

B. A. DENNIS.
Check-Rein Guides for Bridles.

No. 214,554.

Patented April 22, 1879.

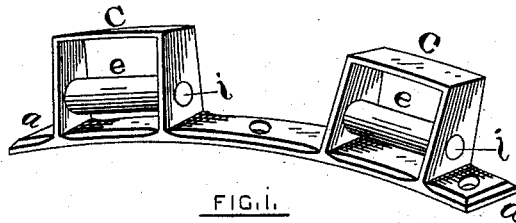


FIG. 1.

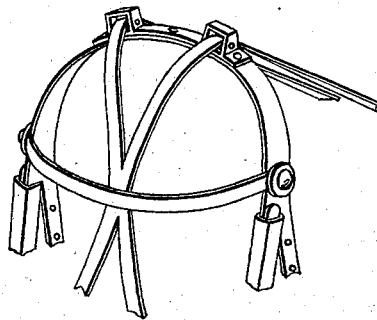


FIG. 2.

ATTEST,

INVENTOR,

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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IMPROVEMENT IN CHECK-REIN GUIDES FOR BRIDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **214,554**, dated April 22, 1879; application filed August 1, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, BENJAMIN A. DENNIS, of Pawtucket, in the county of Providence and State of Rhode Island, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Overdraw Check-Rein Guides for Bridles; and I do hereby declare that the following specification, taken in connection with the drawings furnished and forming a part of the same, is a clear, true, and complete description thereof.

Heretofore leather loops have been combined with and mounted upon the crown-bands of bridles for use with an overdraw check-rein; but these do not hold the reins from contact with the adjacent portions of the head of the horse, and more or less chafing results from their use. To obviate this, base-plates provided with vertical standards have been devised for affording an elevated support for the check-rein. Some of these have been straight on the upper edge from end to end, and rounded laterally for contact with a flat check-rein, and others have been provided with circular apertures for the reception of a round check-rein. If either of this class be of sufficient height to properly elevate the check-rein from the head of the horse, they are liable to tip forward or backward, and be retained in those positions by the angular bend in the check-rein at its point of contact with the guide, said reins being usually so adjusted as to be under considerable tension. When these standards are thus tipped backward or forward, the reins are not maintained out of chafing contact, and, what is worse than this, one edge or the other of the base-plates, or the edge of the crown-band on which they are mounted, is pressed upon the head of the horse, and speedily chafes it raw.

Now, the object of my invention is to attain the requisite height of standard, and obviate all liability of its tipping backward or forward; and my invention consists, mainly, in the combination, with a bridle crown-band, of an overdraw check-rein guide-loop, composed of a double standard mounted on a base-plate, and provided with a pivoted bearing or seat for the check-rein between the sides of the standard, whereby the standard is prevented from tipping to front or rear, and held in that position by the angle of the check-rein. These pivotal

bearings for the check-rein are preferably in the form of a roller; and as my guide-loops are capable of being readily attached without the aid of a saddler, my invention further consists in an overdraw check-rein guide-loop consisting of a base-plate adapted to be secured to the crown-band of a bridle, two standards connected at the top, constituting a frame, and a roller mounted therein on an axis which is parallel to the base-plate.

To more particularly describe my invention, I will refer to the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the guide-loop frames or standards which contain the rollers on which the check-rein bears. Fig. 2 is a view of a bridle with my guide-loops attached.

The base-plate *a* may be made to accommodate two double standards or frames, *c*, curved in the manner shown; or, as is preferable, each standard may be provided with its individual plate. The two standards are connected at the top by a cross-bar, usually formed solidly with the standards. Each of these standards or frames, with its roller *e*, constitutes a guide-loop. The roller is mounted on an axis, *i*, which is parallel with the base-plate, and said axis is preferably a separate pin or rod, although it may be cast solidly with the roller; but when the pins are used the rollers may be cast hollow, and their weight be thereby reduced to a minimum.

It will be seen that the upper surface of each roller is sufficiently elevated above the lower surface of the crown-band to maintain the check-rein so far above the head of the horse that it cannot chafe; and that the easily-turning roller, acting as a pivotal point of contact with the rein, prevents the standard from tipping forward or backward, as before set forth.

I am well aware that roller-loops have heretofore been employed on straps pendent from the crown-band on each side for supporting side check-reins, which, in use, are particularly liable to run to and fro in the check-hook, and therefore run more or less through the roller-loops. These prior roller-loops are, however, of an entirely different construction from those herein shown, and are incapable of be-

ing mounted on the crown-band, because they have no base-plate which is parallel with the axis of the roller, and, so far as my knowledge extends, mine are the first which have that construction.

As heretofore applied, rollers in guide-loops for check-reins do not serve to prevent chafing of the horse's head, but merely permit the rein to run freely therein; but on the other hand the roller in my loop not only permits such limited free movement as is possible in an overdraw check-rein longitudinally, but prevents the standard in which it is mounted from tipping to the front or the rear, thus not only assuring the maintenance of the rein at a proper height above the head to prevent chafing, but it also prevents the standards from being so tipped and held in the angle of the check-rein at its bearing on the roller that the edge of the plate or the corresponding edge of the crown-band will be presented in chafing contact with the head of the horse.

I desire it to be distinctly understood that I herein make no claim, broadly, to two guide-loops mounted on one base-plate; but

What I do claim is—

1. The combination, with a bridle crown-band, of an overdraw check-rein guide composed of a double standard mounted on a base-plate, and a pivoted bearing or seat for the check-rein between the sides of the standard, substantially as described, whereby the standard is prevented from tipping to front or rear, and held in that position by the angle of the check-rein under tension, as set forth.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, an overdraw check-rein guide consisting of a base-plate adapted to be secured to the crown-band of a bridle, two standards on said plate, connected together at the top, constituting a frame, and a roller mounted therein on an axis parallel with the base-plate, substantially as shown and described.

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Witnesses:

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