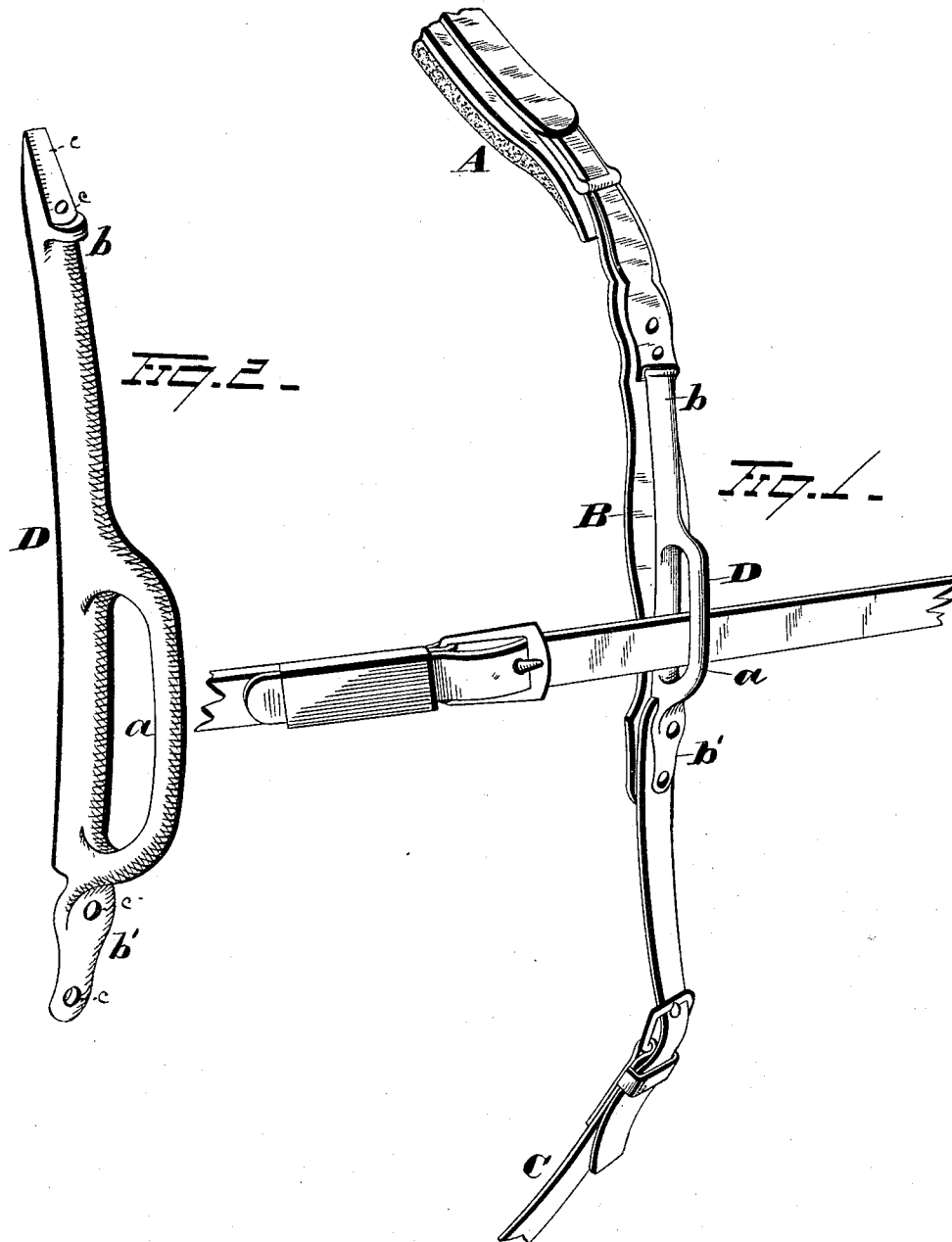


(No Model.)

M. A. BROWNING.  
TRACE BEARER FOR HARNESS.

No. 266,603.

Patented Oct. 31, 1882.



WITNESSES.  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

MANFORD A. BROWNING, OF ATTICA, INDIANA.

## TRACE-BEARER FOR HARNESS.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 266,603, dated October 31, 1882.

Application filed April 24, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, MANFORD A. BROWNING, of Attica, in the county of Fountain and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Trace-Bearers for Harness; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it pertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to an improvement in trace-bearers for harness, the object of the same being to provide a cheap, durable, and ornamental metallic device adapted to take the place of the ordinary leather loops now employed for the same purpose; and with these ends in view my invention consists in certain details in construction and combinations of parts, as will be more fully described, and pointed out in the claim.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view, showing my improved device attached to a harness, and Fig. 2 is a detached view of the same.

A represents the saddle; B, the saddle-skirt; C, the belly-band billet, and D the trace-bearer. This trace-bearer D is made of any suitable metal, and consists of the loop *a* for the passage of the trace, and with the arms or extensions *b b'*, by which the device is secured in position. The upper extremity of the arm *b* is considerably diminished in size, and is provided with one or more rivet-holes, *c*, through which rivets pass to secure it in position, while the lower arm is also provided with similar holes for securing the lower end of the device in position.

The bearer D can be made of any suitable metal, and can be highly ornamented or polished, and thereby add greatly to the general appearance of the harness. It is only necessary that the loop *a* be large enough to enable the trace or tug to be easily introduced therein without allowing it any unnecessary movement.

The bearer is slightly curved, so that the rear face thereof will conform to the shape of the horse.

The upper end of the bearer D is riveted between the outer and inner pieces of the saddle A, while the remaining portion of the said

bearer or carrier continues downward and bears throughout its entire length on the saddle-skirt B. The extreme lower end of the skirt B and the upper end of the billet C are riveted to the lower arm, *b'*, in the position shown—*i. e.*, the billet between the skirt and bearer—or vice versa. By this means the use of seams is obviated, while at the same time the bearer prevents the tug from rubbing against the skirt and wearing the same away, or constantly destroying or defacing the surface thereof.

My improved device can be manufactured at a small initial cost, is susceptible of fine plating, or of being highly polished or ornamented, which will add greatly to the appearance of the whole harness, is durable in use, and effectually prevents the trace from rising up and chafing the horse.

I am aware that a trace bearer or support has been made of metal and secured to the back-strap by a rivet located at the center of the bearer or support, and by a strap inserted through loops formed at the upper and lower ends of the bearer; and hence I make no claim to such a device. In my improvement no strap is used for retaining the trace-bearer against displacement, as the upper and lower ends are perforated and riveted to the saddle-skirt and belly-band billet, thereby dispensing with an extra holding-strap, and also dispensing with buckles for fastening the belly-band in place.

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

The combination, with the saddle-skirt and belly-band billet, of the metallic trace-bearer, constructed in a single piece and provided with perforated upper end riveted to the saddle-skirt, and with perforated lower end riveted to the belly-band billet, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I have signed this specification in the presence of two subscribing witnesses.

MANFORD A. BROWNING.

Witnesses:

WILL B. REED,  
ALONZO ROBY.