

No. 881,242.

PATENTED MAR. 10, 1908.

C. B. JOHNSON.

BRIDLE BIT.

APPLICATION FILED JUNE 8, 1907.

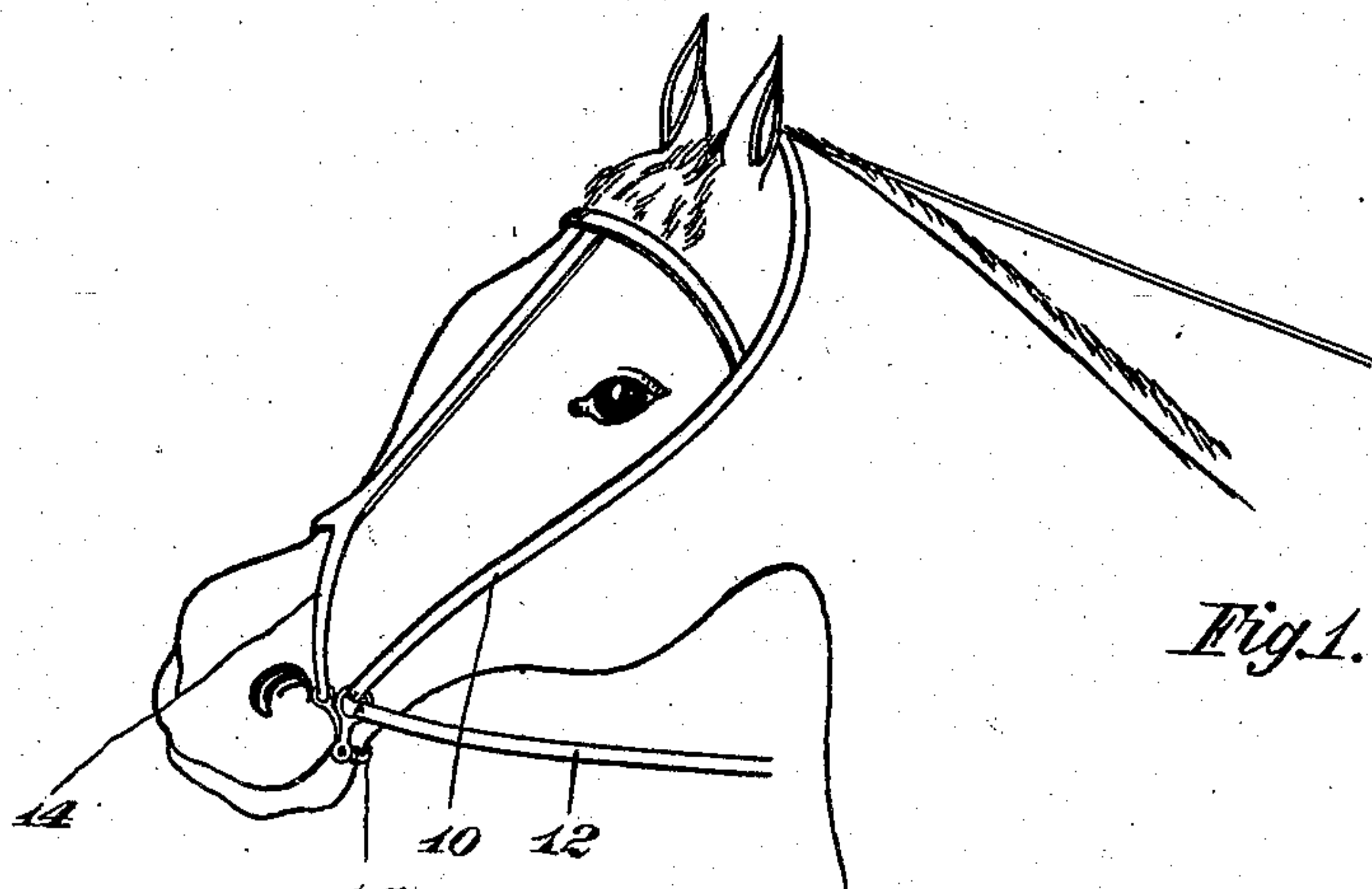


Fig. 1.

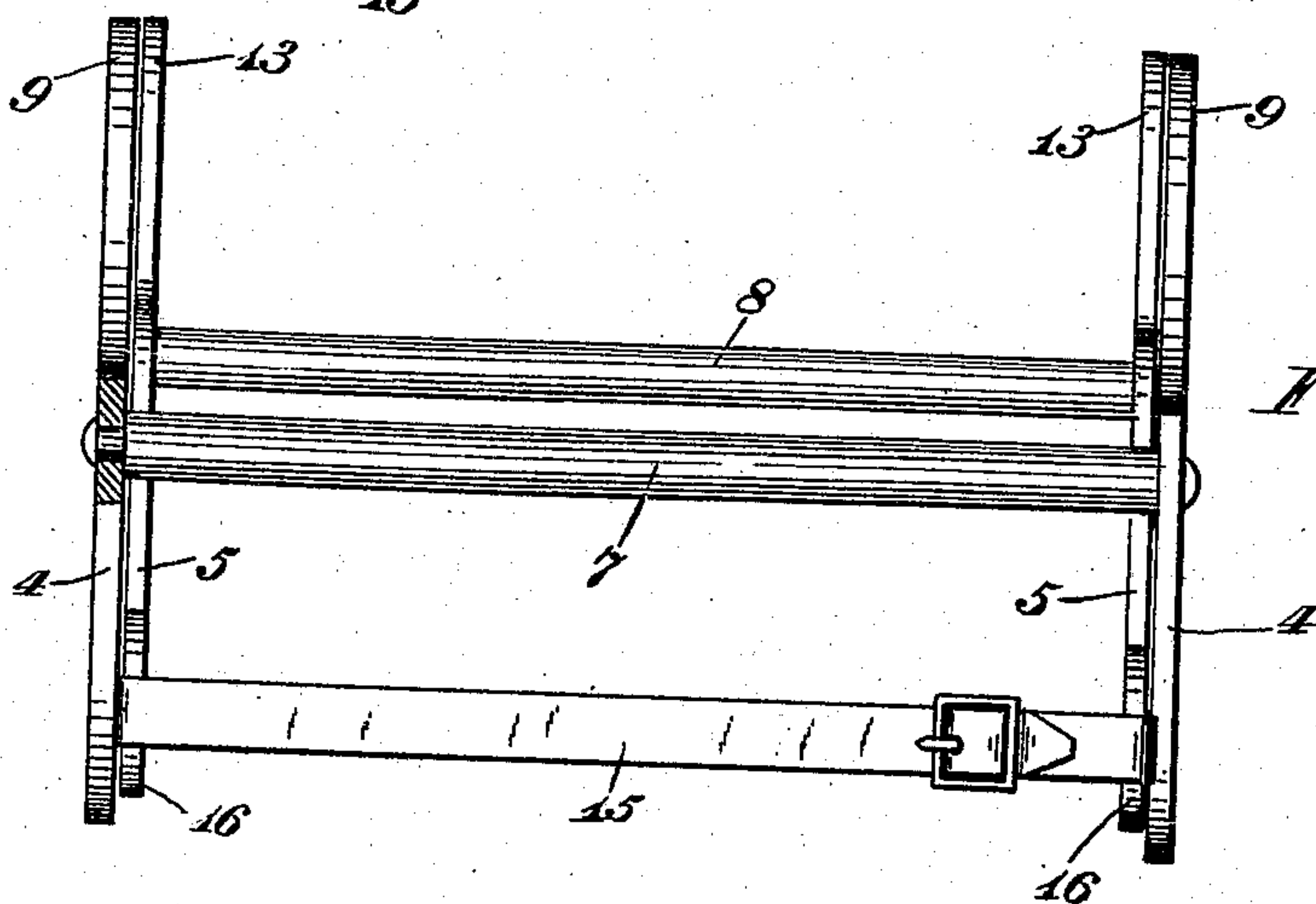


Fig. 2.

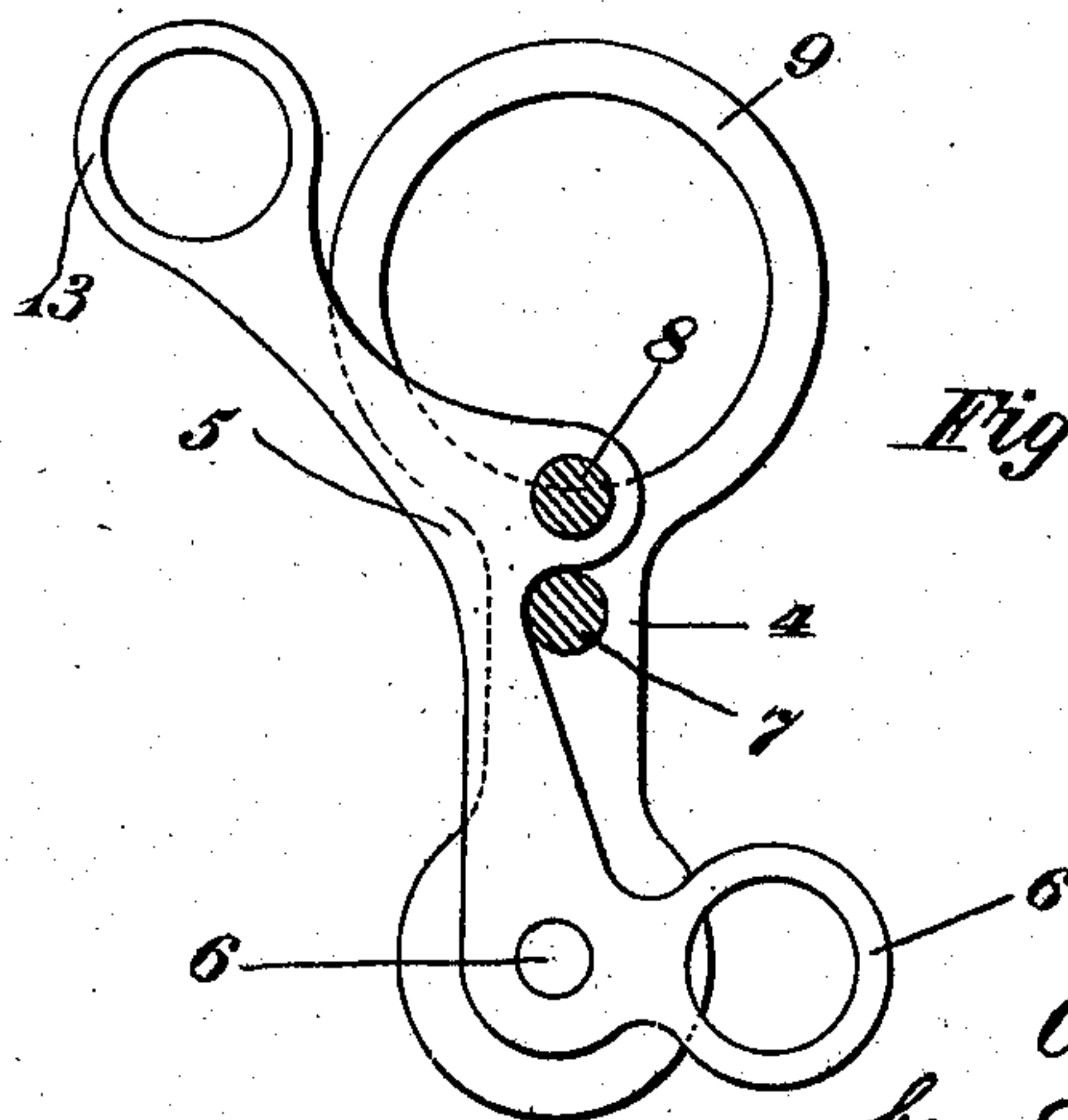


Fig. 3.

Witnesses

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES B. JOHNSON, OF COLUMBUS, OHIO.

BRIDLE-BIT.

No. 881,242.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented March 10, 1908.

Application filed June 8, 1907. Serial No. 377,892.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES B. JOHNSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Columbus, in the county of Franklin and State of Ohio, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates more particularly to the kind of bit shown in the expired United States patent issued to Michael J. O'Leary on March 27, 1883, No. 274,648.

The object of the invention is to provide a construction in which the parallel mouth rods lie further up in the mouth so that the horse can drink, and so that the said rods normally shall be less discomforting to the animal but equally if not more disconcerting and effective in checking him when he seeks to run away.

There are other advantages incident to the construction which will be appreciated by horsemen or those skilled in the art.

My invention is embodied in the construction hereinafter described and then particularly pointed out in the claims.

In the accompanying drawings—Figure 1 is an illustration of a horse's head showing the bit having the bridle and reins applied; Fig. 2 is a rear view, partly in section, of the bit, showing the curb strap attached; Fig. 3 is a transverse section through the mouth rods and looking at the inner side of the right-hand side bar with the curb strap omitted.

The parallel side bars at each side of the bit are each composed of two parts 4 and 5 hinged together at their lower ends, as seen at 6, Fig. 3. The corresponding parts of the side bars at each side of the bit are shown to be duplicates of each other symmetrically arranged. Between the parts 4, 4 is a mouth rod 7 secured by riveting, as seen at the left-hand side of Fig. 2, and between the parts 5, 5 is a mouth rod 8, said rods being parallel to each other. The rods 7 and 8 are so placed and secured between the respective parts of the side bars that when said parts are closed the axes of the rods lie in substantially a straight line with the axis of the hinge 6, as best seen in Fig. 3. This construction causes the rods to lie flatwise in the mouth and permits the horse to close that organ completely and normally and permits him to drink without difficulty. To allow

this particular arrangement of the mouth rods it will be observed that the parts 5 of the side bars are cut away or crooked to extend around the rod 7. The parts 4 of the side bars are each provided with an appropriate ring or loop 9 to receive the head stall 10 and reins as seen at 12. The part 5, or overcheck portion of the side bars, can be provided with a ring or loop 13 to receive the overcheck strap 14. The curb strap 15 can be attached to loops 16 rigidly formed on the parts 5 near the hinged junction of the parts of the side bars.

From the construction shown and described it will be observed that draft on the reins will pull the upper ends of the parts of the side bars asunder and thus separate the mouth rods 7 and 8 and spread the jaws of the horse apart, and because the said bars are well up in his mouth less movement of the parts of the side bars is required to get a given spreading of the jaws than is required when the mouth rods are far down on the bit, as seen in the construction of the patent of O'Leary herein referred to. Where the curb strap 15 is used strong draft on the reins causes the lower jaw to be pinched between said strap and the rod 7. In my construction when the overcheck is attached to its hook and the horse throws his head down the tendency is to close the mouth bars by pull of the overcheck, whereas in the O'Leary construction hereinbefore referred to, when the horse throws his head down the tendency is to throw the mouth bars apart and consequently the horse's mouth opens. My construction also prevents an excessive lolling of the tongue.

What I claim and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:

1. A horse bit having side-bars each composed of a part 4 for attachment of the head-stall and rein and a part 5 for attachment of the over-check, the parts 5 each having rigidly attached thereto a loop for the curb-strap, said parts being hinged together at their lower ends, and mouth-rods between the parts 4 and 5 respectively.

2. A horse bit having side-bars each composed of two parts 4 and 5 hinged together at their lower ends, a mouth rod connecting the parts 4 and a mouth-rod connecting the parts 5, the said mouth-rods, when the bit is closed, having their axes lying in a sub-

stantially straight line with the axis of the hinges of the side-bars, and loops for a curb-strap rigid with the parts 5.

3. In a horse bit, side-bars each composed of two parts hinged together at their lower ends and mouth-rods between corresponding parts of said side-bars located, when the

bars are closed, one above the other and having their axes lying substantially in a straight line with the hinges of the side-bars. 10

CHARLES B. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

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