

J. LETCHWORTH.
BRIDLE-BIT.

No. 178,936.

Patented June 20, 1876.

Fig. 1.

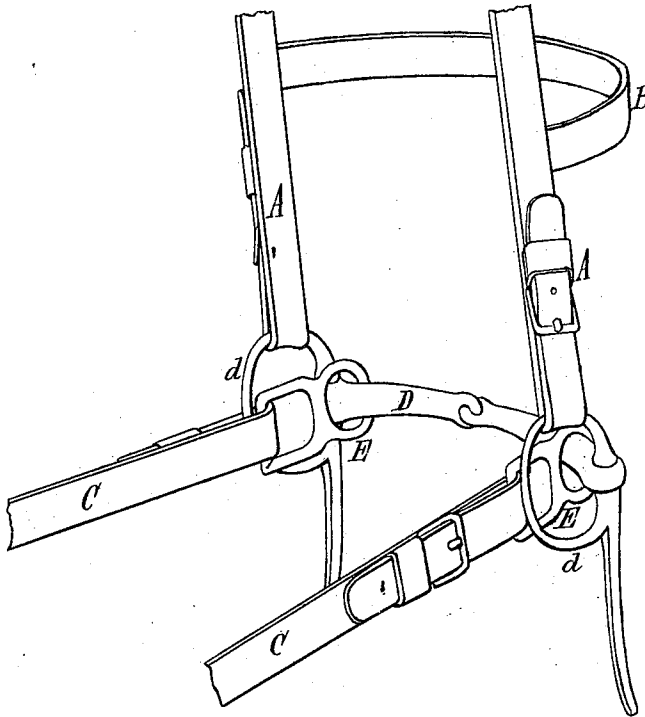
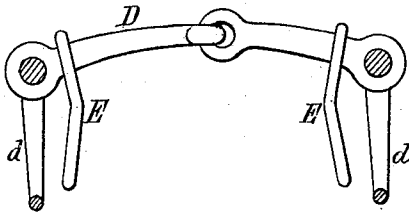


Fig. 2.



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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JOSIAH LETCHWORTH, OF BUFFALO, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BRIDLE-BITS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **178,936**, dated June 20, 1876; application filed May 9, 1876.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOSIAH LETCHWORTH, of the city of Buffalo, in the county of Erie and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridle-Bits, which improvements are fully set forth in the following specification, reference being had to the accompanying drawing.

Previous to my invention the reins have been connected to the rings by which the mouth-piece is secured to the headstall. This is, however, objectionable, for the reason that the pull of the rein is directly applied to the joint in which said rings are held, at the ends of the mouth-piece, which joints are generally cold or cast joints, and therefore liable to break under a sudden jerk or strain.

The object of my invention is to produce a more reliable bit; and the invention consists of a bit secured to the headstall by means of rings arranged at the ends of the mouth-piece, and provided with independent loose loops, which are arranged on the mouth-piece, and to which the reins are attached, so that the pull of the reins is directly applied to the solid portions of the mouth-piece, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth.

In the accompanying drawing, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved bridle-bit. Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof.

Like letters of reference refer to like parts in each of the figures.

A represents the headstall; B, the nose-strap, and C C the reins. D represents the mouth-piece, provided at its ends with rings *d d*, by means of which it is secured to the headstall. E E represent two independent loose metallic loops, arranged on the mouth-piece D, on the inner side of the rings *d d*, and having the reins C C secured to their rear

ends, as clearly shown in Fig. 1. Each of the loops E is, preferably, composed of two loops, the round front loop engaging with the mouth-piece, while the square back loop receives the rein. The mouth-piece is represented jointed in the drawing; but a rigid one may be employed with the same results.

The mouth-piece being secured to the headstall by means of the rings *d d*, and the reins being attached to the loops E E, the pull of the reins, instead of coming on the rings *d*, and the end joints of the mouth-piece holding the rings, as heretofore, is directly applied to the solid portions of the mouth-piece, between its end supports, thereby relieving the end joints of the greater part of the strain, and avoiding all liability of breaking of the end joints. Furthermore, the connection of the reins with the loops E, instead of with the rings *d*, as heretofore practiced, prevents the headstall from being pulled out of shape by the continuous strain of the reins.

I am aware that jointed mouth-pieces have been arranged to slide in rings or loops attached to the nose-strap, the reins being secured to the rings at the ends of the mouth-piece, and this I do not claim; but

What I claim as my invention is—

A bridle-bit having the mouth-piece D attached to the headstall by the rings *d d*, and provided with independent loose loops E E, to which the reins are connected, so that the pull of the reins is applied directly to the solid portions of the mouth-piece between its end supports, substantially as and for the purpose hereinbefore set forth.

JOSIAH LETCHWORTH.

Witnesses:

EDWARD WILHELM,
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