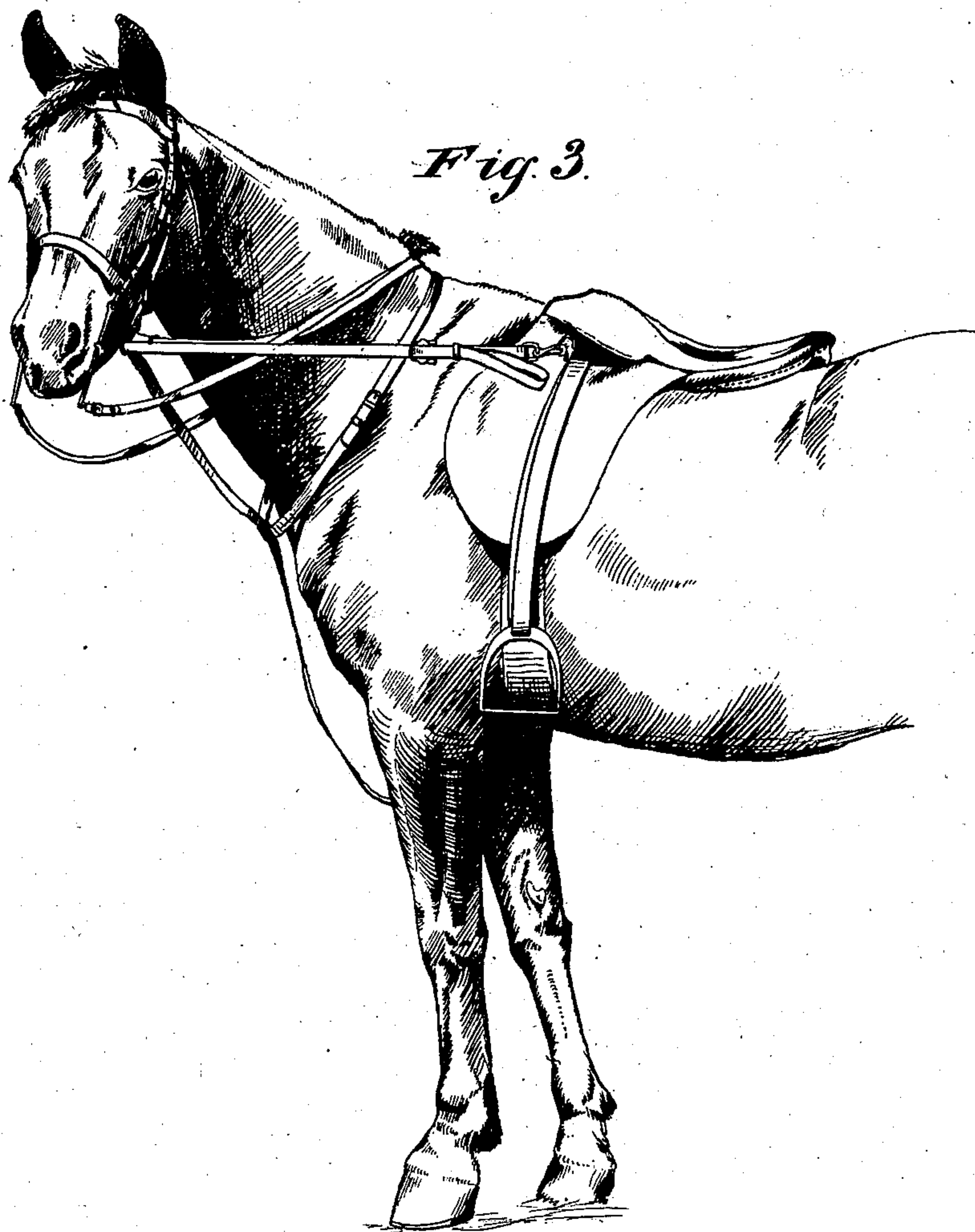
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2 Sheets—Sheet 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOHN HUTTON WALLACE, OF STRAVITHIE, SCOTLAND.

STRAP-GRIP FOR SNAFFLING HORSES, &c.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 702,166, dated June 10, 1902.

Application filed November 13, 1900. Serial No. 36,406. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN HUTTON WALLACE, farmer, a subject of the Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, and a resident of the Brake, Stravithie, R. S. O. Fife, Scotland, have invented Improvements in Strap-Grips for Snaffling Horses, for the Canvas Carriers of Harvest Binding and Reaping Machines, and for other Purposes, of which the following is a specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part hereof.

This invention relates to improvements in strap-grips which may be used for the purpose of snaffling or hobbling a horse, for connecting the ends of the straps of canvas carriers of harvest binding and reaping machines, and for use generally as a buckle.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a sectional side view of the strap-grip, showing its application to a single strap suitable for snaffling or hobbling a horse. Fig. 2 is a plan of the grip alone. Fig. 3 is a view of the fore end of a horse lightly snaffled with said strap and grip. Fig. 4 shows the grip used as a buckle for connecting together two straps. Figs. 5 and 6 are respectively a section and a plan illustrating a modification of the same. Figs. 7 and 8 show a modified form of grip.

As shown in Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings, the grip consists of a plate A, hinged to a frame B in such a manner as to form a jaw C, by which the strap is gripped. A spring D, secured to the plate A, bears against a stop *d* on the frame B and tends to press the plate and frame normally toward each other. Lugs E, which are slightly angled up, are formed on the plate A, so that the plate and frame can be separated by the thumb and finger when desired. A slot F is formed in the plate A, as shown. When used as a means for snaffling or hobbling horses, a single length of strap G' is employed, each end of which is fitted with a D-ring H' or its equivalent by which it can be attached, through the medium of spring-hooks or the like, to the snaffle-ring and saddle or fore fetlock of the horse.

Fig. 3 shows a horse snaffled or tied with such a strap and grip, the head, however, for the sake of simplicity in illustration, not being curved around to the extent that it would

be in practice. The strap is passed through the grip, as shown, and provided on both sides of the plate A, where it passes through the slot F, with a stop G, by which the tension of the strap is transmitted to the jaw of the grip or released. These stops G are simply enlargements of leather or other material fixed to the strap by sewing or otherwise to prevent the strap rendering through the slot in the plate A beyond a limited extent. The loop formed by the slack occasioned in shortening the strap may be confined by the keeper H, which is free to travel along the single length of the strap. An ordinary buckle J or a light strap-grip serves to lengthen or shorten the strap beyond the limits allowed by the grip, as also to change the position of the strap where it is gripped.

The said grip may also be employed as an ordinary buckle for connecting together two straps or the ends of a single strap. Fig. 4 illustrates a case of the former. The strap K is provided with the stops G, while the other, K', is simply passed through the jaw of the grip, as shown. A free end *k* serves to release the grip when pulled. The free end of the strap K' is passed through the jaw of the grip and bent over the plate to pass through the keepers on the strap K, one keeper being just beyond the hinge of the grip on the part *k*.

The said grip is particularly applicable for use in connecting together the straps of the canvas carriers of harvest binding and reaping machines and for this purpose in place of providing one of the straps with stops, such as shown in Figs. 1 to 4, I attach the strap to the plate by a central bar L, around which the strap is passed and riveted or sewed, as shown in Figs. 5 and 6.

In all the various forms the jaw of the grip may be curved, as shown in Figs. 1 and 4, or may be straight, as shown in Fig. 5, or of any other desired shape.

To release or slacken the strap shown in Fig. 1, the loop which passes through the plate A of the grip is withdrawn from its keeper behind hinge of grip and laid in opposite direction, so that it lies evenly along and on top of its own length leading from the jaw. The plate A is then lifted slightly by pulling the upper part of loop which passes through the plate A. This will release the grip, and the

strap will slip through the jaw of the grip as much or as little as desired.

In the case of a grip used as a buckle, as in Fig. 5, the releasing is effected by similarly withdrawing the end of the strap which passes through the jaw of the grip from its keeper and then lifting the plate A by pulling on the end of the other strap which projects upward through the plate A, or by lifting the plate A with the thumb and finger, or by inserting a tool, such as a screw-driver, between the plate A and frame B.

Figs. 7 and 8 show a further modified form of grip in which a metal keeper V may be fixed or secured to slide on the lower frame B between the hinge and the slot of upper plate to take the strap end after passing through the jaw of the grip.

I claim—

1. The combination of the buckle-frame B, the gripping-plate A hinged to said frame at one end, gripping by its free end against the opposite end of the frame and having a slot intermediate of its ends, and a strap engaging with the slotted central part of the gripping-plate so as to draw the free end thereof into engagement with the strap to be gripped, as explained.

2. The combination of the frame B, the gripping-plate A hinged at one end to the frame, formed at its free end to engage a strap passing between it and the opposite end of the frame, and having a transverse slot F intermediate of its ends; and a suitable strap passing through said slot, provided with stops G to limit its rendering therethrough, so as to draw the free end of the gripping-plate into or out of engagement with the buckle-frame, as explained.

3. The combination of the buckle-frame B formed at its hinge end with a stop-shoulder *d*; the gripping-plate A hinged to the said frame at one end, gripping by its free end against the opposite end of the frame; engaging by its hinged end against the stop *d* so as to limit its opening movement, and having a slot intermediate of its ends; and a strap engaging with the slotted central part of the gripping-plate so as to draw the free end thereof into engagement with the strap to be gripped, as explained.

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