

(No Model.)

B. M. JOHNSON.
BRIDLE BIT.

No. 470,051.

Patented Mar. 1, 1892.

Fig. 1.

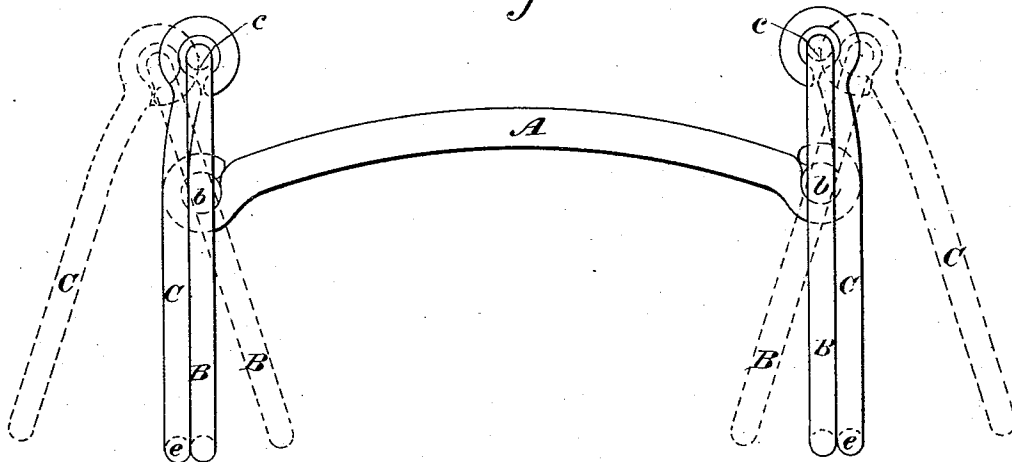


Fig. 2.

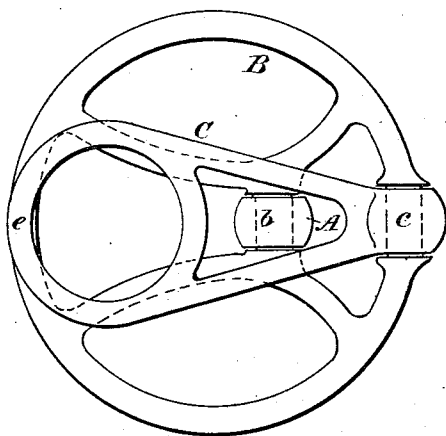
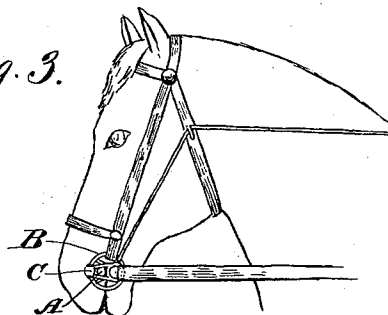


Fig. 3.



WITNESSES:

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BERNT M. JOHNSON, OF RACINE, WISCONSIN, ASSIGNOR TO HIMSELF, FREDERICK W. BOUCE, AND GEORGE GORTON, OF SAME PLACE.

BRIDLE-BIT.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 470,051, dated March 1, 1892.

Application filed July 18, 1891. Serial No. 399,907. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BERNT M. JOHNSON, of Racine, in the county of Racine and State of Wisconsin, have invented a new and useful
5 Improvement in Bridle-Bits, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description.

This invention relates to bridle-bits and their cheek or end ring attachments and means for connection of the reins with the bit; and it
10 consists in a novel construction of the same in which not only the cheek-rings are pivoted to the bit-bar, which is a single one, but said rings, that may be used to produce pressure when required on the sides of the lower jaw
15 of the animal at option of the driver, have also pivoted to them independent rein-pieces to control the action of the rings and bit generally, substantially as hereinafter described, and more particularly pointed out in the
20 claims.

Reference is to be had to the accompanying drawings, forming a part of this specification, in which similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

25 Figure 1 represents a top or plan view of a bridle-bit embodying my invention; Fig. 2, an end view of the same, and Fig. 3 is a view showing the bit as connected with the head-stall and reins and as applied to the head and
30 mouth of a horse.

A indicates the bit-bar, made in one piece or length, and B B the cheek-rings, pivoted, as at *b*, at or near their centers, but preferably a little in advance of their centers, to the
35 ends of the bar, so as to permit of their being thrown inward against the cheeks or sides of the lower jaw of the animal when required. Pivoted or hinged to each of these rings on the front portion of their rims, as at *c*, is an
40 independent metal rein-piece C, which may be in the form of a loop for connection of the end of the rein with its back or free end. These hinged rein-pieces are made sufficiently long to extend across or beyond the pivots *b*
45 of the rings, and preferably so that they reach wholly across said rings when shut down against or on the latter. Said pivoted rein-pieces, as well as the rings with their attached pivots *b c*, may all be of cast metal
50 and of any desired plain or ornamental pattern and be readily and cheaply applied to

the bit-bar; but I do not restrict myself to any particular mode of manufacture or fastening of the bit-bar and its pivoted attachments of cheek-rings and rein-pieces.

55 By this construction of the bridle-bit it is only necessary when the animal being ridden or driven is not a vicious one or one requiring a hard check to close the pivoted or hinged rein-pieces C down against the outer faces of the pivoted rings B, as shown by full lines in the drawings and more clearly represented
60 by full lines in Fig. 1, when the ends of the reins may be applied to unite the free ends *e* of the loop or rein-pieces C with the inner portion of the rim of the rings B, so that in pulling on the reins the pull will be a direct one or substantially at right angles to the
65 bit-bar, which will prevent the cheek-rings from pressing on the sides of the lower jaw of the animal to check it, and the hinged rein-pieces C will present no objectionable protrusion from the faces of the cheek-rings, but, as viewed from either end, the bit will present
70 a neat, compact, and flat appearance. In case, however, of a vicious or horse hard to check, then the ends of the reins will be attached exclusively to the back or free ends *e* of the
75 pivoted rein-pieces C, in which case in pulling on the reins the pivoted rein-pieces C will be drawn outward at their free ends and the inner portion of the rim of the rings B will be forced inward to press against either or both
80 sides of the lower jaw of the animal, as shown by dotted lines in Fig. 1, and this in a most effective yet easy or free manner by reason
85 of the pieces to which the reins are attached being made independently movable—that is, pivoted, hinged, or jointed to the laterally-tilting cheek rings or pieces ahead of the bit
90 or in front of the bit-bar—and having an independent lateral movement on said rings.

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

95 1. In a bridle-bit, the combination, with the bit-bar, of laterally-tilting cheek pieces or rings on the ends of said bar and independent laterally-movable rein-pieces pivotally connected with the forward portions of said rings
100 and controlling the latter, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the bit-bar A, of the laterally-tilting check pieces or rings B, pivoted on the ends of said bar, and the independent laterally-movable rein pieces or loops
5 C, pivoted on the forward portions of said rings and constructed to close down or inward against or toward the outer faces of said rings in close proximity at their free ends to the inner marginal portions or rims of the rings and to open outward therefrom, essentially as shown and described, and for the purposes herein set forth. 10

BERNT M. JOHNSON.

Witnesses:

JNO. W. KNIGHT,
A. L. ANDERSON.