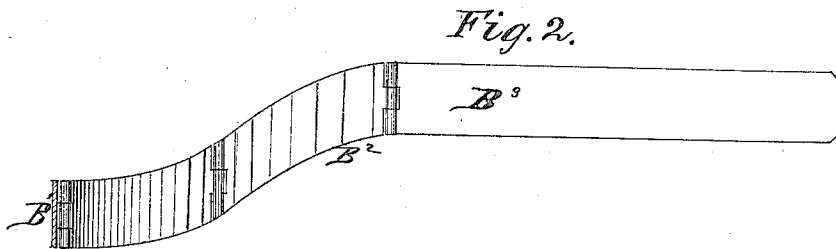
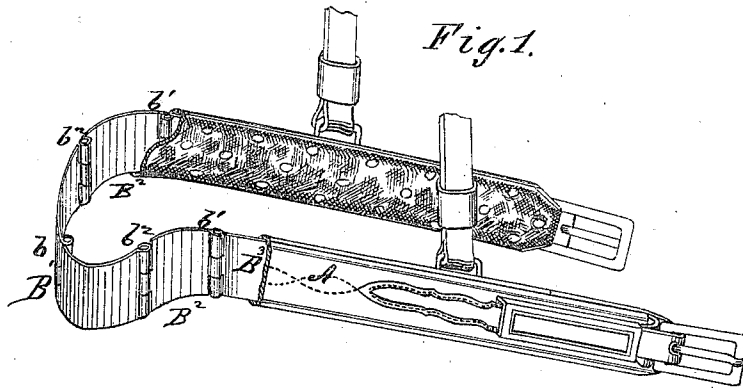


C. P. HOLMES.

Breast-Straps for Horses.

No. 134,283.

Patented Dec. 24, 1872.



Witnesses:
G. M. Hartney.
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES P. HOLMES, OF GOUVERNEUR, NEW YORK.

IMPROVEMENT IN BREAST-STRAPS FOR HORSES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 134,283, dated December 21, 1872.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES P. HOLMES, of Gouverneur, in the county of St. Lawrence and State of New York, have invented a new and Improved Breast-Strap for Horses; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification.

The invention consists in forming a stiffener for the inside of flexible breast-straps out of several metallic plates or strips hinged together so that the breast-strip will be flexible and may adjust itself easily to the various sizes of shoulders in different horses without changing the points of bearing thereon.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my invention with a portion of the covering removed. Fig. 2 represents a sectional elevation of the stiffener B.

A in the drawing represents my breast-strap, provided with the stiffener, made of metal or other material, which consists of plates having main hinges b b^1 b^1 and auxiliary hinges b^2 b^2 . The front B^1 of my breast-strap is curved downwardly so as to avoid the possibility of

pressure upon the throat of the animal, while the sides are raised at B^2 B^2 to avoid pressure upon the point of each shoulder. The rear parts B^3 B^3 are then downwardly inclined to correspond to the direction of the lines of draft. This construction throws the strain upon the breast and between the apex of shoulder and neck, and thus gives an opportunity to the horse for a free and unobstructed exercise of his muscular power.

These stiffeners are open generally to the objection of rigidity and consequent friction that chafes the animal; but this difficulty is entirely overcome by forming them of a series of hinged plates.

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

A metallic stiffener for breast-straps, composed of a series of hinged plates, as and for the purpose described.

CHAS. P. HOLMES.

Witnesses:

CHAS. A. PETTIT,
SOLON C. KEMON.