No. 744,973. PATENTED NOV. 24, 1903.

U. McCLINCHIE.

HAND STRAP.

APPLICATION FILED SEPT. 22, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

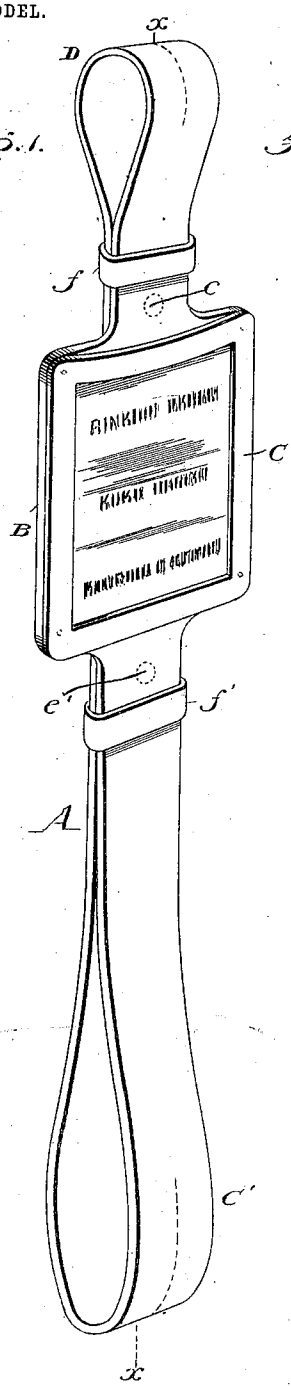


Fig. 2.

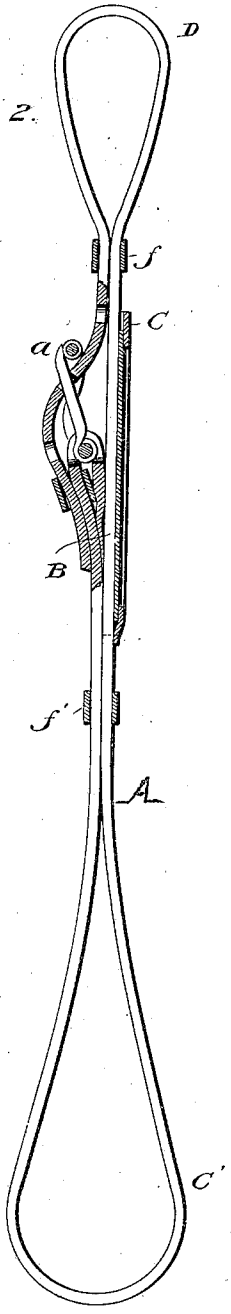
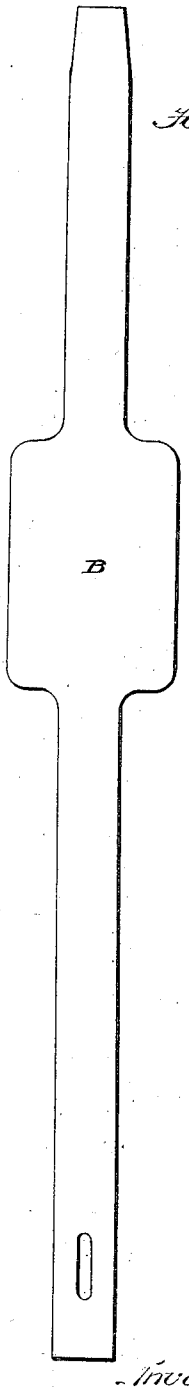


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
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THE NORRIS PETERS CO., PHOTO-LITHO., WASHINGTON, D. C.

No. 744,973. Patented November 24, 1903.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

URIAH McCLINCHIE, OF BROOKLYN, NEW YORK.

HAND-STRAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 744,973, dated November 24, 1903.

Application filed September 22, 1903. Serial No. 174,184. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, URIAH MCCLINCHIE, a citizen of the United States, residing at Brooklyn, in the county of Kings and State of New York, have invented new and useful Improvements in Hand-Straps, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in that class of devices known as "hand-straps" and used in street and other railway cars, coaches, and public vehicles as a handhold or support for passengers who are compelled to stand; and my invention consists, essentially, in forming the strap from a piece of material which has an integral widened portion at a point above the hand-loop, said widened portion serving as an advertisement-holder or as a backing for a card or plate upon which advertising matter is prominently displayed, said card or plate being confined in place by an outer or cover plate or piece secured at the sides and bottom to the back or widened portion and having an opening in its center of sufficient size to expose the advertising matter upon the card or plate, the edges of said opening overlapping the inserted card or plate to retain the card or plate in place. In other words, the cover-plate, combined with the widened integral portion of the strap-body, forms a pocket into which the card or plate may be readily inserted and removed, thus affording facility for the changing of the advertising matter.

In the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification, and in which similar letters of reference indicate like parts in the several views, Figure 1 is a perspective view of a hand-strap embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view of the same on the line *x x* of Fig. 1. Fig. 3 is a plan view of the pattern or blank from which the strap is formed.

In carrying out my invention I form the hand-strap A of any appropriate length and material, leather being preferred because of its universal use for hand-strap purposes. This strap I form from a single piece of leather sufficiently heavy for the purpose, and I cut or otherwise fashion the leather piece from a blank or pattern substantially like what I show in Fig. 3—namely, with an intermediate portion B, which is made much wider than the width of the strap proper, or that portion which forms the loop for suspending the strap from the rail, which usually extends along the side of the upper portion of the car, and the loop which furnishes the handhold for the standing passenger. This widened portion B is cut from and is integral with the narrower portions which form the said loops and which portions extend from opposite ends of the widened portion, as shown in Fig. 3, and by thus widening the said part B that portion of the completed strap just above the lower loop usually engaged by the passenger and which hangs within easy reach of said passenger standing in the aisle and employed by him as a support is made very prominent and any advertisement displayed on this already prominent portion of the strap will be most noticeable and cannot fail to be an attraction. Therefore the value of the advertisement at such point will be most pronounced. The widened portion B of the strap forms a smooth back for the member which contains the advertisement, which latter usually consists of a card or plate on which the advertising matter is displayed in prominent or bold letters, characters, or symbols, the width of the widened portion of the strap and the card permitting the use of more prominent subject-matter than has heretofore been possible with the use of the conventional hand-straps. As the widened integral portion of the strap forms the back of the advertising-holder, it is only necessary in order to complete the holder that I employ a cover-piece C, which is also preferably made of leather, but which may be made of other material, if desired, and which is of approximately the same size as the widened portion B and has a large opening through it, so as not to obstruct the advertising matter on the card or plate back of it, said cover-piece having the walls of its central opening overlapping the edges of the card and forming retaining-guides for the latter. This cover-piece I secure by stitching or rivets at the sides and bottom directly to the widened portion B of the strap, leaving the top portion of the piece C unattached to form the mouth or entrance of the pocket, which

is thus formed between the cover-piece and the widened portion of the strap to receive the advertising card or plate.

If desired, although not illustrative of what I consider the best form of my invention, the card or cover-plate may be omitted and the advertising matter displayed directly on the widened portion of the strap.

The narrower portions of the strap or those portions which are integral with and extend from opposite ends of the widened portion B are folded or returned upon themselves to form the lower loop C′, which is the loop usually within easy reach of the passenger standing in the aisle and is grasped by him to serve as a support, and the upper loop D, which is the one which receives the rod that extends along the upper side portion of the car, the end of one of these portions being preferably provided with a buckle *a* or like device and the end of the other of said parts being provided with a series of holes to receive the tongue of the buckle in the usual and well-known manner. If desired, however, the buckle may be dispensed with and one or more rivets may be used, as at *e e′* in dotted lines in Fig. 1, to secure one part of the folded or loop portion to the other. When the buckle is used, the widened portion of the strap lies directly in front of it and conceals the same from view from the front, and if rivets are employed they may be concealed beneath the usual slides *f f′*, with one of which each loop is provided for adjusting the size of said loops. A rivet through the upper portions of the lower loop, as at *e′*, also prevents the back portion of the strap from being pulled down and distorting the hand-loop and exposing the buckle from the front.

By making the strap with the widened portion and making this portion which contains the advertising matter as an integral part of the strap the riveting of a separate holder for the advertising matter is dispensed with and a more durable, simple, and stronger hand-strap is provided, and when the strap is in place the advertising subject-matter is prominently displayed and is plainly visible, so that it may be quickly read without difficulty by the passengers, especially the one who is standing and holding onto the strap. At the same time the prominent character of the holder on the hand-strap cannot fail to draw attention to the latter, and consequently to the advertisement it carries.

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

1. An improved hand-strap comprising a single piece of material fashioned with an integral widened portion intermediate of its ends adapted as a holder for advertising matter.

2. An improved hand-strap comprising folded portions forming upper and lower loops, and a part intermediate of the loops and made wider than the portions of the strap from which the loops are formed said widened portion permanent with the folded portions and serving as a holder for the display of advertisements.

3. An improved hand-strap comprising a single piece of material fashioned with a relatively wide central portion and an integral portion of reduced width extending from each end thereof and folded to form a loop, and a cover-plate fixed over the front of the widened portion and forming therewith a pocket adapted to retain a card or plate containing advertising matter.

4. An improved advertising hand-strap comprising a single piece of material having its end portions folded to form upper and lower loops said piece having an intermediate portion integral with and made wider than the end portion to form the back of an advertising-holder, an open center cover-piece fitting over and secured to the front of the said widened portion and forming therewith a pocket or holder, and a card or like member bearing advertising matter and fitting said pocket or holder and exposing its subject-matter through the cover-piece.

5. An improved advertising hand-strap comprising a single piece of material having its end portions folded to form upper and lower loops said piece having an intermediate portion integral with and made wider than the end portion to form the back of an advertising-holder, an open center cover-piece fitting over and secured to the front of the said widened portion and forming therewith a pocket or holder, a card or like member bearing advertising matter and fitting said pocket or holder and exposing its subject-matter through the cover-piece, and means for uniting the folded portions of the strap to prevent one portion thereof sliding on the other.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand in presence of two subscribing witnesses.

URIAH McCLINCHIE.

Witnesses:
T. W. FOWLER,
C. W. FOWLER.