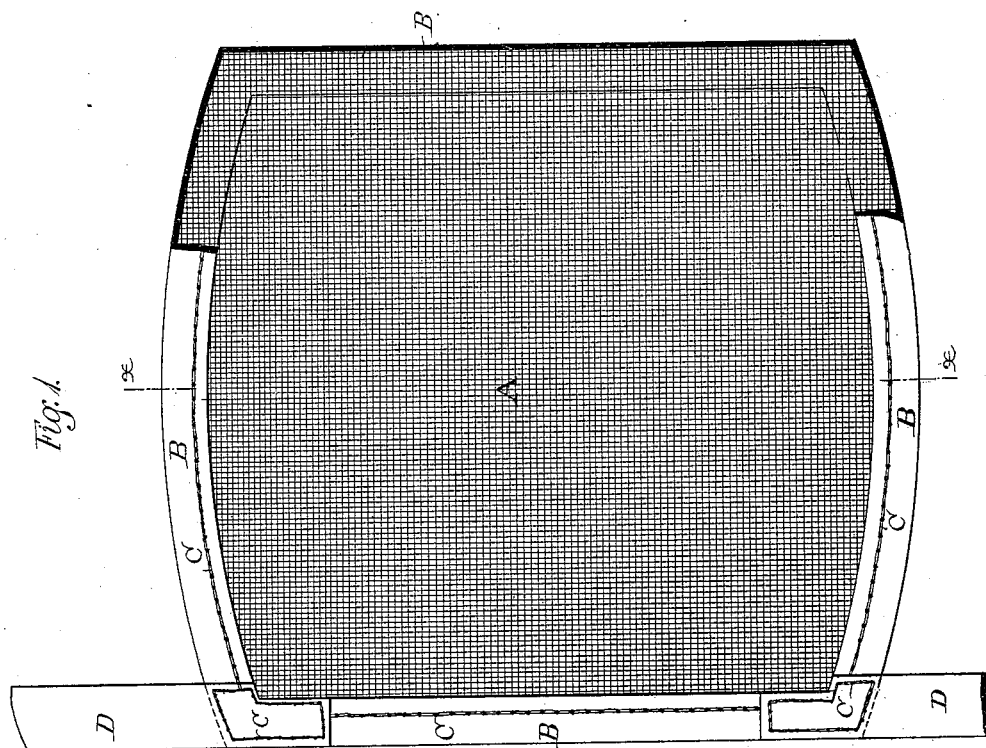
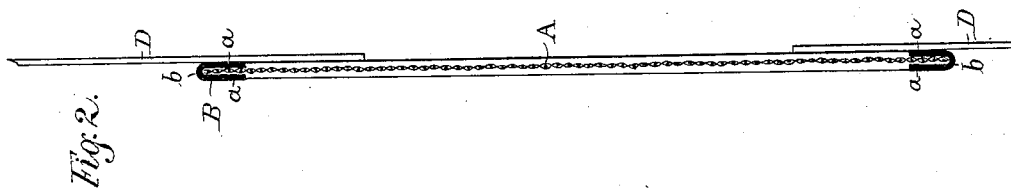


(No Model.)

W. W. BEACH.  
BLINDER FOR BRIDLES.

No. 347,862.

Patented Aug. 24, 1886.



WITNESSES:  
*Gunnwald As.*  
*John H. Fisher*

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

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## BLINDER FOR BRIDLES.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 347,862, dated August 24, 1886.

Application filed June 27, 1884. Serial No. 136,178. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, WILLIAM W. BEACH, of the city, county, and State of New York, have invented certain Improvements in Blind-  
5 ers or Winkers for Headstalls, Bridles, &c., of which the following is a specification.

The blinder or winker for harness in ordinary use is composed of leather or other solid material, and when in place upon the horse's  
10 head, and in the usual position with reference to the eyes of the animal, acts as a deflector, directing currents of air into the eyes of the animal, which impinge upon the eyes, and are more or less productive of harm, and, further-  
15 more, produce even greater mischief by carrying dust and other injurious particles into the eyes.

The object of my invention is to provide a blinder or winker of novel construction, which  
20 will serve all the purposes of the ordinary blinder or winker, and at the same time permit the currents of air to pass through the blinder or winker, thereby obviating the dangers incident to common blinders or winkers,  
25 as hereinbefore explained, my said invention being moreover, by slight modifications, capable of being employed as a protector over the eyes of the animal, permitting sufficient sight or vision therethrough for the wants of the  
30 animal, and at the same time preventing the access of strong currents of air and particles of dust and other injurious material to the eyes.

My said invention comprises certain novel means, hereinafter particularized in the claims,  
35 whereby said objects are effectually secured.

Figure 1 is a side view and partial sectional view of a blinder or winker made according to my said invention, and Fig. 2 is a trans-  
40 verse sectional view taken in the line *x x* of Fig. 1.

A is a piece or sheet of foraminated material, preferably of wire-cloth, which may be of any desired mesh or character—as, for ex-  
45 ample, from No. 10 mesh to No. 40 mesh, as such terms are understood in the wire-cloth trade.

In place of wire-cloth, and as an equivalent thereof, perforated sheet metal may be used. It is intended that the foraminated material,  
50 whether of wire-cloth or perforated sheet metal, shall be of such character that currents of air

may pass readily through the same and carry therewith particles of dust or grit that may be borne upon or with the said air-currents.

B is a surrounding rim, formed of leather or  
55 other equivalent substantially flexible material. The leather may be that usually designated "patent-leather" or any other suitable kind. The leather or like substantially flexible material is first formed into a strip of suit-  
60 able width, which is then folded upon the circumferential edge of the piece or sheet A, the lateral portions of the strip being upon the opposite sides of said circumferential portion of the piece or sheet A, as indicated at *a* in Fig.  
65 2, while the middle portion of said strip is folded over the rough edge of said piece or sheet, thereby not only protecting said rough edge, but also preventing the roughness of the  
70 said edge from being presented to sight or touch. The row C of stitching is sewed through the two side portions, *a*, of the rim B, and also through the openings or meshes of the piece  
75 or sheet A, thereby firmly and rigidly securing the said rim to the said piece or sheet.

It is to be observed that while the leather or equivalent material of which the rim B is composed is in a certain sense substantially flexible, yet it is designed to have sufficient rigidity and stiffness to retain the blinder or  
80 winker in shape under ordinary conditions.

The row C of stitching may be either of thread such as is ordinarily used in harness-  
work, or it may be of fine wire, and the sewing may be performed either by hand or by  
85 suitable machinery.

The blinder or winker as thus constructed may be attached to the headstall or bridle by any suitable means—as, for example, by straps  
90 D—answering to those of the ordinary blinder or winker, and attached in place by stitching C, or by any other suitable means. The rim B may be of any suitable width and diameter, and the sheet A may be of any required size or of any desired circumferential configu-  
95 ration.

I am aware that it has been proposed to construct protecting devices for the eyes of horses in connection with headstalls or bridles by inserting wire-cloth in an opening previously  
100 formed in a sheet of patent-leather; but such construction is open to very serious objection,

inasmuch as the leather removed in forming the opening is practically wasted, and the expense of constructing a device of such character is so great as to render it incapable of extended sale or use. Furthermore, such a construction leaves the edges of the device composed of raw edges of leather, which require ornamental stitching and staining to render them presentable to the eye, whereas in my invention a blinder or winker may be constructed at a much less cost than those in ordinary use, and a mere fraction of the cost of eye-protectors formed by inserting wire-cloth in an opening formed of sheet metal or material as aforesaid; and, furthermore, by means of my invention, the rounded surface *b* of the rim *B*, being continuous with the surface of the lateral portion *a* of said rim, provides an ornamental and secure covering for the ragged edges of the foraminated material without the

aid of any additional stitching, and consequently at a mere fraction of the expense which would be required if it were necessary to stitch the outer edges of the rim.

What I claim as my invention is—

As an improved article of manufacture, the blinder or winker for headstalls or bridles, composed of the metallic foraminated piece or sheet *A*, constituting the entire body portion, the rim *B*, of leather or like material, folded over and upon the circumferential edge of said piece or sheet, and a row, *C*, of stitching extended through the sides *a* of the said rim and through the openings or meshes of the foraminated material, all substantially as and for the purpose herein set forth.

WILLIAM W. BEACH.

Witnesses:

GUNVALD AAS,  
JOHN H. FISHER.