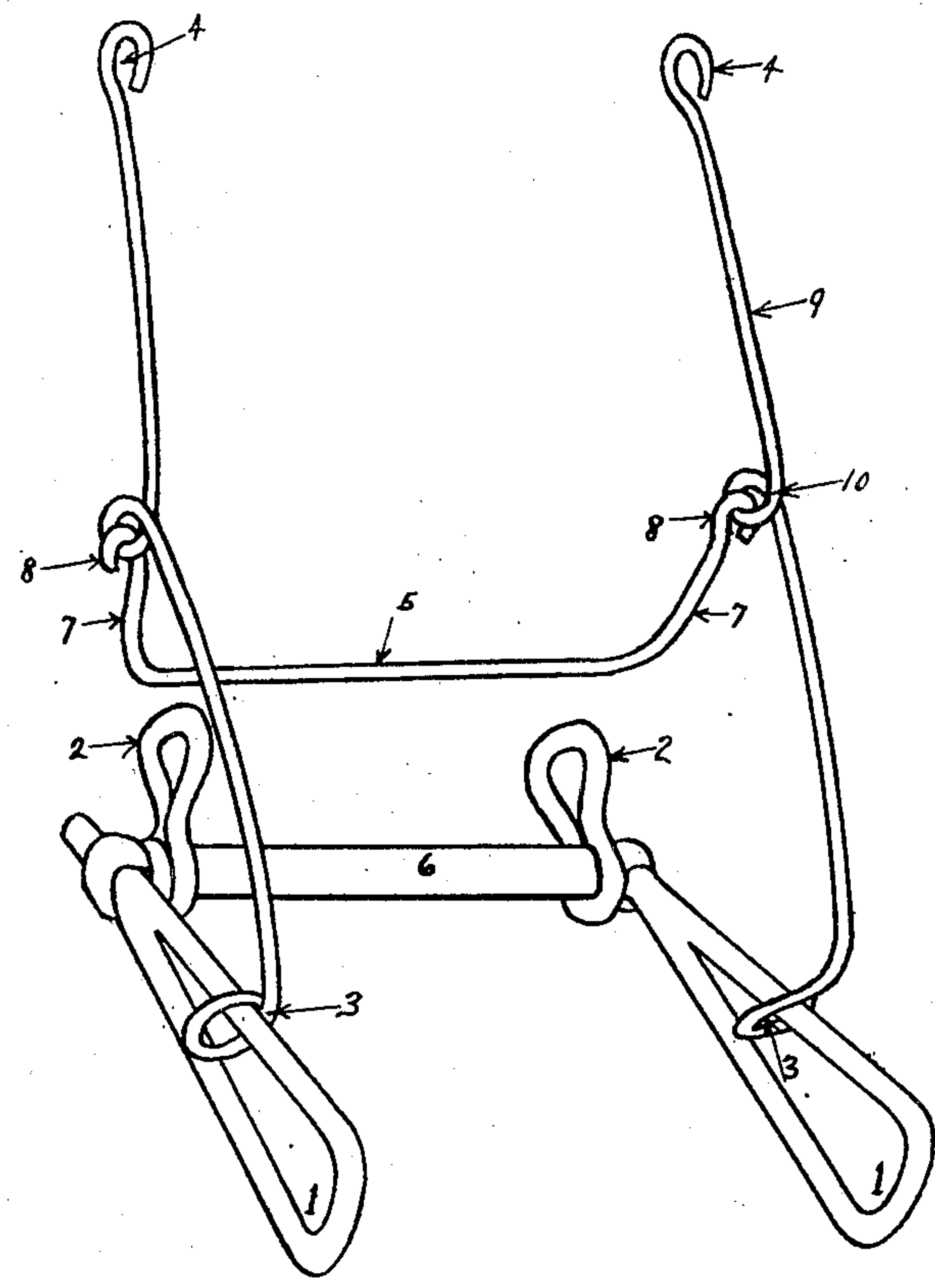


No. 860,524.

PATENTED JULY 16, 1907.

A. L. CATLIN.
BRIDLE BIT.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 8, 1906.



Witnesses
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ARTHUR L. CATLIN, OF ENID, OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

BRIDLE-BIT.

No. 860,524.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented July 16, 1907.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ARTHUR L. CATLIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Enid, in the county of Garfield and Territory of Oklahoma, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a specification.

My invention has relation to bridle bits, and has for its object, the production of a bridle bit which will not alone perform the services of the ordinary and well known bit now in use, but which will also act as a snaffle bit and as a check bit by which the horse's head can be checked or drawn up to any desired height by the operation of the driving reins manipulated by the driver or rider of the horse.

My invention consists in the provision of a bit having attached to it operating levers attached to a checking bit, said operating levers being controlled in their movements through the medium of the driving reins.

My invention still further consists in the provision of a bridle bit having two bit pieces or bars connected together and operated through the medium of the driving reins.

My invention still further consists in the construction combination and operation of parts more fully described hereinafter and specifically pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawing which forms a part of this specification: the figure is a perspective view of the improved bit.

Referring to the drawing, 6 designates the bit-bar which is preferably of round cross section and provided with openings at its ends in which are secured the arms 1 that constitute the rein-holders of the bit. These rein-holders are constructed each of a rod bent into a loop and if desired, welded together at the extremities so as to extend into each opening in the bit-bar 6. Swiveled on the bit-bar 6 adjacent the arms 1 are clips 2 to which the head stalls of the bridle are connected, the clips thus permitting the bit-bar to freely turn when the reins are drawn tight or slackened.

The check-bit of the device comprises a U-shaped structure 5 composed of a metal rod or wire of suitable thickness and having its arms 7 bent into hooks or eyes 8. The check-bit 5 is connected with the arms or rein-holders 1 by levers or members 9 each of which is provided with eyes 3 and 4 at its ends and an eye 10 at an intermediate point. The eyes 3 of the members 9 engage around the upper portions of the looped arms 1 so as to slide freely back and forth thereon. The upper eyes 4 afford means for attachment of the check-bit with the usual check-rein so that the members thus form

check-rein-holders. The eyes 8 of the check-bit 5 are hooked into the eyes 10 of the members 9. By connecting the check-bit in this manner to the rein-holders 9 the check-bit is free to swing or hinge on the latter.

In using the improved bit the bit-bar 6 and check-bit 5 are both placed into the mouth of the horse and are held in position by the head-stall straps and check-rein. The rein-holders or arms 1 extend downwardly below the lower lip of the horse when the reins hang loose, and the eyes 3 of the members 9 are adjacent the lower ends of the arms 1. When the reins are pulled, the arms 1 move upwardly as the bit-bar 6 revolves in the clips 2. This movement of the arm 1 causes the eye 3 of the check-rein-holders 9 to slide toward the bit-bar thus changing the position of the check-bit 5 so that the horse's head is caused to raise. When the reins are slackened the parts assume their normal position so that the strain is take off the check-bit, whereupon the horse is permitted to lower its head to a natural position.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the checking of the horse as well as the guiding of its movements is accomplished by the reins. As long as the reins are loose the horse's head is not checked and this adds greatly to the freedom of the horse as in traveling up or down hill.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new is:

1. In a bit, the combination of a bit-bar, looped arms thereon, clips in which the bit-bar is free to turn, members slidably connected with the said arms, and a check-bit movably connected with the members to be actuated by the movement of the said arms.

2. In a bit, the combination of a bit-bar, arms thereon for attachment with reins, means for connecting the bit with a head-stall, members movably connected at their lower ends with the arms and adapted to be connected at their upper ends with a check-rein, and a check-bit hingedly connected with the said members.

3. In a bit, the combination of a bit-bar having openings at its ends, rein-holders comprising looped rods engaging in the openings of the bit-bar, swiveled clips on the bit-bar, members having terminal and intermediate eyes, the terminal eyes at the lower ends of the members being slidably connected with the rein-holders and the upper terminal eyes constituting means of attachment with a check-rein, and a check-bit having terminal eyes engaging the intermediate eyes of the said members.

In testimony whereof I have signed my name to this specification in the presence of the two subscribing witnesses.

ARTHUR L. CATLIN.

Witnesses:

NEWTON BURWELL,
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