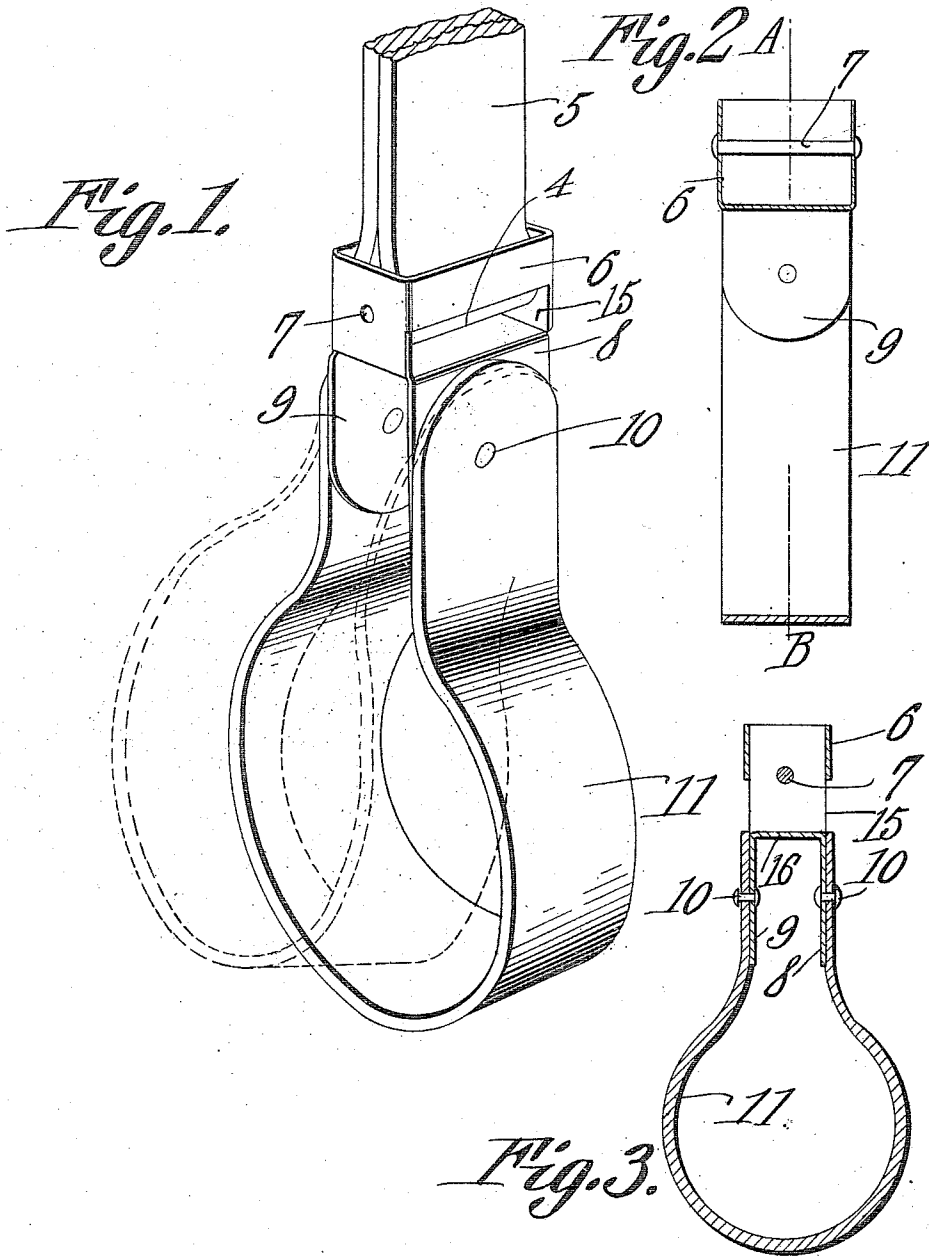


J. H. HARPER.
STIRRUP.

APPLICATION FILED DEC. 31, 1909.

985,799.

Patented Mar. 7, 1911.



Witnesses

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JAMES H. HARPER, OF BERNICE, LOUISIANA.

STIRRUP.

985,799.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Mar. 7, 1911.

Application filed December 31, 1909. Serial No. 535,829.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES H. HARPER, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bernice, in the parish of Union and State of Louisiana, have invented a new and useful Stirrup, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to stirrups and has for an object to provide a stirrup having a saddle strap clamp adapted to form a housing around the stirrup-engaging bend of the saddle strap and to connect the stirrup to the strap without twisting the strap.

The invention consists of certain novel details of construction and combination of parts which will be hereinafter more fully described and claimed.

In the accompanying drawing forming part of this specification,—Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved stirrup. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal sectional view through the stirrup. Fig. 3 is a transverse sectional view taken on the line A—B of Fig. 2.

One of the disadvantages found in stirrups heretofore constructed is that the stirrup engaging bend of the saddle strap is unprotected so that in portions of the country where a rider encounters a great deal of brush, the stirrup must be provided with a fender to protect the stirrup and saddle strap bend from injury. To obviate this difficulty I have provided a clamp which will engage the saddle strap bend and inclose the side, bottom and end faces of the same and to which a metal or other durable foot loop is pivotally connected and comfortably supports the foot of the rider.

Referring now to the drawing in which like characters of reference designate similar parts in the views shown, 4 designates the loop or bend of a saddle strap or stirrup leather 5 of the usual or any preferred construction. The subject matter of this invention includes a metallic clamp or casing 6 preferably rectangular and with its sides and ends inclosing the stirrup leather and its bottom 16 closed below the bend 5. A pivot here shown as a pin 7, extends through the casing and is secured at its ends therein, and intermediate its ends it passes through the bend of the strap as shown. Depending from the sides of the casing is a pair of ap-

proximately parallel ears 8 and 9 which are provided centrally with suitable openings 55 to receive the pivot pins 10 of the stirrup loop 11.

The stirrup loop 11 is preferably formed from a single broad band of metal, wood or like material bent into the shape shown in Fig. 3 and having its terminals drawn together into parallelism and pivoted by means of the pivot pins 10 to the ears 8 and 9, as shown. The pivotal movement of the loop permits of a comfortable position of the rider's foot in the stirrup and further permits of the foot being readily disengaged from the stirrup in cases of accident.

It will be noted that the loop lies in a plane at right angles to the plane of the ears 8 and 9 so that the saddle strap is not twisted when the stirrup is in its normal position. The saddle strap is thus maintained flat against the sweat leather of the saddle and easily slides back and forth thereover to conform to the movements of the horse. It will be further noted that the loop and clamp being preferably formed of metal, the stirrup is practically indestructible under ordinary conditions of service. With a stirrup of this kind the usual fender so commonly used to protect the stirrup in brush countries is unnecessary.

The lateral sides of the casing 6 loosely engage the lateral sides of the saddle strap bend, and prevent it from spreading to any considerable extent so that it will not be cracked by continuous bulging and narrowing under severe conditions of service.

In the sides of the casing 6 just above its closed bottom 16 I leave openings 15 parallel with the pivot 7. Without the use of the fender mentioned above (or even with it) dirt and mud will eventually accumulate within this casing, and these openings are obviously for the purpose of allowing it to escape. As the casing is open at the top, the entrance of rain will serve to wash out the accumulated dirt, whose presence might wear the strap.

What is claimed is:

A stirrup comprising a saddle strap having a bend in its lower end, a foot loop having parallel upper terminals, a clamp comprising a rectangular metal casing surrounding the bend of the strap and extending

across its bottom with the lower portion of
its sides left open and parallel ears de-
pending from said sides, pivots between said
ears and the terminals of the foot loop, and
5 a pivot extending through the casing paral-
lel with said openings therein and through
the bend of the strap.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing
as my own, I have hereto affixed my signa-
ture in the presence of two witnesses.

JAMES H. HARPER.

Witnesses:

F. E. NEWTON,
Y. S. FULLER.

Copies of this patent may be obtained for five cents each, by addressing the "Commissioner of Patents,
Washington, D. C."
