

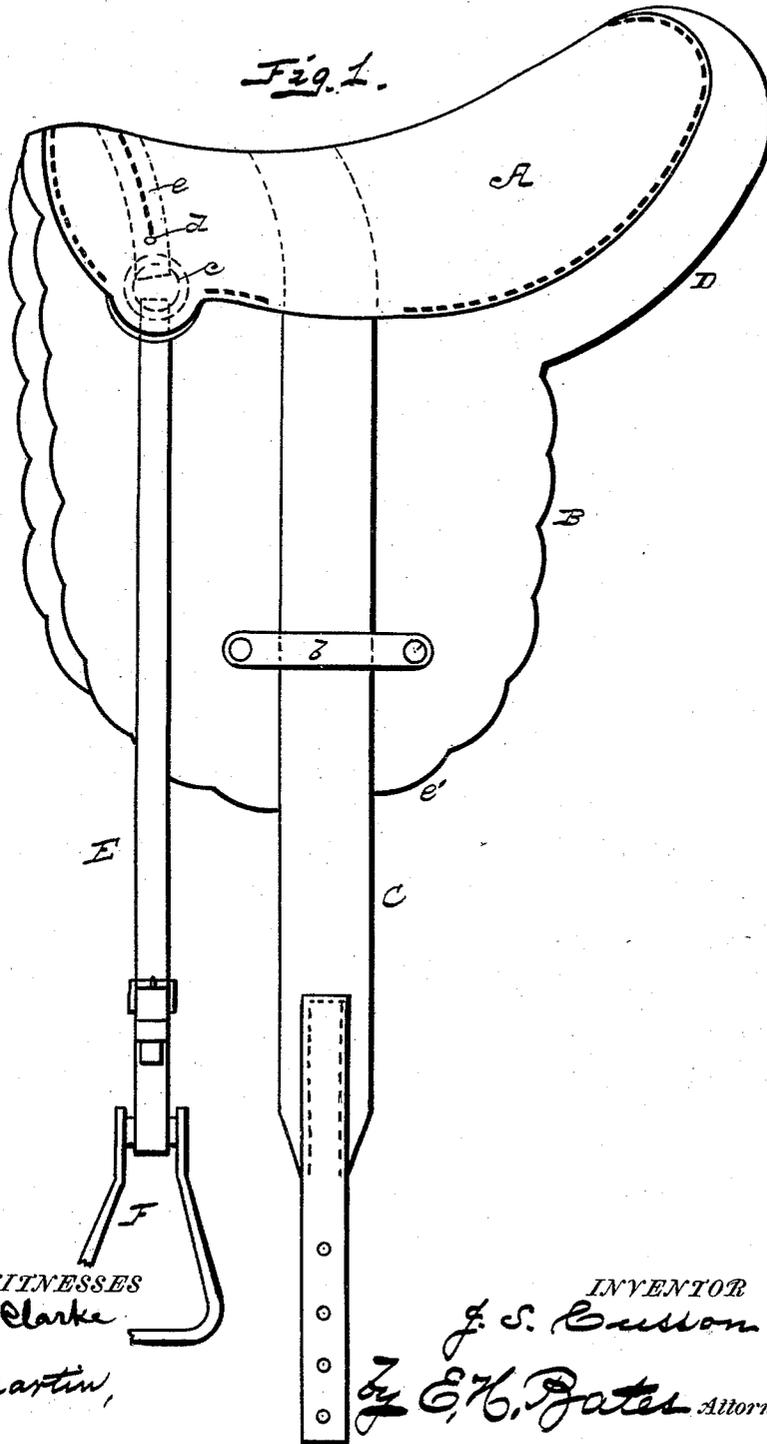
(No Model.)

2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

J. S. CUSSON.  
RIDING SADDLE.

No. 443,087.

Patented Dec. 23, 1890.



WITNESSES  
Jas. B. Clarke  
W. M. Martin,

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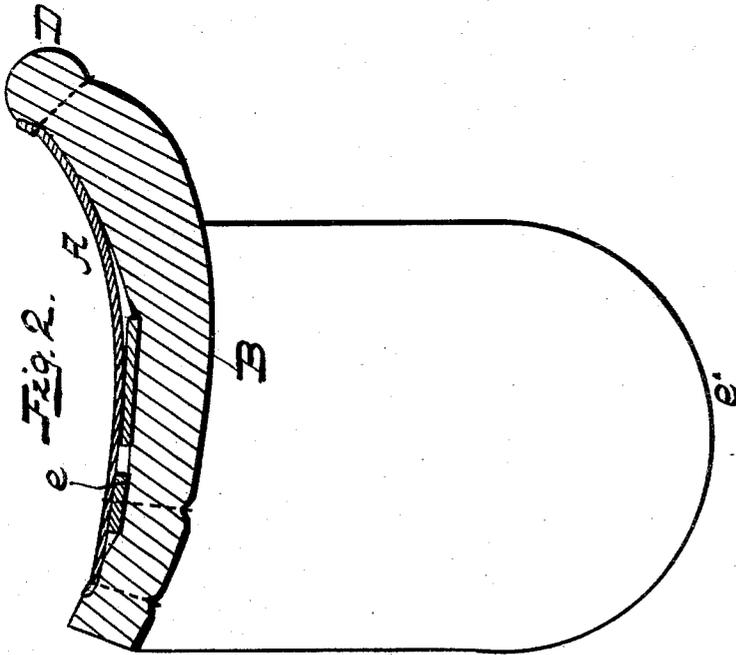
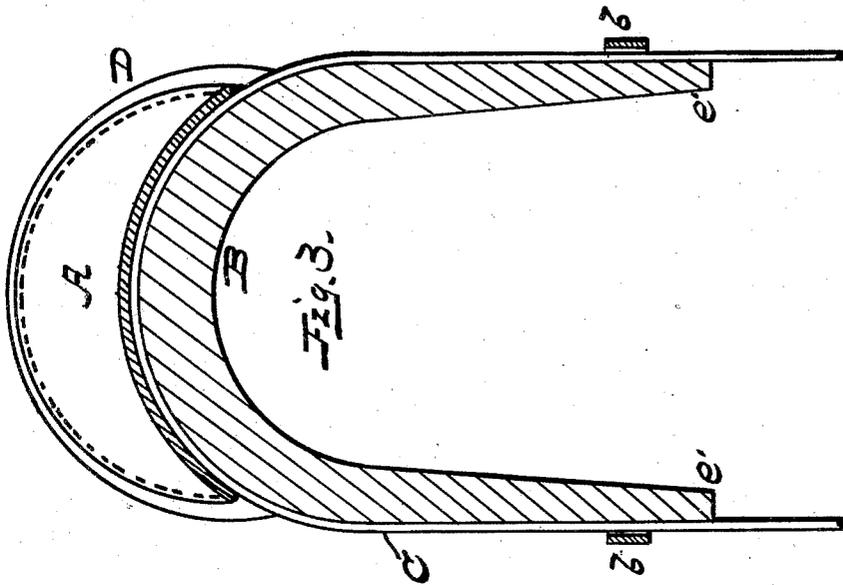
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WITNESSES  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAPHET S. CUSSON, OF FREDONIA, NEW YORK.

## RIDING-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 443,087, dated December 23, 1890.

Application filed September 18, 1890. Serial No. 365,437. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, JAPHET S. CUSSON, a citizen of the United States, residing at Fredonia, in the county of Chautauqua and State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Riding-Saddles; 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 appertains to make use the same.

My invention relates to a novel and valuable improvement in riding-saddles, the object of which is to afford a light, compact, and easy-riding saddle which will not gall the animal, but which will afford free ventilation beneath the seat of the rider, thus producing an improved article of manufacture.

I am aware that saddles for jockeys and other saddles have been padded to prevent injury to the horse's back, and also saddle-cloths, which are used in connection with ordinary riding-saddles, independent thereof and forming a separate article from said saddle; but my main object is to afford a light ventilating-seat wherein the leather seat and felt portion are one article, whereupon a horse's back is practically a saddle without the ordinary jockey appurtenances.

The improvements which I have made will be fully understood from the following description and claim, taken in connection with the annexed drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved saddle complete, with belly-band and stirrups attached. Fig. 2 is a vertical longitudinal section through my improved device; and Fig. 3 is a vertical transverse sectional view through the saddle proper, showing the skirting also in section and the passage for the belly-band.

Referring by letter to the accompanying drawings, A designates what I denominate the "seat" proper. This seat A is a piece of leather of suitable kind shaped like a saddle-seat and a transverse space between it and a felt portion B, for the passage of a belly-band C, which passes through it and also through the loop-straps *b* on the flaps or skirting of the cloth B, as clearly shown in Fig. 1 of the annexed drawings. Anterior to the

belly-band space the seat is rigidly and positively stitched to the felt B, and this saddle-leather is also stitched to the cloth posteriorly and along a rib or roll D, which constitutes the rear portion of the saddle. This rib or roll is formed of and constitutes an integral part of the felt portion of the saddle, which felt is properly thickened beneath the leather seat to fit comfortably the back of an animal.

In front of the passage of the saddle A and beneath the same and between it and the felt I firmly and rigidly rivet a transverse strap *a*, which is also stitched to the leather seat and felt, to which strap metal rings *c* are attached, and through which rings the straps E, bearing the stirrups F, are applied in the usual well-known adjustable manner.

It will be observed by reference to Fig. 1 that I make a row of stitching between the rivets *d d*, which stitching, combined with the rivets, fastening firmly and positively hold the stirrup-straps and prevent a tearing away of the saddle-seat or the felt.

I employ for the saddle a clothing composed of numerous thicknesses of felt, which felt is thickest under the seat-leather and terminates in a roll in rear thereof, the flaps of which taper from the leather seat, the thinnest portion being at *e'*, and is of itself a poor conductor of heat and which is elastic, yielding, and self-accommodating to the back of a horse, which is also sufficiently porous to afford free ventilation and sufficiently firm to receive and retain the rivets and stitching necessary to hold the leather seat in place; and it will be further seen that by my construction of a riding-saddle the felt and leather seat forms a complete riding-saddle, thus enabling me to dispense with sweat-cloths and the like.

It is obvious that the flaps or skirting and main body of the device may be ornamented to suit the fancy.

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

As an article of manufacture, the riding-saddle described, consisting of the main or felt portion and the seat portion, the latter stitched thereto, as shown, providing a leather

seat, the same having a transverse space be-  
neath the seat for the girth, and the girth  
loosely secured therein, and the strap inter-  
posed transversely between said seat and felt  
5 portion and provided with the rings for the  
stirrup-strap, said interposed strap stitched  
both to the seat and felt, all as shown and  
described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in  
presence of two witnesses.

JAPIET S. CUSSON.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM S. RANN,  
FRED W. PLATO.