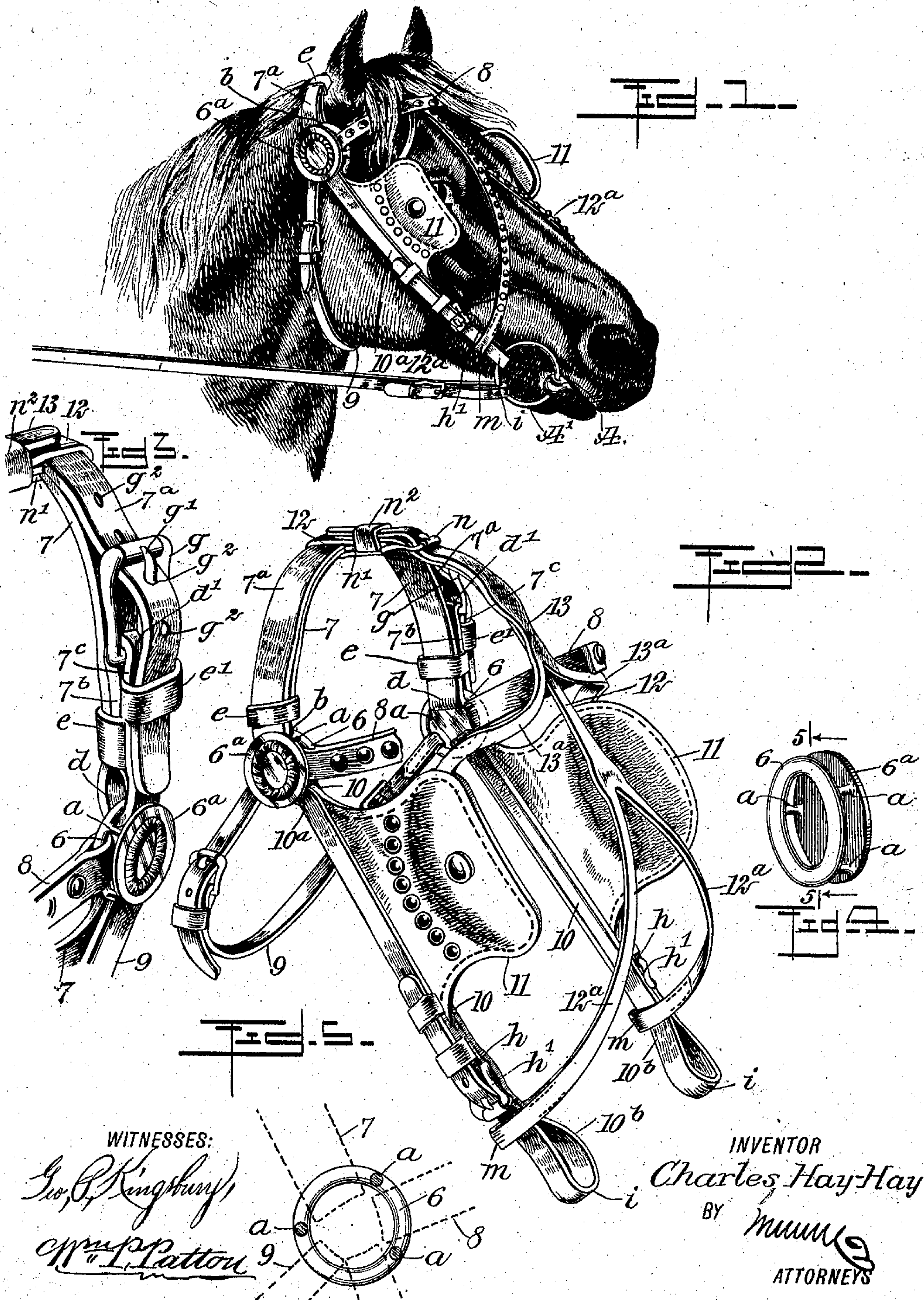


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C. HAY-HAY.
BRIDLE.

APPLICATION FILED JULY 11, 1905.



UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES HAY-HAY, OF RED LODGE, MONTANA.

BRIDLE.

No. 815,703.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 20, 1906.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES HAY-HAY, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of Red Lodge, in the county of Carbon and State of Montana, have invented new and useful Details of Construction for a Bridle, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

The object of this invention is to provide novel details for a driving-bridle to be used for single or double harness which permits an accurate, quick, and convenient adjustment of the crown-straps and cheek-straps of the bridle, so as to give the latter proper length for connection with the bridle-bit without changing the position of the blinders on the crown-strap, if this is correct, or to raise or lower the blinders without altering the length of the cheek-straps, so as to give the blinders proper position, these adjustments enabling the speedy fitting of a bridle having the improvements upon the heads of different animals that may vary somewhat in dimensions.

A further object is to provide a rosette-ring of novel construction that is ornamental and very advantageous for a neat and reliable connection of the crown-straps, brow-band, cheek-straps, and throat-latch straps together at their ends each side of the bridle free to work, and yet separated, so as to avoid crowding upon each other.

The invention consists in the novel construction and combination of parts, as is hereinafter described, and defined in the subjoined claim.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar characters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the improved bridle mounted upon the head of a horse and showing the relative positions of portions of the bridle thereon. Fig. 2 is an enlarged broken perspective view of the improved bridle detached from the driving-bit. Fig. 3 is an enlarged portion of the normally right side of the bridle, showing novel details and their engagement with each other and with the other parts. Fig. 4 is a detached perspective view of one of a pair of rosette-rings employed that is a novel detail; and Fig. 5 is a partly sectional rear side view of the improved rosette-ring, taken substantially on the line 5 5 in Fig. 4, showing straps connected therewith by dotted lines.

One important cooperating detail of the bridle consists of a rosette-ring 6 6^a, that is employed in duplicate, these similar rings each being constructed as is best shown in Fig. 4, comprising a disk ornamented on the exposed surface and a ring spaced therefrom. The ring portion 6 of the rosette is circular and of suitable diameter to correspond with the other parts of the bridle which are engaged therewith, said ring being spaced from the rosette-disk 6^a, which is the outer or exposed portion of the two-part ring, by means of the intervening rod-like arms *a a a*, that are preferably secured by their ends on the ring and disk and disposed at equal distances apart near the periphery of the disk, and as the arms are of an equal length they serve to space apart the two parts 6 6^a parallel with each other.

The crown-piece of the bridle is of novel construction, consisting of a strap of a suitable length and width which is doubled together near its center of length, thus providing two integral members 7 7^a, that in service are mounted upon the rosette-ring 6 at one side of the bridle, the bight *b* of the doubled strap engaging an upper portion of the ring between two of the arms *a*, as is clearly indicated by dotted lines in Fig. 5, and, as shown in Fig. 2, a keeper-slide *e* is mounted upon the doubled portions 7 7^a and adjusted near the bight *b*, thus holding the looped end of the crown-strap closed upon the portion of the ring 6 that it is engaged with.

The normally lower member 7 of the doubled crown-strap or one that has contact with the head of the animal behind the ears is passed from the inner side of the ring 6 on the mating rosette-ring below and then up between the spaced members 6 6^a of the same, forming a bight at *d*, that loosely receives the ring 6. A sufficient length is given to the upwardly-extended portion 7^b of the strap portion 7 to permit it to be folded upon itself at *d'*, thus returning a member 7^c toward the bight *d*, and a keeper-band *e*, that is secured between the lapped portions 7^b 7^c near the lower end of the latter, loosely engages the crown-strap member 7, thus holding the bight *d* closed upon the ring 6 at the normally right side of the bridle, as is clearly shown in Figs. 2 and 3.

In the loop or bight *d'* a buckle *g* is secured loosely, said buckle that heads upwardly having a buckled engagement with the top ply 7^a of the doubled crown-strap 7

7^a, and the pendent end of the latter-named member is held from flapping by a keeper-band *e'*, that is secured between the folded strap members 7^b 7^c near the bight *d*, as is represented in Fig. 3.

It will be seen from the description of the crown-strap that it may be adjusted for length simply by changing the engagement of the tongue *g'* of the buckle *g* with the spaced perforations *g''* in the strap member 7^a, and thus raise or lower the rosette-rings. In the space between the rosette-ring members 6 6^a of the forward portion of the ring 6 for each rosette-ring employed respective ends of a brow-band 8 are looped upon said rings and secured as indicated in the drawings. On rearward portions of the rosette-ring members 6 doubled ends of a two-part throat-latch strap 9 are secured, the free end portions of said two-part strap being furnished with a buckle that by adjustment lengthens or shortens the throat-latch, as usual for this portion of a bridle.

Upon lower portions of the rosette-ring members 6 upper end portions of cheek-straps are secured, the looped ends of the throat-latch strap and of a cheek-strap at each side of the bridle being placed on the section of a respective ring 6 between two arms *a*, that are lowermost in service, said arms serving to hold the ends of these straps from shifting edgewise, thus preserving them in proper relative position. Each cheek-strap is formed of a single strip of leather that is doubled upon itself between the ends thereof, affording a looped upper end on each strap that engages a respective ring 6, as before mentioned, and between the cheek-strap members 10 10^a on each side of the bridle a blinder 11 is secured and projects forwardly. Between the cheek-strap members 10 10^a directly below a respective blinder at each side of the bridle a looped strap *h* is secured, and in its bight a buckle *h'* is hung. The innermost cheek-strap member 10 on each side of the bridle is extended a length that permits it to be double and its free end portion 10^b turned upward above a loop or bight *i* thus formed, the upturned strap members 10^b having spaced perforations therein for an engagement with a respective buckle *h'*, and, as indicated for one loop *i* in Fig. 1, opposite rings A' on a bridle-bit A are engaged with said loop at each side of the bridle.

A face-strap 12 is employed of the usual form having two members 12^a formed on the lower portion thereof, said members having a loop *m* on the lower end of each one which respectively engage the doubled lower portion of each cheek-strap member 10. The face-strap 12 extends over the forehead of the beast beneath the brow-band 8 and is adjustably secured upon the crown-strap, as will presently be described, thus adapting a pull on driving-reins that connect with the

bit-rings A' to be communicated to the face-strap.

A brace-strap 13 for the blinders 11 is a feature of the invention, and, as shown in Fig. 2, the upper portion of said strap is lapped upon the corresponding portion of the face-strap 12 and together therewith is engaged by a buckle *n*, which is held projected forwardly from the crown-strap members 7 7^a by a looped short tab *n'*, having a keeper *n''* thereon which receives the end portion of the brace-strap which projects rearward from the buckle *n*.

It will be obvious that the improved bridle may be readily adjusted to widen or contract in length the crown-strap 7 7^a simply by altering the adjustment of the member 7^a and buckle *g*, and thus exactly fit the crown-piece on the head of an animal. An adjustment of the brace-strap 13 permits the rocking of the blinders inwardly when the strap is shortened, and as the normal set of the blinders is slightly flaring outward it will be seen that they may be readily adjusted as may be necessary to set nearer the eyes of an animal that is skittish in disposition and frightens on sight of strange objects at either side of the beast.

The provision of the rosette-rings each formed of an exteriorly-ornamented disk and a ring held spaced therefrom by arms is very advantageous, as it affords a most reliable means for assembling ends of the crown-strap, brow-band, throat-latch, and brace-straps, avoiding bulky projections, and serving at the same time as an ornamental detail for the bridle. It will also be noted that the provision of the looped adjustable lower strap extensions on the cheek-straps permits a change in length to be given to said straps and a corresponding change in position of the bridle-bit toward or from the blinders 11 without altering the position of the latter with relation to the crown-strap, so that the bridle may be quickly altered to fit upon the heads of animals which vary considerably in size and proportions.

Furthermore, the details of the improved bridle are simple, and their relative connections are neat, shapely, strong, and durable, affording a handsome and excellent bridle at a nominal cost.

Having described my invention, I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent—

In a bridle, the combination with a crown-piece comprising a single strap doubled near its center to form a loop at one end of the two-ply crown-piece, one ply thereof being return-folded near its free end and forming a loop, a buckle in the loop, the free end of the other ply engaging the buckle, rings having disks spaced apart from the faces thereof in the loops, cheek-bands connected with the rings, bridle-bit-ring connections on the lower end of the cheek-bands, a strap having a buckle connected to the center of the crown-piece,

blindern connected to the cheek-bands, a
brace-strap connected with the blinders, a
face-strap connected with the cheek-bands be-
low the blinders, the upper ends of the brace-
5 strap and face-strap engaging the buckle on
the strap connected with the crown-piece.

In testimony whereof I have signed my

name to this specification in the presence of
two subscribing witnesses.

CHARLES HAY-HAY.

Witnesses:

FRANK McCLEARY,
GEORGE DEEGAN.