(No Model.)

S. A. NOLEN.

BRIDLE.

No. 457,364. Patented Aug. 11, 1891.

Fig. 1.

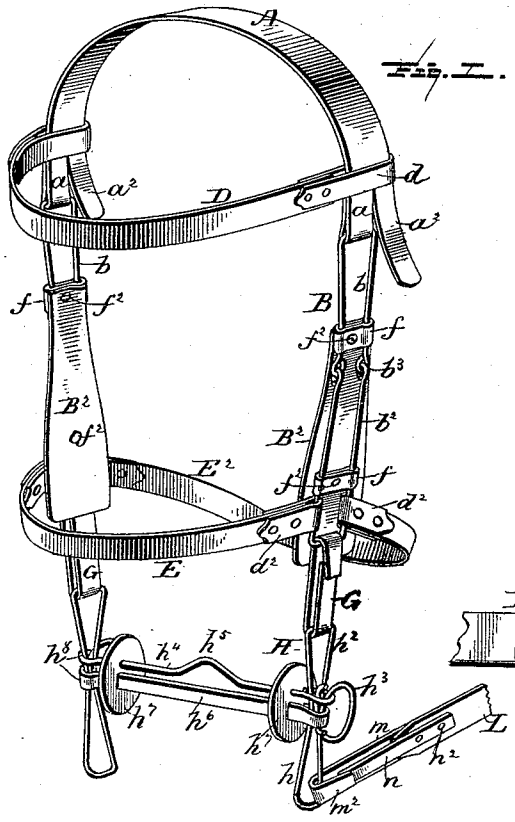


Fig. 2.

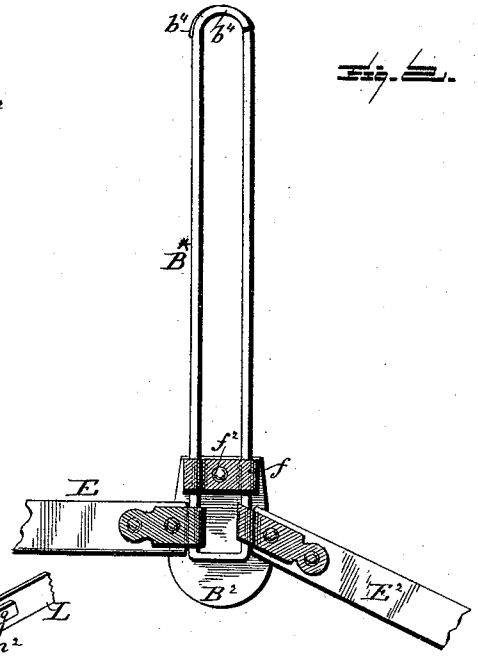


Fig. 3.

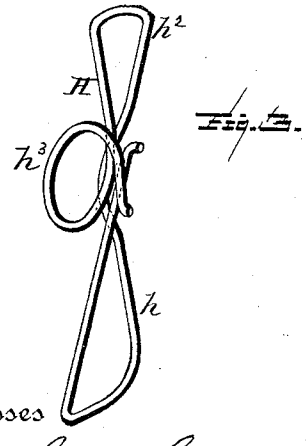
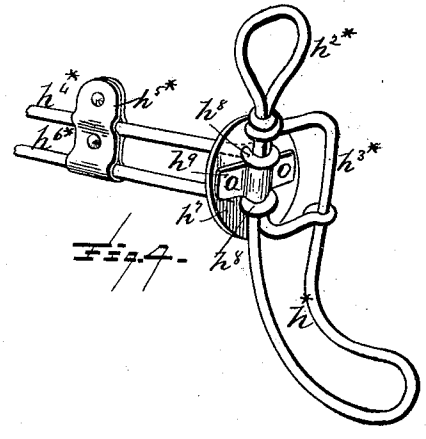


Fig. 4.



Witnesses

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BRIDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 457,364, dated August 11, 1891.

Application filed April 13, 1891. Serial No. 388,743. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, STEPHEN A. NOLEN, a citizen of the United States, residing at McCrory, in the county of Woodruff, State of Arkansas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Bridles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to certain improvements in the connecting parts used to unite the bands or straps of the bridle together and to the bit and from the latter to the reins, whereby nearly all stitching of said bands is dispensed with and the amount of labor required in constructing a complete bridle is reduced.

Heretofore the ends of the brow-band of bridles have generally been looped to receive the head-band. The nose-band has also been looped at each end or riveted to the cheek-straps and the bit has been made with one or two bars riveted to the side bars thereof.

The object of my improvement is to provide cheek-pieces of looped wires, a bit having its sides of looped wires, and a rein connection formed of two tongues with the rein clasped between and riveted thereto. I attain these objects by the construction illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of a bridle constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 represents a modified form of wire cheek-pieces. Fig. 3 represents one of the looped wires forming one side of the bit. Fig. 4 is a modification of one of the looped wires and part of bit.

In said drawings, A represents the head-band. It has its ends split to form two short straps, of which the strap a is looped around the upper end of the looped wire or wires B, forming the cheek-pieces, and the straps a^2 to be united with the throat-latch.

To connect the brow-band D with the head-band, the ends of said brow-band are provided with looped sheet-metal straps d, that are riveted thereto and receive said ends of the brow-band.

To connect the head-band A with the bit, the cheek-pieces B are used. They consist, as shown in Fig. 1, of two looped wires b and b^2, having their inner ends provided with eyes b^3, that interlock with each other to form a flexible joint. The two branches of the loop b are furthermore connected together by sheet-metal clasps f, that encircle them adjacent to their eyes b^3, and the branches of the loop b^2 are connected together by similar sheet-metal clasps f immediately above the position occupied by the nose-band E.

To protect the cheeks of the animal against the jointed eyes b^3 or the joints of the nose-band E or of the chin-band E^2 with the cheek-pieces, strips or pads of leather B^2 are secured to the inner side of the clasps f by rivets f^2 passing through them. The ends of the nose-band and of the chin-band are connected to the branches of the looped wire b^2 by means of sheet-metal straps d^2, that are riveted to said bands.

To connect the cheek-pieces to the bit, links or snap-hooks G are used, and they are preferably made of a single strip of bent-over sheet-steel, as shown. Each side H of the bit consists of a wire bent over to form a bottom loop h, a top loop h^2, and a ring h^3, nearly halfway between said loops.

The bit proper consists of two bars. The upper bar h^4 is cylindrical, but bent upward in the middle at h^5. The lower bar h^6 is flat, but with its edges rounded off. Upon the bars h^4 h^6 are placed the disks h^7, that unite them and protect the sides of the animal's mouth, and the ends of said bars are looped at h^8 and made to clasp and unite together the ends and middle portion of the wire forming the sides H.

In the modification shown in Fig. 2 the cheek-pieces are formed of a single looped wire B^*, the upper ends of which are bent to form hooks b^4, that overlap each other and are adapted to be received together in the looped ends a of the head-band. The lower portion carries a sheet-metal clasp f, to the inner side of which is riveted a small leather pad B^2.

To rapidly connect the rein L with the bit of the bridle, each end of said rein is provided on one side with a flat tongue m, having a hooked end m^2, and on the other side with a flat tongue n, having its free end in engagement within the hooked end of the other, the leather of the rein being between said tongues and united thereto by rivets n^2, as shown.

In Fig. 4 the bends given to the side wire of the bit are slightly modified in form, and there is shown also a small sheet-metal strap h^9 to connect the disk h^7 with the wire h^* and a sheet-metal tongue h^{5*} to project upward on the middle of the bit-bar h^{4*}.

Having now fully described my invention, I claim—

1. In a bridle, the combination of the head-band and bit with cheek-pieces consisting of parallel wires having their ends retained together and bent over, connecting-links G, uniting said cheek-pieces and bit, and the clasp *f*, secured to the wire cheek-pieces and to the lining-pads, substantially as described.

2. In a bridle, the combination of the head-band, the cheek-pieces consisting of looped wires, links pendent therefrom, and a bit having each side consisting of a wire bent to obtain a bottom loop h^*, a top loop h^{2*}, and a ring h^{3*} between said loops with connecting-bars h^{4*} h^{6*}, substantially as described.

3. In a bridle, the combination of the head-band, the cheek-pieces consisting of looped wires, the nose-band having its ends connecting to the wire cheek-pieces by sheet-metal straps d^2, riveted to said nose-band, and a bit connected to the wire cheek-pieces, substantially as described.

4. In a bridle, the combination of the head-band, the cheek-pieces consisting of looped wires, leather pads B^2, and clasps *f*, secured to the wire cheek-pieces, substantially as described.

5. In a bridle, the combination of the head-band, the cheek-pieces consisting of looped wires, the bit having each side consisting of a wire bent in the form of a top loop, a bottom loop, and a ring between said loops, and a rein connection consisting of a flat tongue *m*, having a hooked end, a flat tongue *n*, and a rein secured between said tongues by rivets, substantially as described.

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

STEPHEN A. NOLEN.

Witnesses:
W. B. FAKES,
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