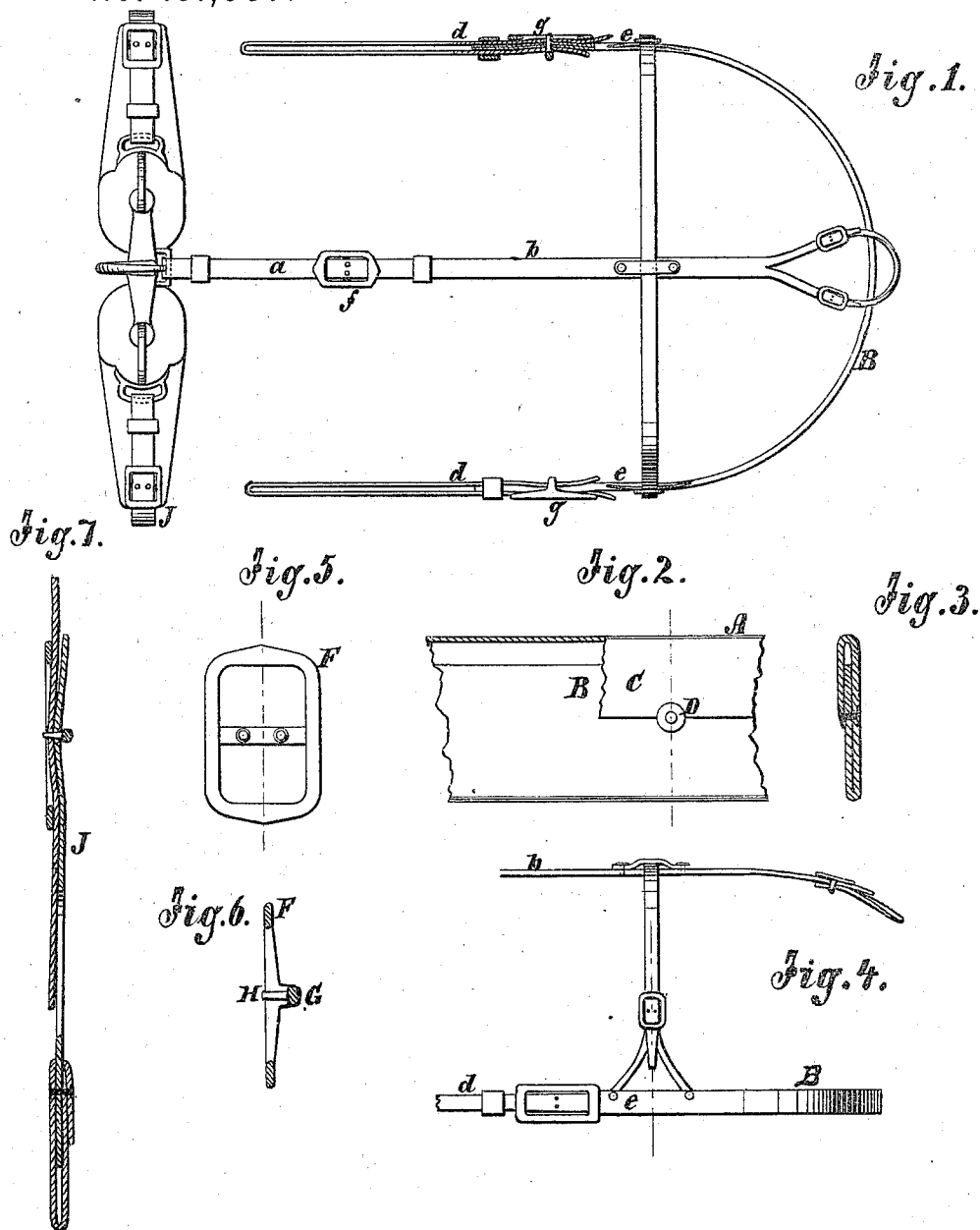


M. E. ABBEY.

Improvement in Harness.

No. 131,987.

Patented Oct. 8, 1872.



Witnesses:

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MASON ELLIS ABBEY, OF SARDIS, MISSISSIPPI.

IMPROVEMENT IN HARNESS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 131,987, dated October 8, 1872.

CASE B.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, MASON E. ABBEY, of Sardis, county of Panola, State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Harness, of which the following is a specification:

It consists of an arrangement of the side and back-straps of the breeching for lengthening and shortening, to adjust the breeching for large or small horses.

Figure 1 is a plan view of a saddle and the breeching of a harness, showing my improvements in adjusting the breeching; Fig. 2 is a side elevation of part of a trace, showing my improved mode of forming them; Fig. 3 is a cross-section of Fig. 2 on the line *xx*; Fig. 4 is a side elevation of part of Fig. 1; Fig. 5 is a plan of a buckle I propose to use in the place of ordinary harness-buckles for fastening my improved straps and girths; Fig. 6 is a section of Fig. 5; and Fig. 7 is a longitudinal section of the back-strap.

For making the traces A, breeching-straps B, and other straps requiring several plies to obtain the necessary strength, I propose to take wide straps, somewhat more than twice the width of the strap I want when completed, or in any number of layers, as I may want them, and fold it as shown in Fig. 2, lapping the margins B and C, running them through rollers to crease them, and thereby prevent them from unfolding, and securing them by rivets and washers D, introduced at suitable intervals along the straps lengthwise. I also propose to fasten the loops of all the straps where they are connected to rings, buckles, or metal loops, with rivets, and thus make har-

ness without sewing. This mode of making straps is also applicable for making belting.

For adjusting the breeching to adapt it to large or suitable horses, I have the back-straps of the breeching in two parts, *a b*, and the side straps also in two parts, *d e*, connected by buckles *f* and *g*, so that they can be readily lengthened and shortened by taking up or letting out the straps; and thus I am enabled to adapt this part of the harness, which, as I suppose, has never before been made adjustable, to horses of different sizes, as well as the other parts.

J represents the back-strap and girth.

The buckles I use are made of the oblong rectangular or approximately rectangular form represented at F, in Figs. 5 and 6, with the cross-bar G at the minor axis in the lengthwise direction but arranged laterally from the plane of the frame F about the thickness of the straps it is intended for, with the two stud-pins H extending about to the plane of the side of the frame F, opposite to the one on which said bar G is placed. This buckle is all made by casting and in one piece, so as to be very cheap. The straps are buckled on it in the manner shown in Fig. 7, and are very securely fastened.

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

A wide strap for traces, breeching, and analogous uses made with margins B C, lapped and secured by rivets and washers, as described.

MASON ELLIS ABBEY.

Witnesses:

P. U. MOORE,
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