

No. 735,747.

PATENTED AUG. 11, 1903.

B. F. GEORGE.  
HORSE COLLAR SHIELD.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 27, 1902.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

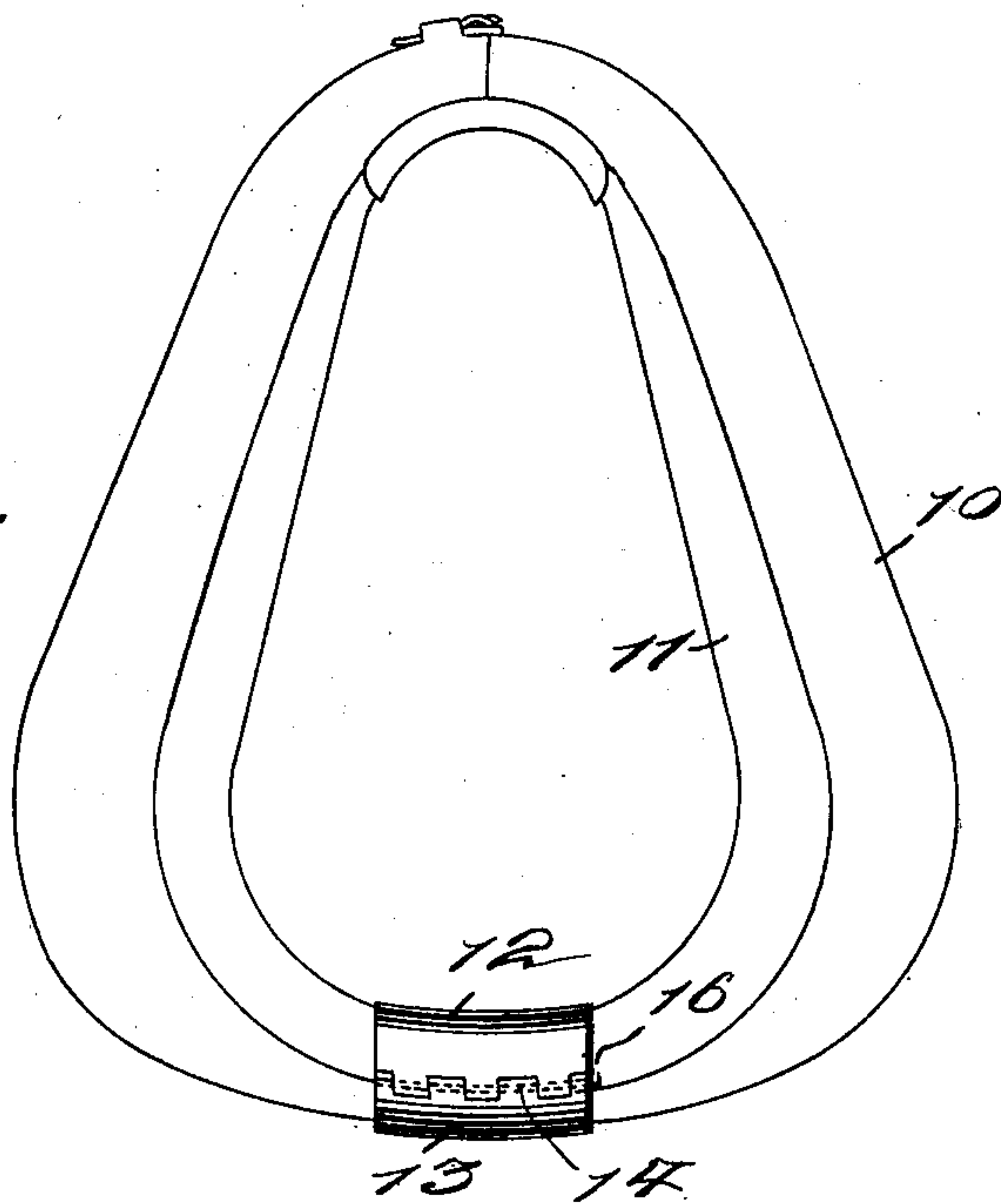


Fig. 2.

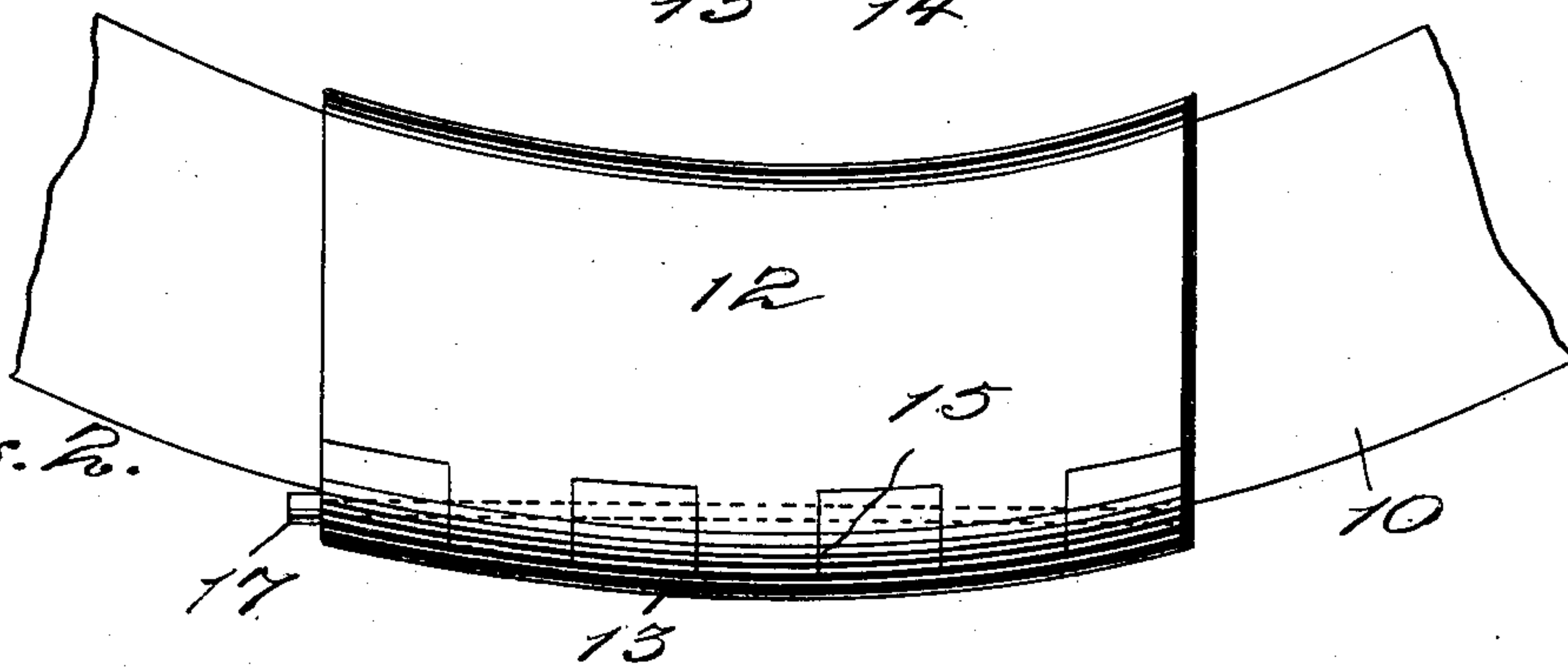
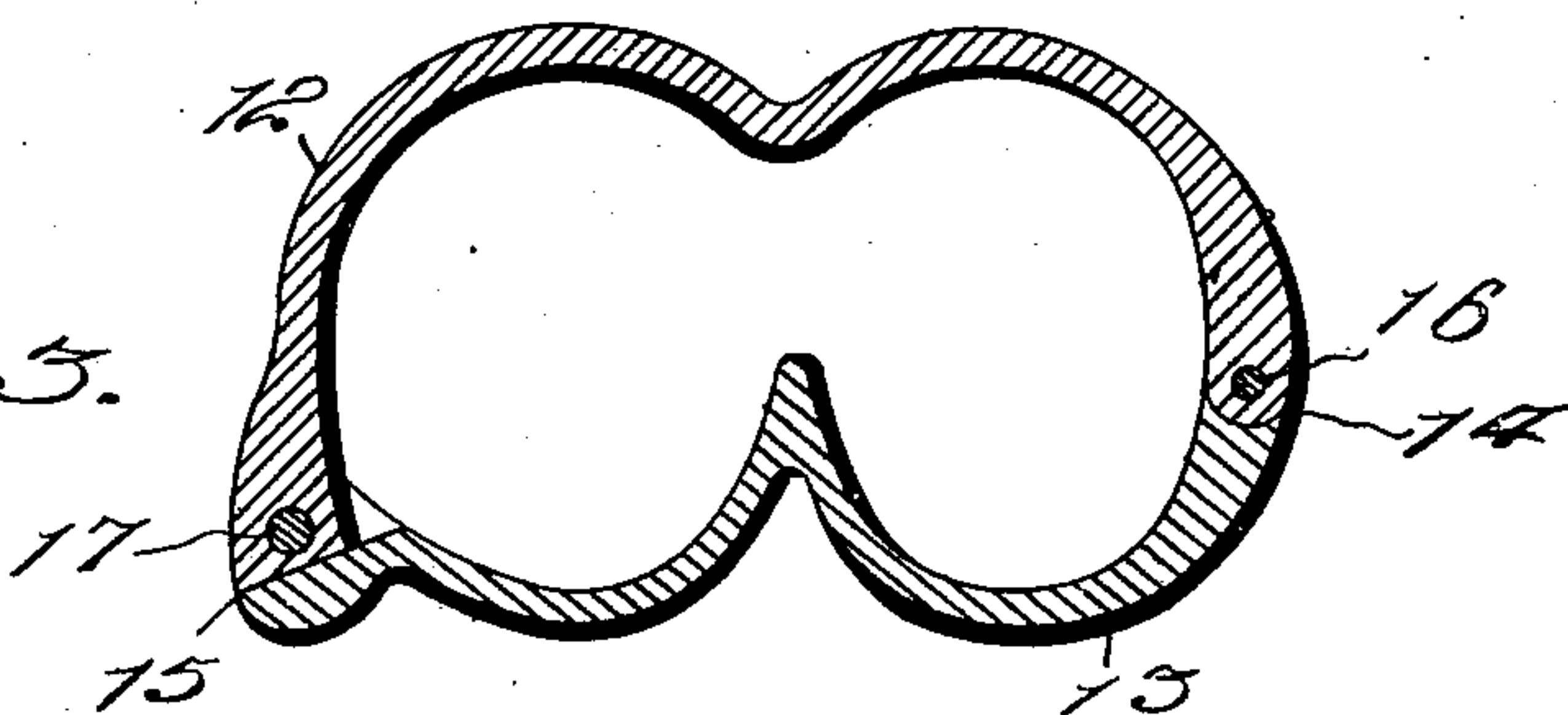


Fig. 3.



Witnesses  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

BENJAMIN F. GEORGE, OF POTOMAC, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR, BY MESNE ASSIGNMENTS, OF ONE-HALF TO CHARLES F. MARPLE.

## HORSE-COLLAR SHIELD.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 735,747, dated August 11, 1903.

Application filed June 27, 1902. Serial No. 113,451. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN F. GEORGE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Potomac, in the county of Vermilion and State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful Horse-Collar Shield, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to horse-collars, and has for its object the production of a shield for the lower or breast end to protect, strengthen, and support that portion of the collar while at the same time not adding materially to the weight or expense.

Another object of the invention is to produce a device of this character which is simple in construction, cheap to manufacture, light, and durable.

Other objects of the invention will hereinafter appear, and be specified in the claims.

In the drawings illustrative of the invention, Figure 1 is a front elevation of a horse-collar with the invention applied. Fig. 2 is a rear elevation, enlarged, of the device in place upon a portion of a horse-collar. Fig. 3 is a transverse section of the shield.

The device may be applied to any of the various forms of horse-collars, either the kind formed with a joint at the upper end or the kind which are closed at the upper end, and may be readily modified to adapt it to either form.

For the purpose of illustration the device is shown in the drawings applied to an ordinary jointed collar, or one divided at the upper end and the ends coupled by a strap and buckle, as shown.

The collar illustrated is of the usual structure with the "pad" portion 10 and the "roll" portion 11.

The invention consists in two metal plates 12 13, formed to fit the breast end of the collar or its lowermost point and extend laterally a few inches each side of the center, as shown. The metal shields 12 13 are united at their edges by hinged joints, as shown, respectively, at 14 15, each hinged portion being provided with pintles 16 17, as shown. The hinged portion 14 is curved to correspond to the curve of the collar, while the hinged portion 15 is likewise curved, but the apertures for the pintle 17 are in a straight longitudinal

line through the hinge members, so that the pintle 17 may be withdrawn, whereby the section 12 may be turned back upon the hinge-section 14 as a center to enable the device to be placed upon the collar and then locked in position by forcing the pintle 17 through the complementary members of the hinge 15, as indicated in Fig. 2.

The shield members 12 13 will be formed to closely engage the collar and will conform to the surfaces of the portion of the collar which it engages and will extend a sufficient distance to afford ample protection to the collar from the action of the yoke-straps and other parts which engage the breast end of the collar.

The weak point in horse-collars is almost invariably the breast end or the parts covered by the shield-plates, and by protecting and shielding this weak part by strengthening and supporting and providing a metal wearing-plate to prevent friction on the collar of the hame-straps the durability of the collar is greatly increased and its "life" materially prolonged. The shield-plates also receive the impact of the hame-couplings and prevent them from coming in contact with the leather surface of the collar.

The shield-plates may be made of any suitable material, such as malleable iron, or they may be pressed out of sheet metal of any suitable grade or thickness. Preferably, however, they will be formed of malleable iron. They may be plated, japanned, or otherwise finished to conform to the other metal parts of the harness and will not detract from the appearance of the harness, but, on the contrary, will rather add to the ornamental features than otherwise. The hinge portions will be formed with the usual alternating projections and recesses, as shown, and the pintles of the hinges will pass through longitudinally-alined apertures in these parts, as shown.

The detachable pintle 17 is an important feature of the invention, as it permits the ready attachment or detachment of the parts to enable them to be connected to the collar or removed therefrom when required.

By forming the hinge portion 14 in a curve corresponding to the curve of the plates and



of the collar embraced by them no obstructions are presented to injure the neck or breast of the horse.

It will be noted that no part of the device passes into or through the collar material; but, on the contrary, all the fastening means are entirely outside the collar, and the material of the collar is at no time punctured or unduly compressed by the device.

The shield-plates may be made of any length, but for an ordinary collar they will generally be about six inches long; but this length may be varied, if required, and the patent is not, therefore, to be limited to any specific size of the plates.

The construction of the hinge portions may be modified in minor particulars without departing from the principle of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

The hinge-pintle 16 will not require to be removed from its place, hence may be permanently secured in the hinge members 14, as by riveting, and the movable pintle 17 may be secured in any desired manner which will enable it to be easily removed, and this securing means may be of any desired construction—such as a screw-thread upon the end of the pintle adapted to engage an internal screw-thread within the outermost member of the hinge portion 14, a nut upon the end of the pintle outside the plates, a transverse pin through the pintle, or any other securing means—and I do not, therefore, desire to be restricted to any specific means for securing the detachable pintle in place.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim is—

1. A horse-collar shield comprising two opposing plates conforming to the collar and embracing it from opposite sides and with their adjacent edges movably united at one side and detachably united at the other side, substantially as described.

2. A horse-collar shield comprising two opposing plates conforming to the collar and engaging it from opposite sides, and with

their adjacent edges movably united at one side and with the adjacent edges on the opposite side provided with alternating interengaging projections and recesses having longitudinally-alined apertures, and a pintle detachably engaging said apertures, substantially as described.

3. A horse-collar shield comprising two opposing plates conforming to the collar and embracing it from opposite sides, with their adjacent edges provided with alternating interengaging projections and recesses having longitudinally-alined apertures, a pintle secured in one series of said alined apertures, and a pintle detachably engaging the other of said series of alined apertures, substantially as described.

4. A horse-collar shield comprising two opposing plates conforming to the collar and embracing it from opposite sides, with their adjacent edges on one side curving longitudinally to conform to the collar and provided with alternating interengaging correspondingly-curved projections and recesses having longitudinally-alined apertures, a pintle engaging said apertures, and means for detachably connecting the other engaging sides of said plates, substantially as described.

5. A horse-collar shield comprising opposing plates conforming to the collar and embracing it from opposite sides, with their adjacent edges on one side provided with alternating interengaging projections and recesses curving to correspond to the collar and plates and with a series of longitudinally-alined apertures, and a pintle detachably engaging said apertures, substantially as described.

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

BENJAMIN <sup>his</sup> × F. GEORGE.  
mark

Witnesses:

JOHN MCCONNELL,  
J. H. HOBBS.