H. W. DALY & D. H. BOUGHTON.

BRIDLE.

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952,610.

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Fig. I.

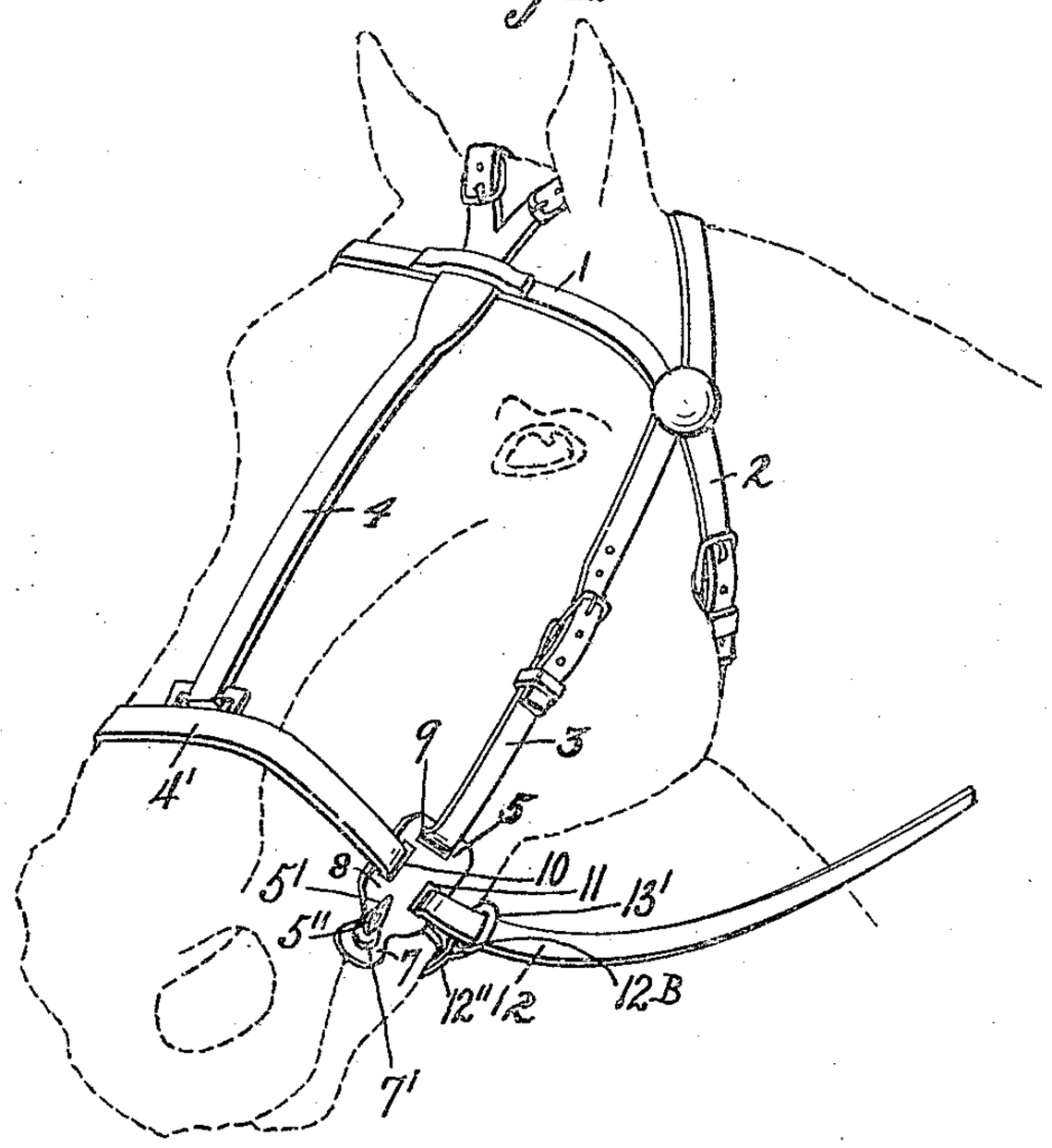


Fig. II.

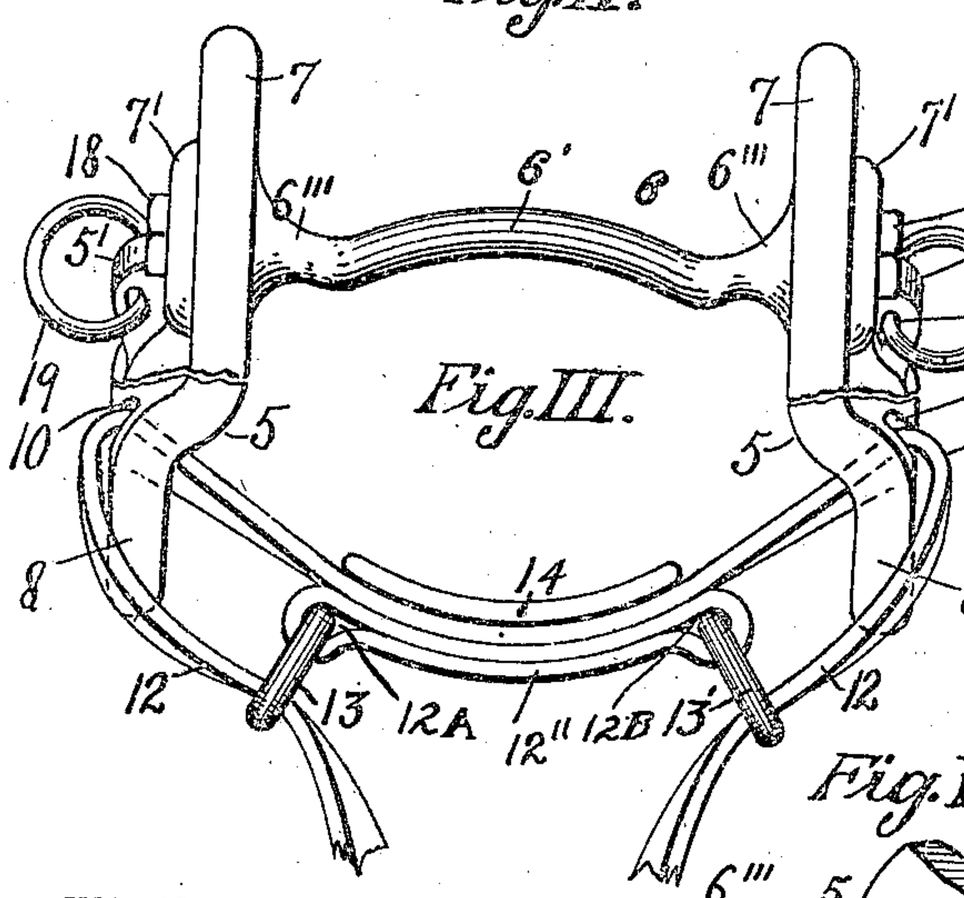


Fig. III.

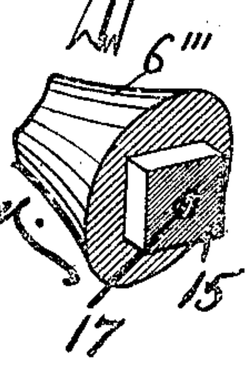


Fig. IV.

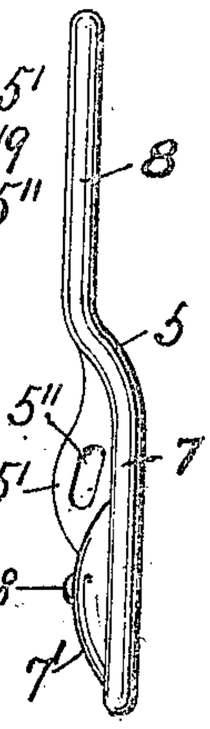


Fig. V.

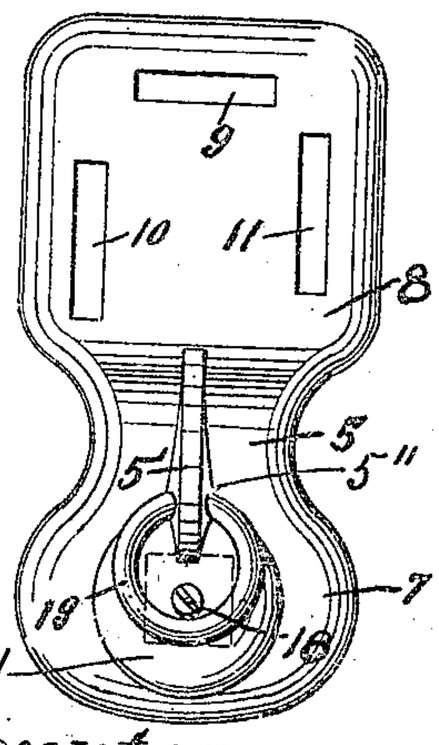
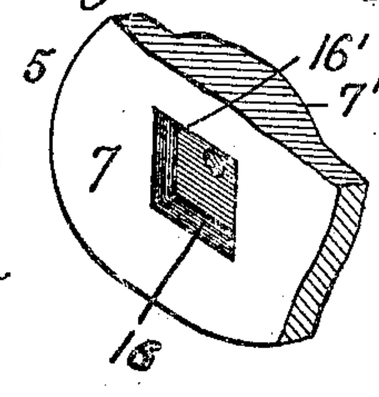


Fig. VI.



WITNESSES:

Harold C. Richards.

Myrtle M. Jackson.

Inventors:

Henry W. Daly and

D. H. Boughton

BY

Wilson C. Brown.

ATTORNEY.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

HENRY W. DALY AND DANIEL H. BOUGHTON, OF FORT LEAVENWORTH, KANSAS.

BRIDLE.

952,610. Specification of Letters Patent. **Patented Mar. 22, 1910.**

Application filed August 17, 1908. Serial No. 448,895.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that we, HENRY W. DALY and DANIEL H. BOUGHTON, citizens of the United States, residing at Fort Leavenworth, in the county of Leavenworth and State of Kansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridles; and we do declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

Our invention relates to bridles, and more particularly to a bridle bit and draw curb rein.

It is the object of our invention to provide a bridle, and particularly a bridle bit, whereby an animal, to which it is applied, may be controlled without injury to its mouth. In accomplishing this object, we prefer to provide the bridle with a specially constructed bit having side plates with which the nose band and draw curb rein are connected in such manner that a pull on the draw curb rein will exert a pressure on the animal's face and at the same time close its mouth, the bit bar acting as a fulcrum on which the nose band and curb rein actuating members turn.

A further object of our invention is to provide a bit which may be so combined with the other bridle parts that its principal function may be that of a guide and support for the parts with which it is connected, and which is so constructed that its central portion will come toward the roof of the animal's mouth while the end portions may be set between the animal's front and back teeth without engaging either the teeth or the gums.

With these objects in view, we have provided the improved details of structure illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which,

Figure I is a perspective view of a bridle constructed according to our invention. Fig. II is an enlarged detail view of our improved bit showing the outwardly offset upper rein portions of the side plates. Fig. III is a similar view of the jaw strap portion of the draw curb rein showing the lower ends of the lower bit portions of the side plates. Fig. IV is an edge view of one of the side plates. Fig. V is a face view of the same in which the snap lug is provided with a ring. Fig. VI is a detail view of the joining parts of the bit and side plates.

Referring more in detail to the parts:—1 designates the brow band, 2, the throat strap, 3, the cheek strap, 4, the face piece and 4′ the nose band of our bridle, which parts are similar to those in use on ordinary bridles, with the exception that the nose band is made to set above the position usually occupied by that piece, the preferred position for it being the lower portion of the animal's face immediately above its nose, so that a normal tension on the band will not interfere with the breathing.

5 designates the bit side plates, one of which is carried on each end of a bit bar 6. Plates 5 are preferably composed of aluminum with suitable alloy of metal to give them hardness and tenacity and have the lower bit portions 7 and the outwardly offset upper rein portions 8, the latter being turned away from the animal's jaw when in use to prevent the straps which are attached thereto from rubbing the jaw and paining or injuring the animal. The rein portion 8 of plate 5 is provided at its upper free end with a transverse slot which provides an eye 9 for receiving a cheek strap, at the forward side with a longitudinal slot which provides an eye 10 for receiving one end of the nose band, and at the opposite rear side with a longitudinal slot which provides an eye 11 for receiving one end of the draw curb rein 12.

The draw curb rein 12 is extended through the eyes 11 on opposite side plates, a strap 12″ being attached to the portion between the side plates 5 in a manner to form the ring loops 12^{A}—12^{B}, the rings 13—13′ being secured in the loops by sewing the overlapped portions of the strap and rein, and a shield 14 being attached to such overlapped portion to protect the animal's jaw when the strap is tightened thereagainst. The free ends of the reins are then extended through the rings 13—13′ from the outside of the side plates and back in the ordinary manner.

The bit 6 is preferably provided with the squared end tips 15 which are set in the squared recesses 16 in the inner faces of the side plates 5, and provided with the threaded end sockets 17 which register with perforations in the webs 16′ formed in the bosses 7′ of the lower bit portions 7 of the side plates

5 at the base of the recesses 16 into which sockets the screws 18 are adapted to fit for the purpose of permanently connecting the bit parts. The bosses 7′ providing the webs 16′ add strength to the side plates.

On the outer face of each side plate 5 is a lug 5′, having a slot or perforation 5″ within which a hitching ring 19 may be mounted, the slot or perforation in lug 5′ being preferably of such size that the snap hook of a hitching strap or skirmish link may be directly attached thereto, obviating the necessity for the ring 19.

The bit bar comprises a central, forwardly curved member 6′ which is adapted to curve toward the roof of the animal's mouth, with the backwardly curved portions 6″ adjacent to each end, which are adapted to lie between the front and back teeth without touching the teeth or gums and with flared ends 6‴.

When the bridle is in use, the bit bar rests easily in the animal's mouth, and has no painful contact with the tongue or mouth, a slight tension on either side of the rein being sufficient for guiding purposes. Should the animal become frightened, or when it is desired to stop the animal quickly, a strong tension on the draw curb rein will draw the jaw strap portion upwardly against the under jaw, closing the animal's mouth and exerting a pressure on the nose band 4′ which will draw the head backwardly and tend to stop the animal, the bit and side plates acting as a fulcrum between the nose band and jaw strap portion of the rein, without pressing the bit bar harshly against the animal's mouth; and by offsetting the strap attaching members of the side plates, the strap and reins are prevented from rubbing the animal's jaw.

Having thus described our invention, what we claim as new therein and desire to secure by Letters Patent is:—

1. A bridle comprising a bit bar, side plates secured to the bit bar, each side plate being formed with a transverse upper slot, with a longitudinal forward slot, and with a longitudinal rear slot, cheek straps connected with the upper slots, a nose band connected with the forward slots, a draw curb rein extending beneath the nose band and rings secured to the draw curb rein at the rear of the side plates; the draw curb rein being passed from the inner side of the side plates through the rear slots and through the rear rings.

2. A bridle comprising a bit bar, side plates secured to the bit bar, each side plate being formed with a transverse upper slot, with a longitudinal forward slot, and with a longitudinal rear slot, cheek straps connected with the upper slots, a nose band connected with the forward slots, a draw curb rein extending beneath the nose band, a strap formed with ring loops and secured to the outer side of the draw curb rein between the side plates, and rings secured to the ring-loops at the rear of the side plates; the draw curb rein being passed from the inner side of the side plates through the rear slots and through the rear rings.

3. A bridle comprising a bit bar, side plates secured to the bit bar, each side plate being formed with a transverse upper slot, with a longitudinal forward slot, and with a longitudinal rear slot, cheek straps connected with the upper slots, a nose band connected with the forward slots, a draw curb rein extending beneath the nose band, a shield secured to the inner side of the draw curb rein, and rings secured to the draw curb rein at the rear of the side plates; the draw curb rein being passed from the inner side of the side plates through the rear slots and through the rear rings.

4. A bridle comprising a bit bar, side plates secured to the bit bar, each side plate being formed with a transverse upper slot, with a longitudinal forward slot, and with a longitudinal rear slot, cheek straps connected with the upper slots, a nose band connected with the forward slots, a draw curb rein extending beneath the nose band, a shield secured to the inner side of the draw curb rein, a strap formed with ring loops and secured to the outer side of the draw curb rein between the side plates, and rings secured to the ring loops at the rear of the side plates; the draw curb rein being passed from the inner side of the side plates through the rear slots and through the rear rings.

In testimony whereof we affix our signatures in presence of two witnesses.

HENRY W. DALY.
DANIEL H. BOUGHTON.

Witnesses:
HAROLD E. RICHARDS,
MYRTLE M. JACKSON.