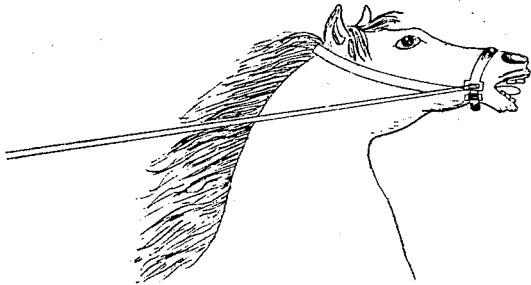


*A. Le Plongeur,*

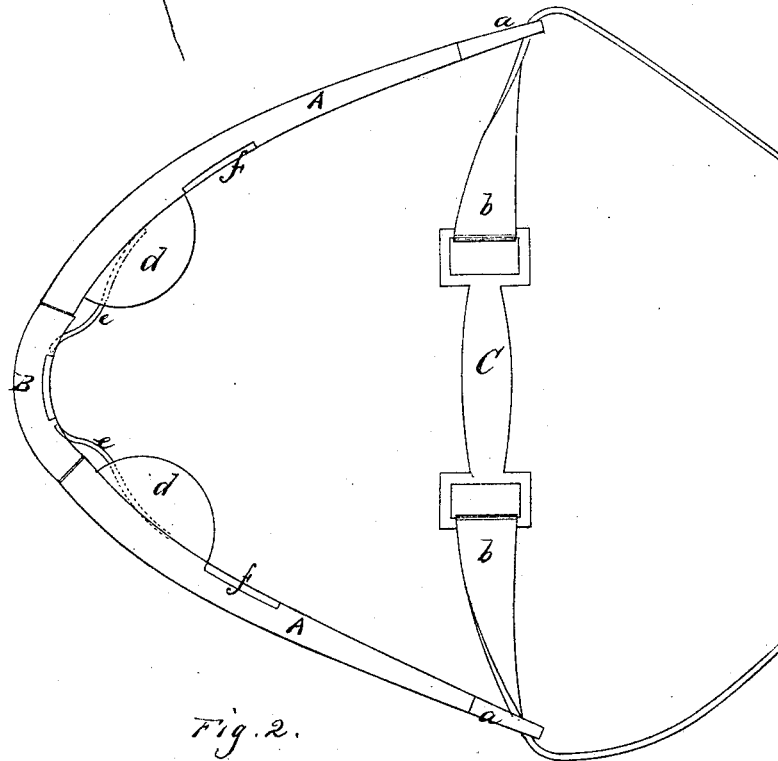
*Halter.*

*No. 109431.*

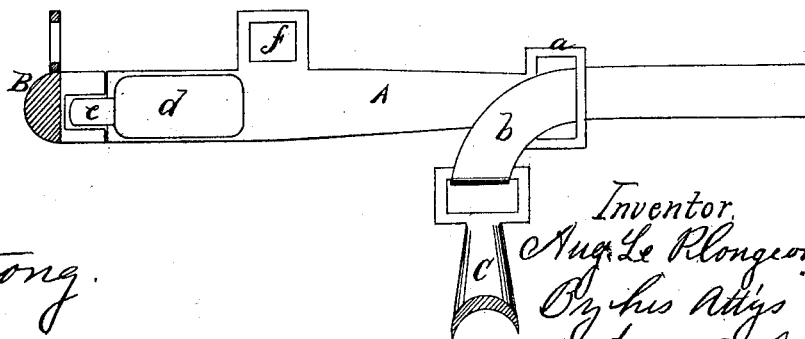
*Patented Nov. 22. 1870.*



*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses.*  
*Geo. H. Strong.*

*Inventor.*  
*Aug. Le Plongeur.*  
*By his Attys.*  
*Dewey & Co.*

# United States Patent Office.

AUGUSTUS LE PLONGEON, OF SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA.

Letters Patent No. 109,431, dated November 22, 1870.

## IMPROVEMENT IN HALTERS FOR HORSES.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

*To all whom it may concern :*

Be it known that I, AUGUSTUS LE PLONGEON, of the city and county of San Francisco, State of California, have invented an Improved Safety-Halter for Horses; and I do hereby declare the following description and accompanying drawing are sufficient to enable any person skilled in the art or science to which it most nearly appertains to make and use my said invention or improvement without further invention or experiment.

My invention relates to an improved halter for horses, by means of which an unruly horse can be almost instantly quieted, and a runaway horse stopped; and

It consists of a peculiarly constructed nose-band, which will at once, upon drawing upon the reins with which it is connected, both close the nostrils and mouth of the horse, and, by stopping his breathing, immediately conquer him.

In order to explain my invention so that others will be able to understand its construction and operation, reference is had to the accompanying drawing, in which—

A A represent two slightly curved cheek-pieces or levers, which may be made of metal or any other suitable material.

B is what we will call the nose-piece, which is made of the same material as the cheek-pieces A.

This nose-piece is curved, so as to fit over the horse's nose just above the nostrils, acting as a fulcrum, and one end of each cheek-piece is hinged at each of its ends, as shown, so as to embrace the cheeks of the horse upon each side.

At the opposite end of the cheek-pieces is a strap-buckle or square, *a*, through which the rein-straps pass.

C is a curved jaw-piece, also made of the same material as the pieces A and B.

This piece fits under the lower jaw, and acts, also, as a fulcrum for the cheek-pieces, and has attached at each end a rein or strap, *b*, which passes through the rings *a* on the cheek-pieces, and thence to the hands of the rider or driver.

Circular knobs or projections *d* are secured on the inside of the cheek-pieces near their hinged end, in the proper position for clamping upon each side of the nostrils of the horse when the reins are drawn upon, and by closing them, prevent him from breathing.

Springs *e* are secured to the cheek-pieces between the knobs *d*, and project over the joint so as to bear upon the ends of the nose-piece B, and thus keep the cheek-pieces extended and in place.

This nose-band is secured upon the horse's head by means of suitable halter head-gear, which is attached to the squares *f*.

The reins or straps *b* can, if desired, pass through the body of the usual bridle-reins, or one separate rein can be used, as most convenient, and must be passed through the martingale, which acts as a third fulcrum to draw the horse's head down upon his breast at the same time that the clamp is applied.

When a horse is provided with this halter, should he become unruly, the rider or driver can, by drawing upon the reins *b*, close the cheek-pieces firmly against the lower jaw, thus effectually closing his mouth and rendering him decidedly incapable of any further foolishness; but when the reins are released, the springs *e* throw the cheek-pieces back to their original position and relieve the horse from the pressure of the knobs and jaw-piece.

Having thus described my invention,

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

The combination of the nose-piece B, curved cheek-pieces A A, provided with knobs *d d*, curved jaw-piece C, and closing-strap B B, all constructed to operate as shown and described, for the purpose set forth.

In witness that the above-described invention is claimed by me, I have hereunto set my hand and seal.

AUGUSTUS LE PLONGEON. [L. s.]

Witnesses:

JOHN L. BOONE,

GERALD FITZGERALD.