

(No Model.)

R. W. EVANS.
BRIDLE.

No. 579,341.

Patented Mar. 23, 1897.

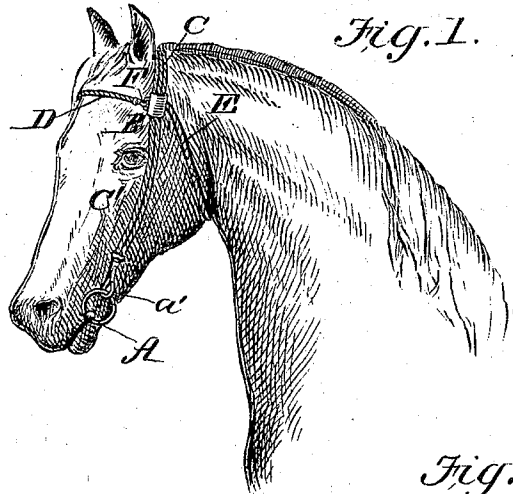


Fig. 2.

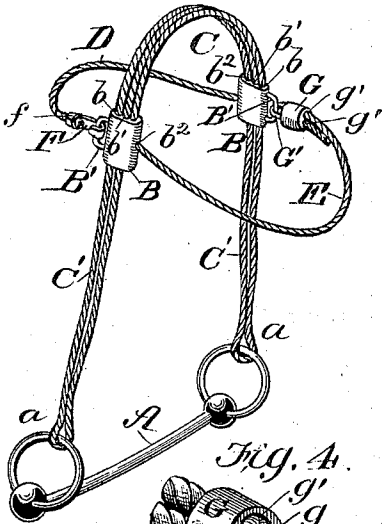


Fig. 3.

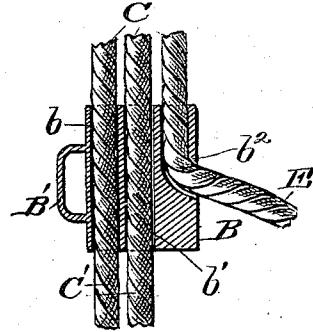


Fig. 5.



Fig. 4.

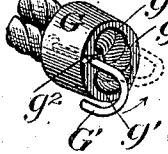
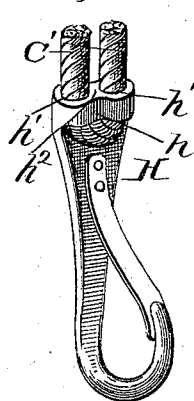


Fig. 6.



WITNESSES:

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RICHARD W. EVANS, OF BAIRD, MISSISSIPPI.

BRIDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 579,341, dated March 23, 1897.

Application filed June 5, 1896. Serial No. 594,392. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, RICHARD W. EVANS, of Baird, in the county of Sunflower and State of Mississippi, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Bridles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention is an improvement in bridles, seeking to provide a simple and efficient construction of bridle especially adapted for work-harness, but which may be employed in riding or driving bridles and which may be quickly adjusted to any suitable size and may be made in connection with the fittings of material always at hand on an ordinary plantation; and the invention consists in certain novel constructions, combinations, and arrangements of parts, as will be hereinafter described, and pointed out in the claims.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the bridle as in use. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the bridle complete. Fig. 3 is a detail view of one of the side fittings. Fig. 4 is a detail view of the throat-latch hook. Fig. 5 is a detail view of the brow-band hook, and Fig. 6 is a detail view of the snap-hook for connecting the side strap with the bit.

The bridle is usually formed of cotton rope, such as is usually used for plow-lines and is commonly on hand on farms and plantations, but other kinds of line may be employed, and, if desired, fancy woven or colored lines may be employed in making fancy riding or driving bridles, and lines of any desired size may be employed, the fittings presently described being adapted to receive the same.

The bit A may be as shown or of any other suitable form or construction, and the side portion or strap at one side may be looped through the ring of the bit, as shown at *a*, or the snap-hook connection (shown at *a'*) may be employed at one or both sides, as may be preferred.

The side or main fittings B are alike in construction, and the description of one will answer for both. The fitting B is preferably a light casting flattened to properly rest against the side of the animal's head and provided with longitudinal channels *b b'* and a laterally-opening channel *b²*. The channels *b b'* extend entirely through the fitting from end to end of same, while the channel *b²* opens out of

one end, the upper end of the fitting, extends for a short distance in a longitudinal direction, and then branches off and opens laterally out of the edge of the fitting at a point about midway between the ends of the same. The fitting also has at one edge a staple B', forming a bearing for engagement by a connecting-hook on either the brow-band or the throat-latch, as the case may be, and this staple B' is preferably located, as shown, on the edge of the fitting opposite that out of which the channel *b²* opens.

The fittings B receive the cord or rope and permit its disposition to form the head portion C, side portions C', brow-band D, and throat-latch E, as shown most clearly in Fig. 2. In so disposing the rope the fittings may be placed side by side and reversed, with their respective staples B' projecting in opposite directions. The free end of the rope may then be passed down through the channel *b²* of one fitting, with its free end left sufficiently long to form the brow-band with the hook F at its extremity. The other end of the rope may then be carried and passed down through the channel *b* of the other fitting and brought up through the channel *b'*, carried thence down through the channel *b'* of the first fitting, then up through the channel *b* of first fitting, and over and down and out through the laterally-opening channel *b²* of the second fitting, the free end being disposed to form the throat-latch and receiving the fitting G. This disposition of the rope forms a threefold head portion, twofold side portions, and the single-fold throat-latch and brow-band; but it will be understood that the particular manner of disposing the rope and passing it through the side fittings may be varied without departing from some of the broad principles of my invention, comprising the rope or line and suitable fittings, whereby the length of rope can be disposed to form the different parts of the bridle, it being understood that the brow-band hook and the throat-latch hook engage the staple of the opposite side fitting. One or both of the side portions receives the snap-hook H, adapted to snap into the bit-ring and having its main portions *h* provided with the pair of channels *h'*, and the intermediate partition *h²* receiving the loop of rope and permitting its ad-

justment to secure the desired size of the
bridle.

The brow-band hook F has a portion *f*,
which may be bent to clasp the end of the
5 brow-band and may be forced open and reap-
plied to the same or another brow-band, as
may be desired, the part *f* being made of mal-
leable metal, and so being capable of being
spread and pressed together a number of
10 times without destroying its usefulness:

The fitting G on the throat-latch has a main
portion *g*, provided with channels *g'*, and an
intervening partition *g''*, such channels re-
ceiving the end of the throat-latch and per-
15 mitting its adjustment to suit the size of the
animal. The hook G' is swiveled to the por-
tion *g* and may be turned into alinement
therewith, when the hook will be closed and
form practically a safety-hook, or may be
20 turned out of such alinement to permit the
adjustment of the rope and also to permit the
catching of the hook into and out of its staple.

All the fittings, except the brow-band hook,
can be readily slipped by the fingers to ad-
25 just the bridle as may be desired. Where
desired, blinds may be attached, but they are
not used to a great extent on work-stock.

With the described fittings any farmer can
make his bridle out of plow-line or similar
30 rope, no buckles, seams, or rivets being re-
quired.

In practice the side fittings and other metal
parts can be made of any suitable size and in
any design, fanciful or otherwise, that may be
35 desired.

The throat-latch may fasten with swivel
hook-piece, as shown in Fig. 4, or with the
channeled snap shown in Fig. 6.

The side straps preferably connect with
40 bit on both sides by the channeled snap.

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

1. The herein-described bridle, consisting
of the side fittings each having two longitudi- 45
nally-extended channels and one channel
which opens at one end out of the top of the
fitting and at its other end laterally out of
one edge of said fitting, such fitting having
50 at its edge opposite said lateral opening a
staple or bearing for engagement by a hook,
and the strand of rope passing through said
three channels of the side fittings and dis-
posed to form the three-part head-band and
55 the two-part side portions and having its free
ends carried out through the lateral openings
of the side fittings and disposed to form the
brow-band and the throat-latch, said band
and latch having at their free ends hooks to
60 engage the bearings of the fitting opposite
that from which such latch and band extend,
substantially as shown and described.

2. In a bridle substantially as described, a
side fitting provided with two longitudinally- 65
extended channels opening out of the oppo-
site ends of the fitting and a third channel
opening at one end of the fitting and at its
other end laterally out of an edge of the fit-
ting, and having at its edge opposite said lat- 70
eral opening a keeper or bearing for engage-
ment by a hook on a connecting-strap, sub-
stantially as shown and described.

3. A bridle comprising the side fittings hav-
ing two downwardly-opening channels and a
channel for the throat-latch and brow-band 75
and the rope disposed in said fittings and hav-
ing portions passing downward through one
downwardly-opening channel and up through
the other and looped between said channels
for connection with the bit, substantially as 80
shown and described.

RICHARD W. EVANS.

Witnesses:

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W. E. McMAHON.