

(No Model.)

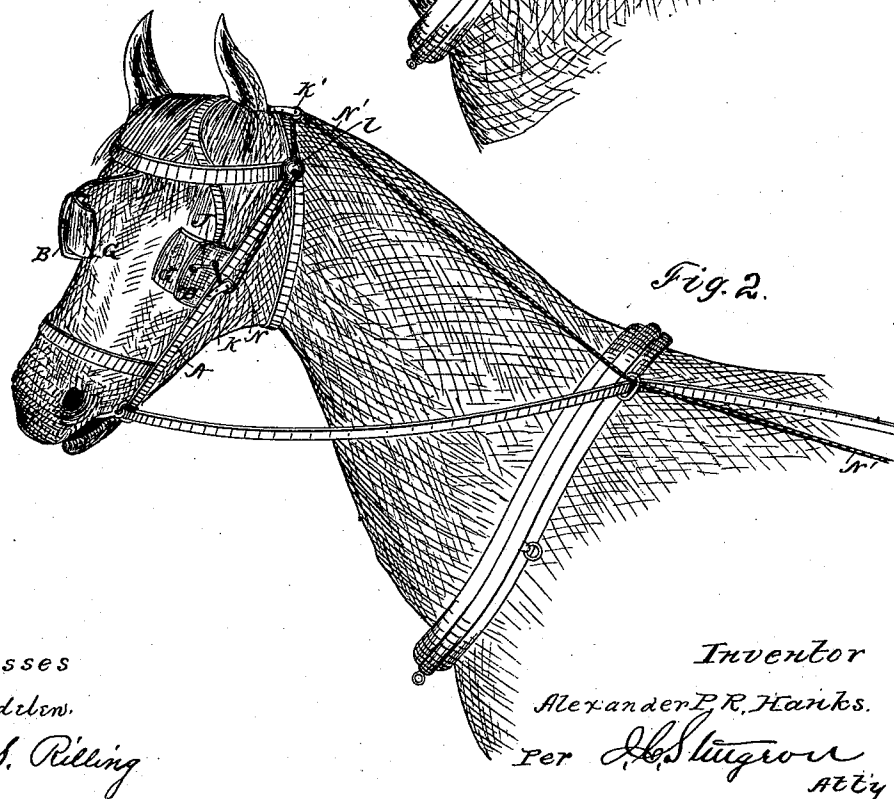
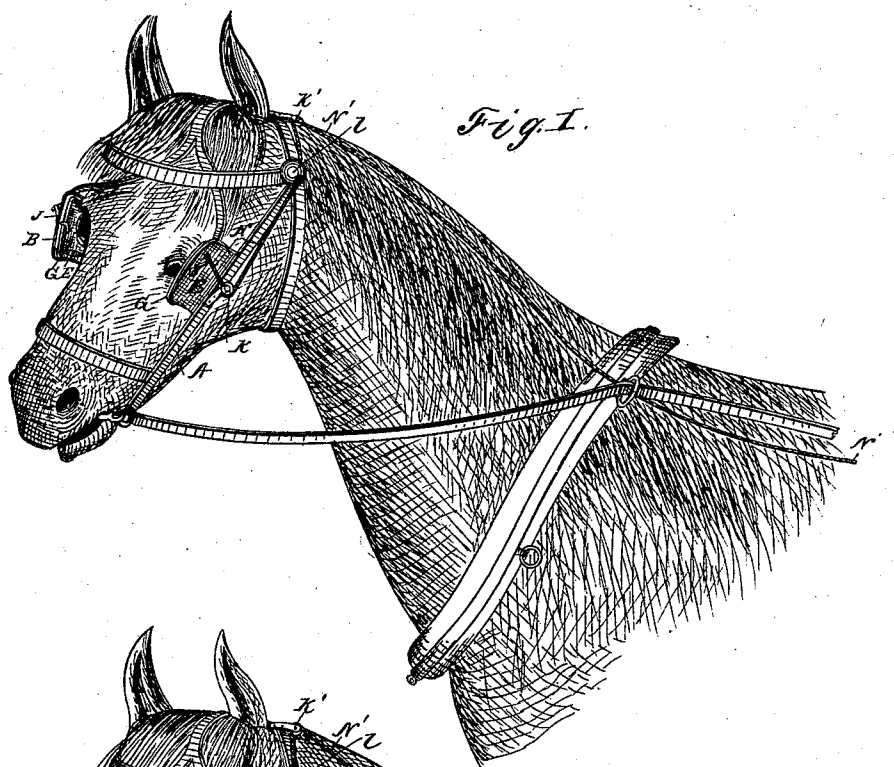
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

A. P. R. HANKS.

BLINDER FOR HORSES' BRIDLES.

No. 351,863.

Patented Nov. 2, 1886.



Witnesses

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John S. Rilling

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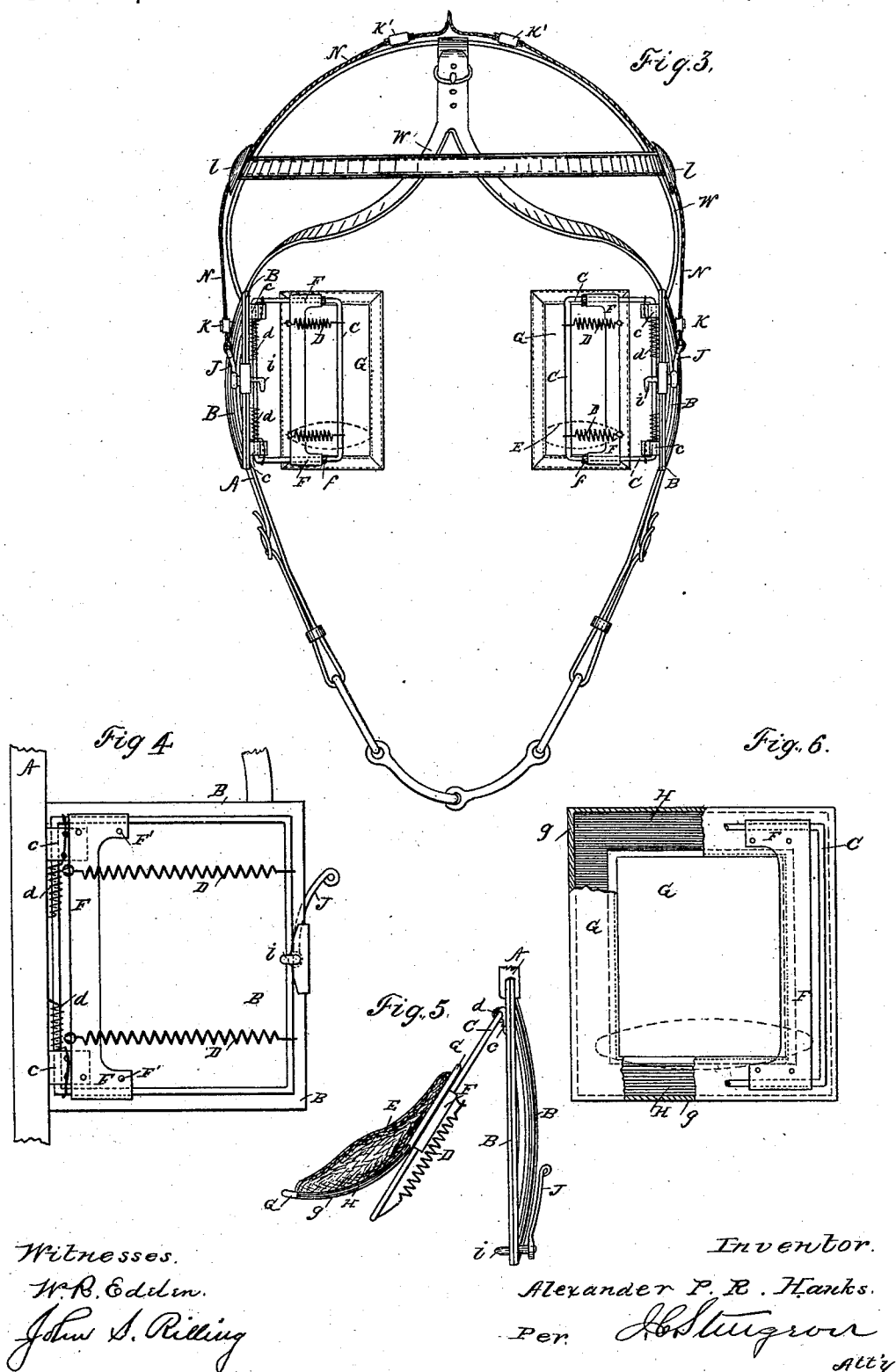
Per *H. Sturgeon*
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

ALEXANDER P. R. HANKS, OF ERIE, PENNSYLVANIA.

BLINDERS FOR HORSES' BRIDLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 351,863, dated November 2, 1886.

Application filed March 31, 1886. Serial No. 197,348. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER P. R. HANKS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Erie, in the county of Erie and State of Pennsylvania, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Blinders for Horses' Bridles; 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, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to blinders on horses' bridles; and it consists in the improvements hereinafter set forth and explained.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which Figure 1 shows a bridle on a horse's head with my improved blinder thereon. Fig. 2 is a like view showing the operation of my improved blinders. Fig. 3 is a front elevation of a horse's bridle provided with my improved blinders. Fig. 4 is a side view of one of my improved blinders with the inside broken away, showing the internal mechanism thereof. Fig. 5 is a top or plan view of one of my improved blinders. Fig. 6 is a side view of one of my improved blinders with portions broken away, showing the frame-work and parts of the mechanism thereof.

Like letters refer to like parts in all the figures.

In the construction of my improvement the bridle is of usual and ordinary construction, my improvement principally relating to the construction and operation of the blinders and mechanism for operating the same.

In the construction shown the outside or stationary blinder, B, is attached to the cheek-straps A of the bridle in the usual manner. Attached to the inside of the blinders B, near where it is secured to the cheek-strap A, is hinged a wire frame, C, by means of small clips *c c*. This frame C is also provided with small spiral springs *d*, which operate to swing the frame C out from the stationary blinder B, as shown in Fig. 5. This blinder-frame C is retained in position against the inside of stationary blinder B by means of the catch *i*, which passes through the outside or station-

ary blinder B, and engages with the outer edge of the inner or movable blind, which is attached to the frame C, as hereinafter described, the catch *i* being operated by means of the lever J, as hereinafter described.

Upon the frame C is a sliding bar, F, which extends between the upper to the lower sides of the frame C and slides freely thereon. This sliding bar F has securely attached thereto the inner or movable blind, G. This blinder G is constructed with a steel frame, H, curved horizontally inward toward the side of the horse's head, which when in operation carries the blinder G forward over the horse's eyes, substantially as shown in Fig. 2, but which when not in operation can be laid back flat against the inside of the stationary blinder B, where it can be secured by the catch *i*, as illustrated in Fig. 1.

Between the outer or free end of the hinged frame C and the slide F, to which the inside blinder, G, is secured, I place spiral springs D D, which operate to slide the frame F and the inside blinder, G, forward into the position shown in Figs. 2 and 5, so as to cover the eyes of the horse when desired.

To the lower edge of the blinder G is attached a cushion, E, which operates to keep the movable blinder G from striking the horse's eye when it is being operated, and also to shut out the light from below, so as to completely blind the horse.

To the outer end of the catch *i* is attached a lever, J, a cord, N, being secured thereto, which passes around a small pulley, K, secured to the check-strap, and from thence to the top of the horse's head, where it passes through a second pulley, K', on the head-strap, one cord extending from each blinder, and meeting at the top of the horse's head, where the two cords N are attached to a single cord, N', which extends back over the horse's neck and back to the hand of the driver.

In operation the movable blinder G is slid back into the position shown in Fig. 1 or 4, where it is secured by the catch *i*. When in this position it operates the same as the blinders ordinarily used on horses' bridles. When, however, the driver desires to operate the device, he pulls on the cord N', which instantly releases the inner or movable blinder, G, and the swinging frame C, upon which it is mount-

ed, when, by the operation of the spiral springs *d d* and *D D*, the movable blinders *G G* are forced around over the horse's eyes, as illustrated in Fig. 2, completely blinding the horse
5 until they are removed.

What I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent of the United States, is—

1. The combination, with the stationary blinders on a horse's bridle, of vertically-
10 hinged frames having thereon horizontally-sliding frames, and curved blinders vertically hinged to said sliding frames, and spiral springs for moving said sliding frames and the blinders hinged forward, catches in the stationary
15 blinders adapted to retain said hinged frames and blinders back against the inside of the stationary blinders, and cords for releasing said catches, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

2. In a horse's bridle, the combination, with 20 the stationary blinders *B*, of the hinged frames *C*, the movable blinders *G*, the catches *i*, and the cords *N* and *N'*, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

3. In combination with the stationary blind- 25 ers of a horse's bridle, movable blinders attached thereto and provided with spring-steel frames, constructed substantially as shown and described, and cushions on the lower edges of the movable blinders, substantially as and for 30 the purpose set forth.

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

ALEXANDER P. R. HANKS.

Witnesses:

JOHN S. RILLING,
JAS. O. FARMLER.