No. 895,419. PATENTED AUG. 11, 1908.

J. S. BRISTOL.

DRIVING BIT.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 7, 1907.

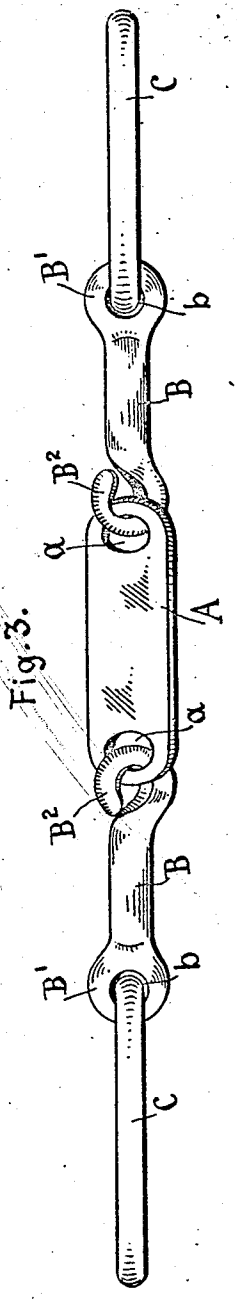


Fig. 3.

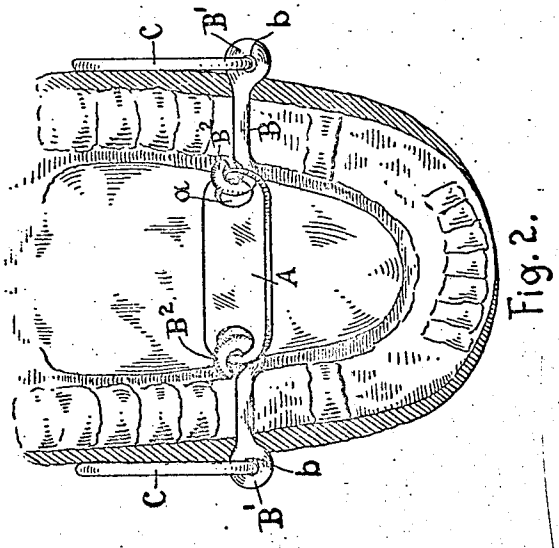


Fig. 2.

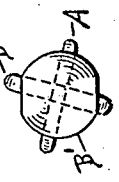


Fig. 4.

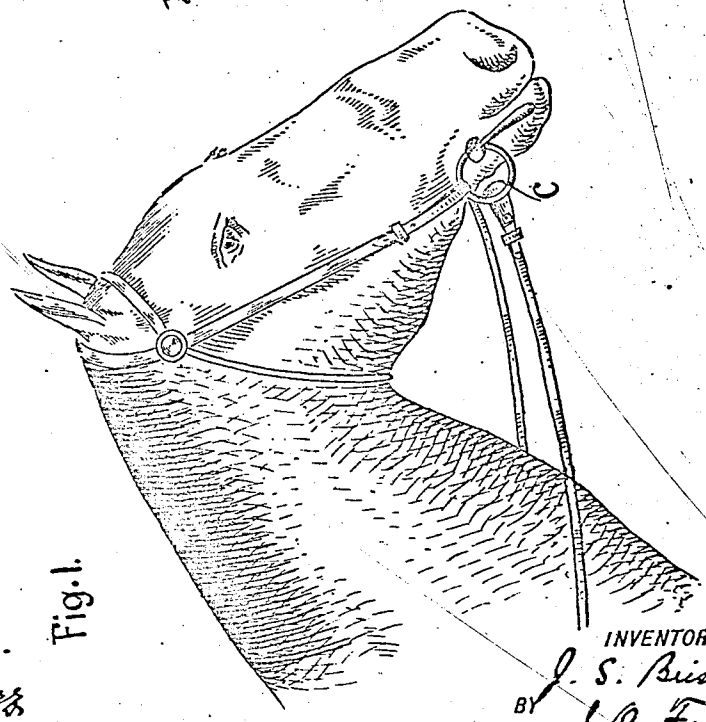


Fig. 1.

WITNESSES

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DRIVING-BIT.

No. 895,419. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Aug. 11, 1908.

Application filed October 7, 1907. Serial No. 396,353.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JOHN S. BRISTOL, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of New York, in the county and State of New York, have invented a certain new and useful Driving-Bit, of which the following is a specification, the same being 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.

This invention relates to bridle bits, and in particular to flexible bits so constructed as to conform in contour with the conformation of the horse's mouth, whereby the bit is fitted to the lower jaw and is prevented from being pulled laterally through the mouth, and also whereby the tissues will not be torn or the mouth of the animal otherwise injured when it becomes necessary to restrain the animal by pressure on the tongue and gum of the lower jaw, and it has for its object to produce a bit of the kind described which will be of simple construction, inexpensive to manufacture, and which will operate reliably.

To attain the desired end, this, my invention, consists in the construction, arrangement and operation of novel devices hereinafter set forth.

In order to enable the invention to be fully understood, I shall proceed to explain the same by reference to the drawings, illustrative of one embodiment of the invention, which accompany and form a part of this specification, and in which

Figure 1 represents a view of my driving bit as worn by a horse; Fig. 2 is a view of the lower jaw of the animal showing the location of the bit, Fig. 3 is a perspective view of my driving bit, and Fig. 4 is an end view of my link, the rein rings being omitted.

Referring particularly by reference characters or symbols to the drawings, A denotes a flat bar formed with orifices *a* at or near each end thereof, constructed and arranged to lie on the tongue of the horse. B are links to connect the bar A with the rings C into which the head stall and reins are buckled.

Each link B is made with a loop or ring B^2 at one end, and a knob or head B′ at the other extremity, the latter having a bore *b* the axis or median line of which is at an angle to the plane of the ring B^2, the plane of the plate or bar A also lying at an angle to the plane of the ring, in order that when the bit is adjusted in the horse's mouth and the reins are attached to the rings C, the plate A will hang in a slightly downwardly extending direction.

By reference to Figs. 2 and 3, and particularly to Fig. 4, it will be seen that the ring or loop B^2 at the end of the link B is twisted around or bent sidewise somewhat so as to lie at an acute angle to the vertical longitudinal plane of the said link B the axis of the bore in the link for the rein ring being at an angle to the axis of the said loop.

The bit will thus be seen to fit the bars, tongue and the lips, inasmuch as the center bar A lies flat so as to rest on the tongue and hold it down, and the two links B are held at a little angle from the bar, and extend somewhat downward, and lie against the bars and the cheeks. The bit may therefore be worn by the horse without any discomfort, and when it becomes necessary to restrain the animal by pulling on the reins, the pressure on the sensitive nerves of the cheeks, bars and tongue will at once distract the attention of the horse to such an extent that he will immediately become tractable and the pressure may be almost instantly released again.

This bit forms a very comfortable bit for the horse at all times, as it not only, as stated, fits the mouth of the animal and has no knobs or projections to rub against the roof of the mouth, but it is humane as well, for the reason that it never moves from the tongue, and being held on each side between the bars and the cheeks, it pulls up against the teeth upon any undue pulling action on the reins, and therefore cannot be pulled sidewise out of the horse's mouth, whereby any danger of tearing any of the tissues of the mouth is avoided.

I wish it to be understood that I do not desire to be limited to the exact details of construction shown and described, for, obviously, modifications will occur to a person skilled in the art.

What I claim as my invention is:—

A driving bit consisting of a flat plate having orifices near the ends thereof, and a plurality of links each having a loop twisted or bent sidewise to engage the said orifices, whereby the flat plate may be normally held

at an acute angle to the vertical longitudinal plane of the links the axes of the bores in the links for the rein rings being at an angle to the axes of the said loops to cause the said plate to rest upon the flat of the tongue.

In testimony of the foregoing specification, I do hereby sign the same in the city of New York county of New York and State of New York this twenty-sixth day of August 1907.

JOHN S. BRISTOL.

Witnesses:
ROB. SCHWARZ,
J. ODELL FOWLER.