No. 678,783 Patented July 16, 1901.

S. H. HULL.

HIP STRAP CONNECTOR.

(No Model.) (Application filed Feb. 15, 1900.)

FIG. 1.

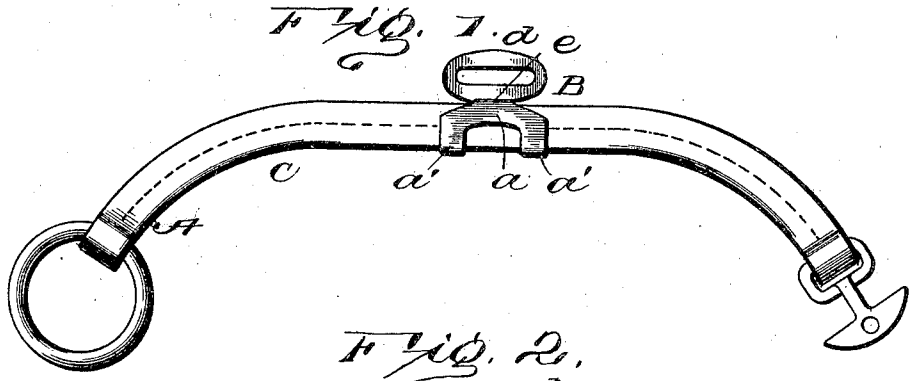

FIG. 2.

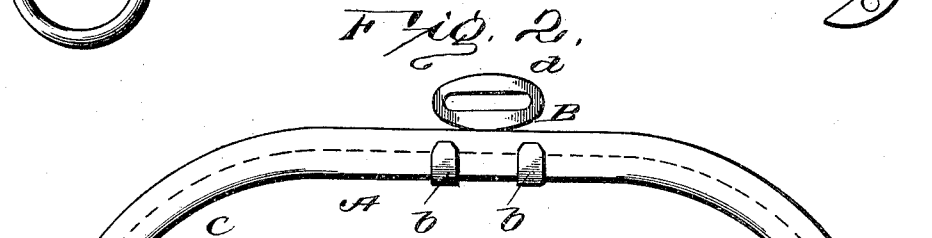

FIG. 7.

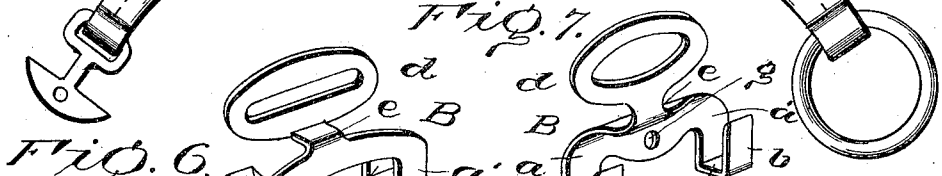

FIG. 6.

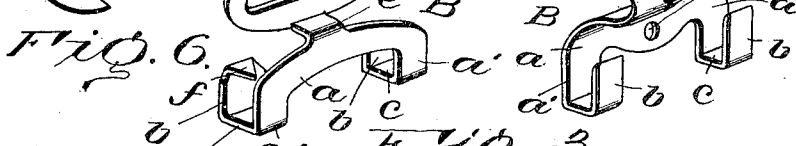

FIG. 3.

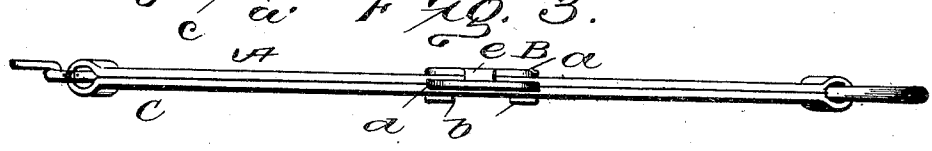

FIG. 4.

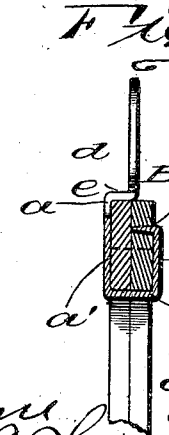

FIG. 5.

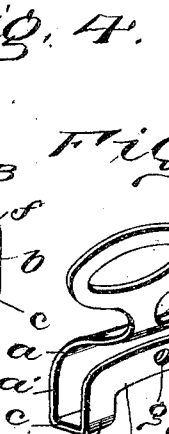

FIG. 8.

Witnesses

Gladys L. Thompson.

Inventor

Scott H. Hull.

by R. A. D. Lacey his Attorneys.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

SCOTT H. HULL, OF OSKALOOSA, IOWA.

HIP-STRAP CONNECTOR.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 678,783, dated July 16, 1901.

Application filed February 15, 1900. Serial No. 5,378. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, SCOTT H. HULL, a citizen of the United States, residing at Oskaloosa, in the county of Mahaska and State of Iowa, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Breeching-Stays and Hip-Strap Connectors; and I do hereby 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.

This invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in harness-breeching stays and attachments for connecting the same to the hip-straps. As ordinarily constructed such stays are composed of two like parts connected at their inner ends to a ring which receives the buckle upon the end of the hip-strap. This construction is complex and comparatively expensive on account of the number of parts and amount of material and time consumed in making and connecting the same to the ring.

The objects of my invention are to simplify the construction and cheapen the cost of production of stays of this character and provide for the manufacture of the same from a single piece of material as well as to secure a stable connection with the hip-strap.

With these and other minor objects in view the invention consists of certain novel features of construction, combination, and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully described, and particularly pointed out in the appended claims.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a front view of a breeching-stay and hip-strap connection constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a rear view of the same. Fig. 3 is a top plan view. Fig. 4 is a cross-section through the stay and the lower portion of the metallic connector, the upper part being in end elevation. Fig. 5 is a central vertical section through the stay and connector. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of a modified form of metallic connector or fastener detached. Fig. 7 is a perspective view of the preferred form of connector. Fig. 8 is a perspective view of a further modification.

In carrying my invention into practice I form the breeching-stay A of a single piece of material and then apply the metallic connector or fastener B thereto to receive the loop upon the end of the hip-strap. As shown in the drawings, the stay is preferably made of a continuous strip C of leather or other suitable material folded upon itself to form plies or layers which are stitched or otherwise fastened together, one end of the strip being folded in between said plies and against the other end of the strip and secured by the stitching, which latter terminates a sufficient distance from the ends of the stay so formed to provide loops for the reception of a D and ring which are employed to connect the stay with the breeching and holdback-strap in the usual manner.

The metallic connector or fastener B in all the forms shown consists of an approximately U-shaped clasp which embraces the stay and a loop or eye which receives the end of the hip-strap. The clasp is composed of side pieces comprising terminal arms a' and b, which are transversely and longitudinally spaced, corresponding transversely-alined arms being coupled in pairs at their lower ends by connecting-pieces c. The arms a' are connected at their upper ends by a bridge-piece a, which may be widened vertically at a central point and apertured, as shown at g, Fig. 7, to receive a fastening. The loop or eye d stands vertically and is carried by an overhanging piece e, extending rearwardly from the upper edge of the bridge-piece a and terminating about in line with the center of the clasp. The arms b may be provided at their upper free ends with spurs or teeth f, Fig. 6, to engage the stay and prevent the connector from sliding longitudinally thereon.

In applying the connector or fastener to the stay the clasp portion thereof is forced upward upon the stay, while the latter is held at an angle, so that it may clear the overhanging piece e and then be slipped thereunder, and the arms b, which are primarily arranged at an oblique angle to the connecting-pieces c, are bent inward against the stay. The stay will then be tightly embraced and held from moving up or down by the overhanging and connecting pieces and from side and endwise movement by the side pieces, which by clamping the plies or layers of the stay between them will also prevent said plies from sepa-

rating or moving on each other under strain and disrupting the stitches. By this means I am enabled to provide a strong and durable one-piece stay which is simple in construction and easy of manufacture. The spurs or teeth *f* sink into the leather when the arms *b* are pressed inward and aid in holding the connector in place. The loop or eye *d* lies above the stay and extends inwardly a sufficient distance to allow the overhanging piece to obtain a firm bearing and also to provide for the ready connection of the hip-strap therewith without movement from its normal position. The purpose of employing a clasp of the open form shown in the aforesaid figures is to secure a firm connection without destroying the flexibility of the stay or making it absolutely rigid at the point of connection and rendering it liable to crack or split.

In the preferred construction the spurs or teeth *f* are omitted, as seen in Fig. 7, the fastening passing through the opening *g* serving to positively fix the position of the connector. As shown in Fig. 8, the arms *b* are connected at their upper ends by a bridge-piece *b'*, paralleling the bridge-piece *a* and having an opening *g'* to receive a rivet or other fastening. The construction is light, and the connected terminal arms *a' b* being longitudinally spaced are adapted to be pressed into the material of the stay, so as to prevent movement of the connector thereon. Moreover, the stay is clamped upon its two sides and two edges in such a manner as not to admit of any rocking or other movement of the connector when in place.

It will be understood that the invention is not limited to the exact features of construction and arrangement of parts set forth, but that these may be modified in certain respects as circumstances or the judgment of those skilled in the art may dictate without departing from the essential features of the invention as pointed out in the claims.

Having thus described the invention, what is claimed as new is—

1. A hip-strap connector for breeching-stays consisting of pairs of terminal arms connected at their lower ends, a longitudinal bridge-piece connecting two of the arms at their upper ends, an overhanging piece at the upper edge of the bridge-piece, and a loop at the inner edge of the overhanging piece and in a plane medially of the arms of the respective pairs of arms, substantially as set forth.

2. A hip-strap connector for breeching-stays consisting of pairs of terminal arms connected at their lower ends, two of the arms being free at their upper ends and the remaining two being lengthened and connected at their upper ends by a longitudinal bridge-piece centrally perforated, an overhanging piece at the upper edge of the bridge-piece, and a loop at the inner edge of said overhanging piece and in a plane medially of the arms of the respective pairs of arms, substantially as specified.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

SCOTT H. HULL. [L. S.]

Witnesses:
JOHN R. BARNES,
H. S. HOWARD.