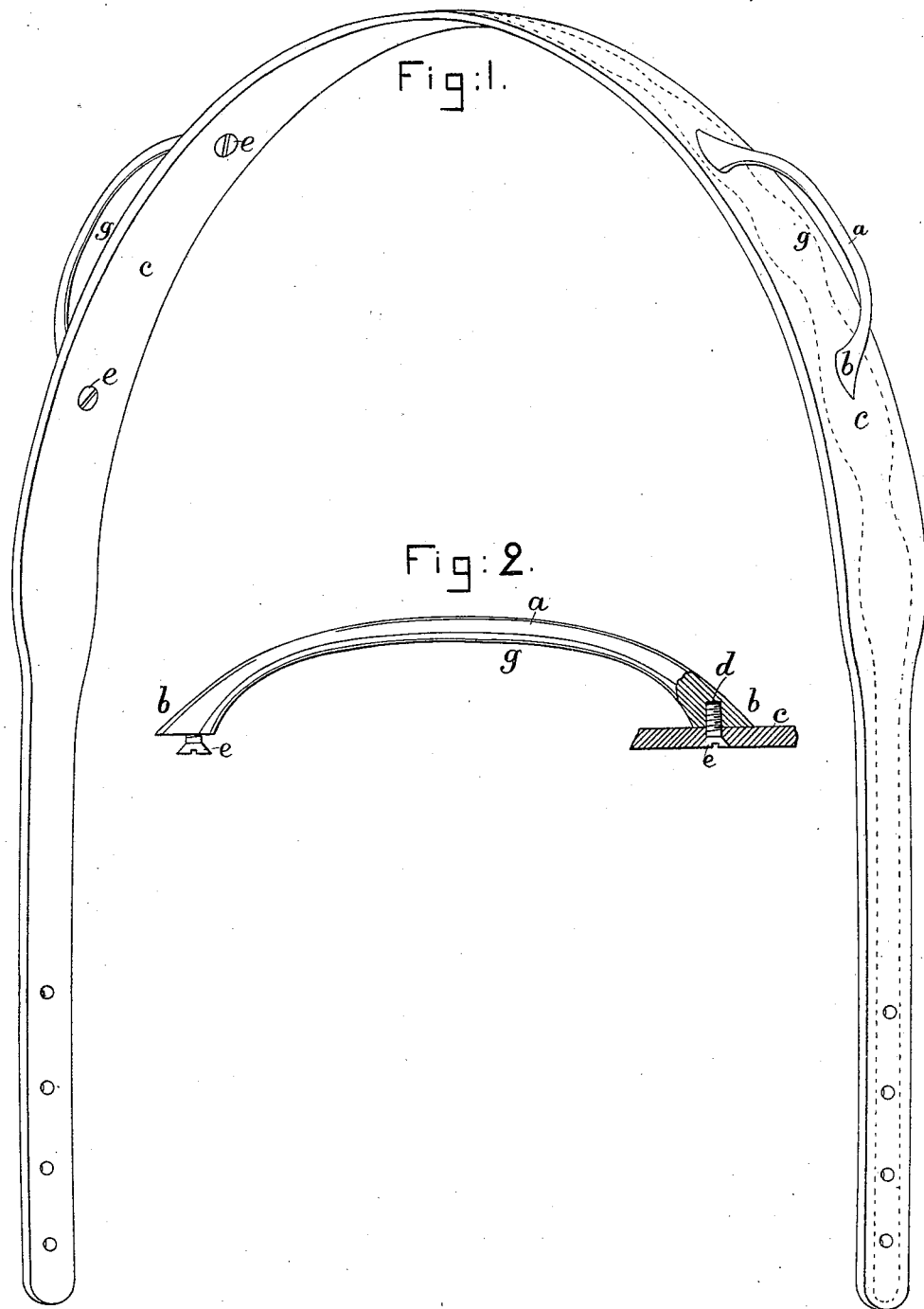


C. T. GRILLEY.
Rein-Supporters.

No. 217,688.

Patented July 22, 1879.



Witnesses.
A. E. Whitney.
J. F. Brown

Inventor.
Charles T. Grilley.
By Crosby & Morgan Attys

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES T. GRILLEY, OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS.

IMPROVEMENT IN REIN-SUPPORTERS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **217,688**, dated July 22, 1879; application filed June 16, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHAS. T. GRILLEY, of Boston, county of Suffolk, State of Massachusetts, have invented an Improvement in Rein-Supporters, of which the following description, in connection with the accompanying drawings, is a specification.

This invention relates to supports for driving-reins, whereby they are prevented from dropping or sagging so as to be caught upon the ends of the shafts or parts of the harness; and consists in a metallic rein-support shaped to resemble an arch, and having ends to bear upon the neck-strap of the breast-collar, the said ends being provided at their under sides with screw-threaded holes to receive screws passed through the neck-strap from the under side, the said screws attaching the said supports firmly to the said strap.

Some manufacturers of harnesses provide the neck-strap at each side the shoulders of the horse with leather loops sewed to the said neck-straps to guide and support the reins; but said leather loops soon get out of shape by wear and the action of the weather, and become gummed by reason of oil, and the lines fail to render easily through them. These leather loops were used some years ago more frequently than now, their use at the present time being generally discarded because of sticking between the leather loop and rein.

Neck-straps have been provided with several standards riveted thereon, and connected at their upper ends by means of a metal band riveted upon the standards, the said band being extended over the withers of the horse for nearly the entire length of the neck-band; but such rim-supports are more expensive than mine, and cannot be as easily applied to a new or old harness, and when once applied are a fixture, for, being riveted on the strap, they cannot be changed in position.

Figure 1 represents, in perspective, a breast-collar neck-strap provided with my rein-supports; and Fig. 2, a side elevation of one of the rein-supports.

The rein-support *a* is shown as composed of a gracefully-curved arch of metal, having ends or enlarged bases *b* to rest upon the neck-

strap *c*, the said ends being of greater or less area and more or less ornamented. At their under faces the said ends have holes *d* tapped partially through the guides to receive the fine-threaded screws *e*, they being extended through the neck-strap into the said screw-holes, the said screws attaching the rein-supports firmly but removably to the said neck-strap.

These supports may be of metal, which may be coated or plated with silver, gold, or nickel, as usual, or be covered with leather, hard rubber, celluloid, or other usual material.

The space *g* between the support and the neck-strap is amply sufficient to permit the easy introduction of the reins, and allow them free play between the top or arch of the support and the back-strap.

These supports, besides being very useful and durable, may be easily applied by any person, and are highly ornamented, and, being attached by screws, may be so adjusted upon the neck-strap as to be placed in the proper position for a horse carrying his head either high or low, so that when driving the lines shall not act against the ends of the support to lift the neck-strap.

The under sides of the screw-heads are tapered, so that the force of the screw may easily embed its head below the surface of the inner side of the neck-strap, thereby preventing chafing or cutting the neck of the horse, as would be the case were it riveted to the strap.

I claim—

As an improved article of manufacture, a metallic rein-support, having its ends adapted to rest upon the upper side of the neck-strap, and provided with screw-threaded holes tapped into the said ends from their under sides to receive screws by which to attach the support to the neck-strap, substantially as described.

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

CHARLES T. GRILLEY.

Witnesses:

G. W. GREGORY,
JOS. P. LIVERMORE.