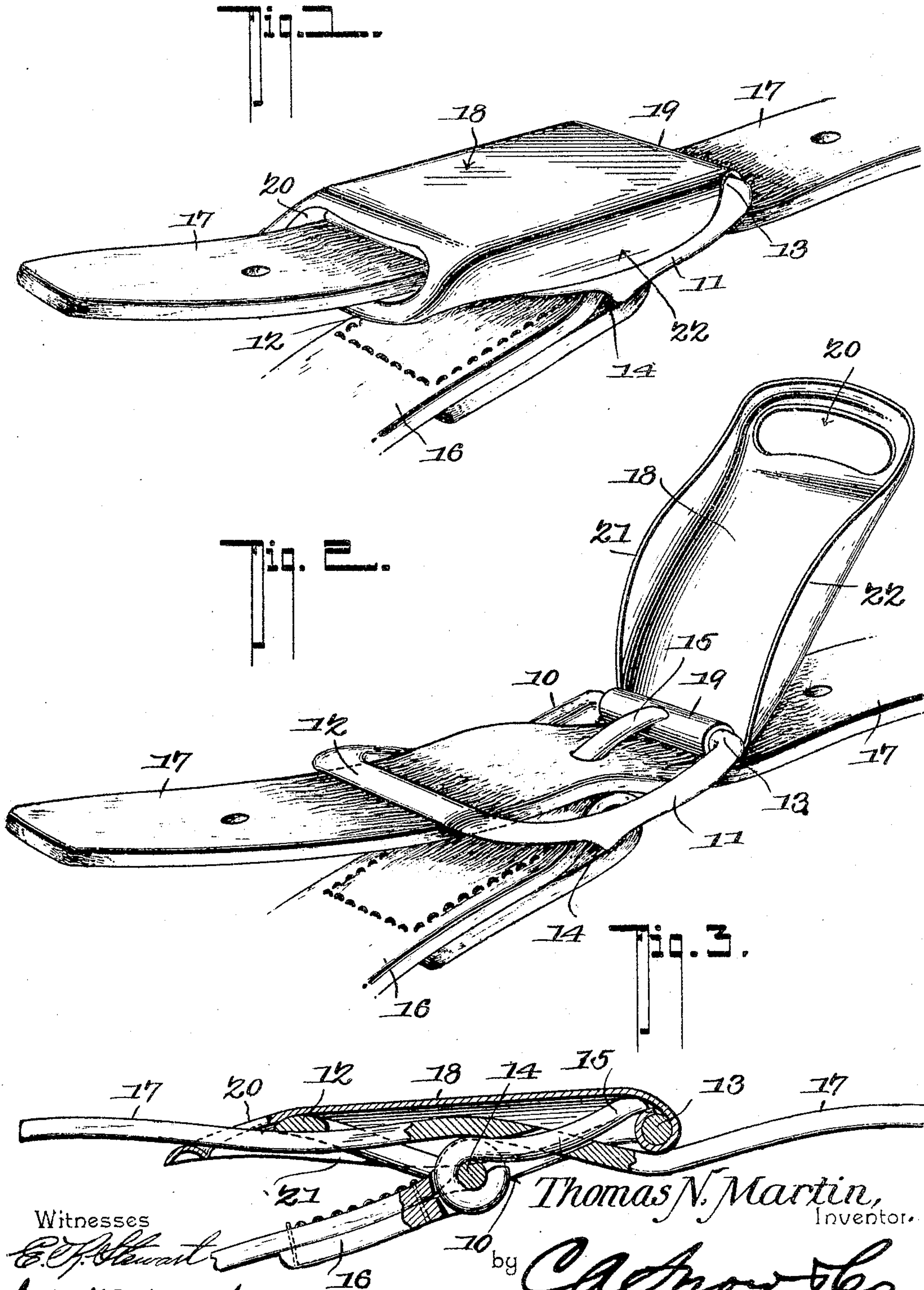


No. 798,066.

PATENTED AUG. 29, 1905.

T. N. MARTIN.
BUCKLE GUARD.

APPLICATION FILED FEB. 14, 1905.



Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

THOMAS NELSON MARTIN, OF SHERIDAN, WYOMING, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO CLARENCE L. CHAPMAN, OF SHERIDAN, WYOMING.

BUCKLE-GUARD.

No. 798,066.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Aug. 29, 1905.

Application filed February 14, 1905. Serial No. 245,614.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS NELSON MARTIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Sheridan, in the county of Sheridan and State of Wyoming, have invented a new and useful Buckle-Guard, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to buckles, more particularly harness-buckles employed at points liable to be engaged by the tails or manes of the horses or the reins or other loose straps of the harness, and has for its object to provide a simply-constructed and easily-applied guard for attachment to the buckle to effectually prevent the tails or manes of the horses or the reins or other loose portions of the harness from catching upon or becoming entangled in the protruding portions of the same.

With these and other objects in view, which will appear as the nature of the invention is better understood, the same consists in certain novel features of construction, as hereinafter fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, and in which corresponding parts are denoted by like designating characters, is illustrated the preferred form of embodiment of the invention capable of carrying the same into practical operation, it being understood that the invention is not necessarily limited thereto, as various changes in the shape, proportions, and general assemblage of the parts may be resorted to without departing from the principle of the invention or sacrificing any of its advantages.

In the drawings thus employed, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a buckle and its connected straps with the improved guard applied and in closed position. Fig. 2 is a similar view with the guard in open position. Fig. 3 is a longitudinal sectional view.

The buckle is of the usual construction, formed of an oblong frame having spaced sides 10 11, end members 12 13, and with a central transverse bar 14, upon which the tongue 15 is mounted to swing and bear, with its free end extending over the end member 13. The main strap 16 is attached in the usual manner by riveting or sewing to the central bar 14 and with an aperture for the passage of the tongue 15, while the "billet" 17 of the other strap is passed beneath the end members 12 13 and over the central member 14 and through apertures in which the tongue protrudes in the usual manner.

The improved guard comprises a plate 18, pressed from sheet metal and "dishing" or concaved on the under side and with a loop 19 at one end for rotatively engaging the end member 13 and with an eye or aperture 20 at the other end to receive the billet of the upper strap. The sides 21 22 of the plate 18 depend over the side members of the buckle, and thus completely cover and shield it, while the loop 19 and depending apertured end at 20 complete the incasement of the buckle and present a smooth exterior surface upon all sides, and thus effectually prevent any chance for the entanglement of the tails or manes of the horses or the loose straps of the harness, as will be obvious. The terminal of the tongue 15 bears at all times upon the loop 19, which incases the end member 13, and thus materially assists in holding the guard in position when strains are applied to straps 16 17. The aperture 20, coming in advance of the end member 12 at the other end of the buckle, serves as a keeper to the free end of the billet 17 and obviates the necessity for additional keepers upon the main strap 16.

The member 18 may be "struck up" from sheet metal, preferably brass or similar compound, and may be of any ornamental or fanciful design and plated or otherwise ornamented or protected.

The attachments will add materially to the appearance of the harness and without material additional expense.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed is—

The combination with a buckle-frame comprising spaced side and end members and an intermediate transverse bar, a tongue swinging from said transverse bar and extending over one of said end members, a plate having depending sides and looped at one end around the end member of the frame over which said tongue extends and extending at the other end in advance of the other end member and provided with an aperture for receiving the strap-billet after it emerges from beneath the adjacent end member.

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

THOMAS NELSON MARTIN.

Witnesses:

L. B. GLOFCKE,
ROBT. HOLLAND.