

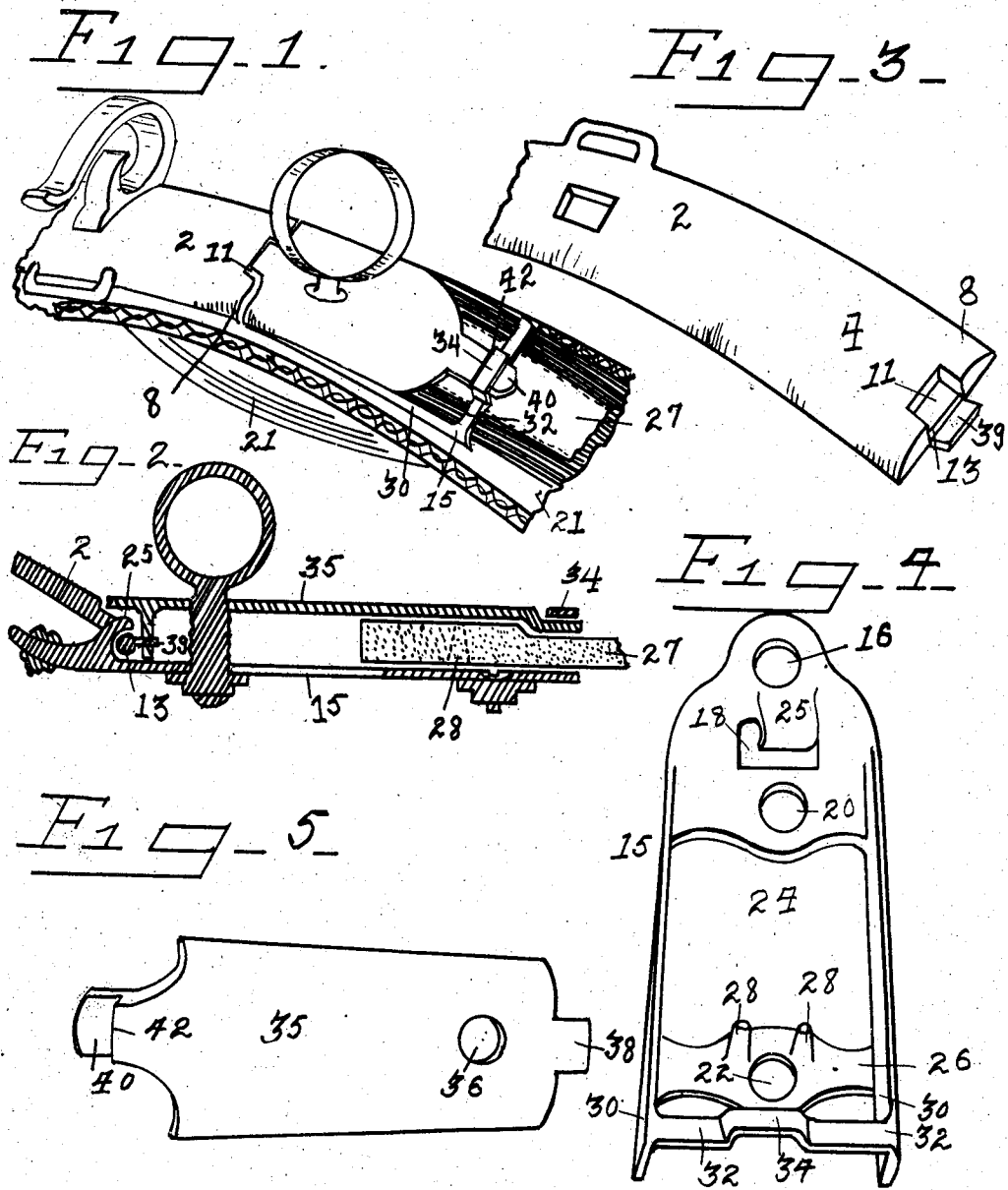
No. 834,201.

PATENTED OCT. 23, 1906.

C. H. GRINGS.
HARNESS PAD.

APPLICATION FILED OCT. 2, 1905.

2 SHEETS—SHEET 1.



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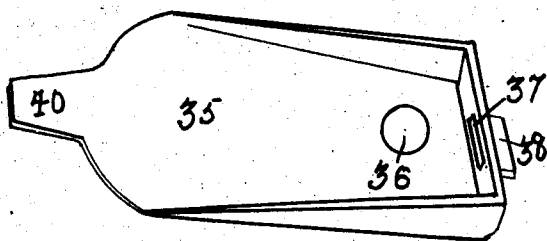
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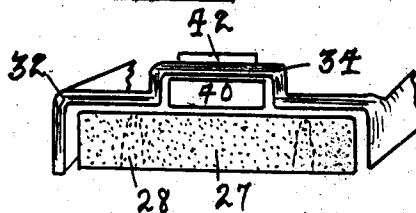
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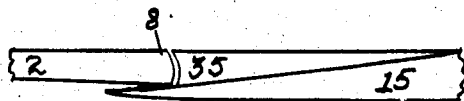
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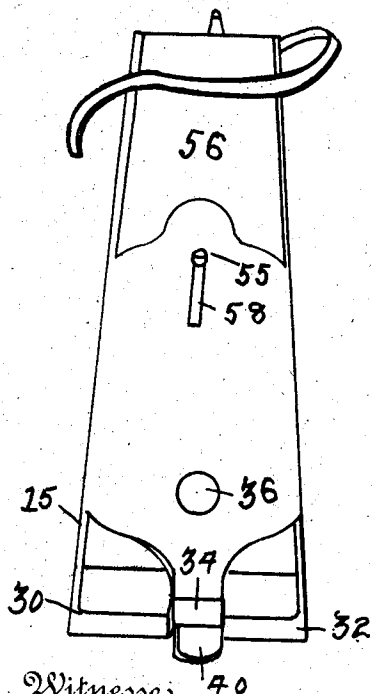
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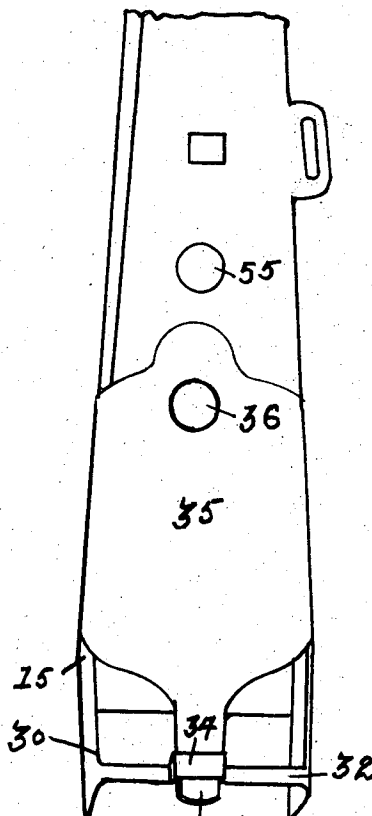
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CASPER H. GRINGS, OF DUBUQUE, IOWA, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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HARNESS-PAD.

No. 834,201.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Oct. 23, 1906.

Application filed October 2, 1905. Serial No. 280,955.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CASPER H. GRINGS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Dubuque, in the county of Dubuque and State of Iowa, have invented new and useful Improvements in Harness-Pads, of which the following is a specification.

The object of this invention is to so improve the construction of harness-saddles that they will be simple and inexpensive in the manufacture thereof, strong and durable, and artistic in contour and construction.

The following specification will specifically point out the mode of construction whereby the objects are accomplished, when taken in connection with the drawings accompanying the same and forming a part hereof.

Figure 1 is a perspective view of one-half of a saddle and pad embodying my invention. Fig. 2 is a longitudinal section of Fig. 1, taken through the center with pad removed. Fig. 3 is a perspective view of one-half of the yoke removed. Fig. 4 is a perspective view taken from the upper side of the lower plate of the jockey. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of the upper side of the upper plate of the jockey. Fig. 6 is a perspective view of the under side of the plate shown in Fig. 5. Fig. 7 is an end view of the jockey with the skirt therein. Fig. 8 is a side view of the device. Fig. 9 is a perspective view of the unjointed saddle with the jockey-plates secured. Fig. 10 is a perspective view of the yoke and the jockey when the yoke is made flexible.

Like numerals of reference denote corresponding parts in each of the figures.

The yoke 2 is preferably cast in one piece and having its upper surface 4 curved and slightly increasing in width from the center to its ends 8, which are preferably slightly rounded at their upper and lower edges for the purpose presently to appear. In each end is a rectangular recess 11, with a bar 13 disposed across the front of the recess integral therewith and on a plane with the lower surface of the end 8, but of less diameter than the thickness of the end.

The jockey consists of two plates. The under plate 15 is provided with the openings 16, 18, 20, and 22, and for the purpose of economy in material there is left a space 24. Through the openings 16 and 22 the plate is secured to the pad 21. A hook 25 integral

with the upper surface of the plate 15 projects above and partly across the opening 18 and is adapted to engage the bar 13 in the end of the yoke uniting the yoke to the jockey. This hook fills only part of the recess 11 over the bar 13, for the reason presently to appear. Integral with the cross-plate 26 of the plate 15 are two upright spuds or posts 28, which are set at practically right angles to the plate 26 and on opposite sides of the opening 22 near to the sides 30 of the plate and in a plane at right angles to the sides. The base of the plate 15 is in nearly a horizontal plane, but slightly curved upward at its forward end with its sides 30 gradually increasing in width from the front to the rear, as shown in Fig. 8. Across the top of the sides at their rear end extends a bar 32, which is bent into a loop 34 at its central portion. The under surface of the bar 32 is nearly in a horizontal plane, but slightly curved.

In Figs. 5 and 6 are shown the upper and under sides of the upper plate 35 of the jockey, which is slightly oval on its upper surface and dished on its under surface and is provided with a hole 36, a rectangular tongue 38 at its forward end, and a projection 40 at the opposite end. The projection 40 is provided with a shoulder 42. The end of the plate 35 from which the tongue 38 projects is at right angles with the plane of its base and of substantially the same thickness as the end 8 of the yoke 2. The tongue 38 is adapted to enter the recess 11 over the hook 25 and with the hook substantially fills the recess, making a smooth surface along the upper surface of the yoke and jockey, and thus concealing entirely the hook and all its movements. The outer end of the plate 35 is provided with the projection 40 and shoulder 42, which is a trifle thicker than the thickness of the loop 34 of the bar 32, and the projection 40 projects under the bar 32 through the loop 34 and practically fills the loop, making a plane surface along the under side of the bar 32 and the projection 40. By this mode of construction the upper surface of the yoke, the upper surface of the plate 35 of the jockey, with the tongue 38, and the upper surface of the bar 32 are substantially in the same plane, giving the saddle the appearance of one continued piece and a smooth

surface from the top of the yoke to the outer edge of the bar 32. The outer edges of the plate 35 are thicker at the forward ends and gradually grow thinner to near the rear ends, being the reverse of the sides of the plate 15, upon which it rests and to which it is secured, and hence when the two plates 35 and 15 are united together they give the appearance of one jockey-plate with rounded upper edges and a flat base.

In the construction of jockeys for saddles it is necessary for strength and durability of the skirt 27, which is secured in the jockey upon the spuds, that it should not be less than a given size; but when the upper plate is wider and encompasses the lower plate then in order to obtain sufficient space for the skirt 27 the jockey must be so wide that it presents a broad and inartistic appearance not desirable in this class of harness. By my construction where the upper plate is of the same width and rests upon and secured to the lower plate there is obtained the same full space for the skirt and also a much narrower, neater, and more artistic appearance of the jockey. Further, since the spuds 28 are set in either side of the opening 22, through which a screw secures the rear end of the jockey to the pad and the spuds both in a plane at right angles to the sides of the plate 15, the fitter is enabled to engage the skirt on the spuds at a point where the leather is firm and not trimmed off, and hence they will be more secure and less danger of their being torn off, and, further, since the spuds are close by the opening 22 the skirt will prevent the screw in the hole 22 from becoming loose, and also by setting the spuds crosswise of the plate 15 there will be a double grip on the skirt and will hold it much more secure than if the spuds were set one in the rear of the other.

The manner in which the various parts are assembled and brought into operative position is substantially as follows: The plate 15 is rigidly screwed onto the pad by screws through the holes 16 and 22, and the plate 15 is united to the yoke 2 by engaging the hook 25 with the bar 13, and the skirt 27 being provided with holes near its outer ends is secured upon the spuds 28 through these holes therein. Then the plate 35 is placed upon the plate 15 and its projection 40 inserted in the loop 34 of the bar 32, and since it fills the loop it will rest on the skirt 27 and the top of the spuds 28, which project through the skirt and in this manner firmly hold the skirt upon the securing-screw and in the end of the jockey. The tongue 38 will enter the recess 11 over the hook 25, entirely concealing the hook, and the end of the plate 35 will come closely to the end of the hook and prevent the hook from being disengaged from the bar 13, and the recess 11 will be filled flush with the upper surface of the yoke by the tongue

38 on the hook. The terret is then passed through the holes 36 and 20 and is screwed into the terret-nut, bringing the plates 35 and 15 rigidly together.

To provide against the displacement of the upper plate of the jockey when the terret becomes loosened, there is provided in the inner end of the plate 35 an opening 37 and on the bar 13 a lug 39, which engages with the opening 37 and prevents the removal of the plate 35 at that end, and the projection 40, with the shoulder 42 engaging the loop 34, prevents the removal of the plate at the outer end. It may, however, be removed by lifting or tilting the yoke, which withdraws the lug 39 from the opening 37 and leaves the plate free at that end. It will be noticed that although the yoke and jockey are coupled together and present the appearance of one single piece where they are united together by means of the hook there will be a yielding at that place of the union of the two; but since the end of the plate 35 and the end 8 of the jockey come in contact with each other and the tongue also contacts with the yoke they will admit only sufficient yielding to accommodate the saddle to horses having different-shaped backs. Fig. 9 shows this jockey applied to a saddle without a joint. The plate 35 has no tongue 38, but is provided with the terret-openings 36 and the screw-hole 55, through which it is secured to the pad and to the under plate. It also has the same projection 40 and shoulder 42. The under plate 15 is provided at its outer end with a bar 32, a loop 34, and the spuds 28 set in the same position; but the upper or inner end of the plate extends up and constitutes not only the under plate of the jockey, but also the yoke of the saddle. Fig. 10 shows this plate 35 secured to the end plate and the end of a flexible piece 56 secured between the upper and lower plates by the screw passing through the hole 55, uniting the upper and lower plates together. The strap 56 is usually made of leather and forms the yoke of the saddle. This will permit a yielding of the yoke between the ends of the plates 15 and 35 and the center of the saddle. In other respects both of those plates are the same and operate the same as in Fig. 9.

In order that the skirt may be repaired or a new skirt substituted, the opening 55 on the upper plate is oblong or provided with the slot 58. By this mode of construction when a new skirt is to be substituted the operator has but to unloosen the screw in the hole 55 and take out the terret. Then he can shove the plate 35 upward until the projection 40 becomes disengaged from the loop 34, when it can be moved around to either side and the skirt placed upon the spuds, then the plate 35 brought over the skirt and inserted in the loop 34 and the screw in the hole 55 tightened.

It will be observed that numerous advantages will result from this mode of construction. The hook is wholly below the upper surface of the jockey and yoke and entirely concealed by the tongue 38, filling the recess 11 over the hook 25, thus presenting a smooth and practically unbroken surface along the upper surface of the yoke and jockey. Another advantage is there will be a yielding at the joint between the jockey and yoke; but such yielding will be controlled by the end of the plate 35 and the end of the yoke. Another advantage, since the spuds are located crosswise of the plate, there will be a double grip on the skirt, and the skirt in that position, with the plate above it, will prevent the securing-screw from becoming loosened by the engagement of the projection 40 with the loop 34, and also there will be a space in the end of the jockey for the full size of the skirt, and still the jockey will not be so wide as to be inartistic or clumsy. A still further advantage, the jockey will remain in position even if the terret does become loosened or broken, and a new skirt can be substituted without disengaging all of the parts of the jockey, and the whole saddle may be manufactured at a small expense without special machinery with the ordinary laborer.

What I claim is—

1. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess in its end, a bar in the recess, a lower jockey-plate, a hook on said plate adapted to engage said bar and unite the jockey to the yoke, an upper jockey-plate adapted to rest upon the lower plate, and a tongue upon the upper plate adapted to engage the recess in the yoke and cover said hook and with the hook fill the recess whereby there is presented an even surface of the entire yoke and jockey and the appearance of a continuous and unbroken saddle throughout.

2. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess therein, a bar in said recess connected with the yoke, a lower jockey-plate, a hook on the lower plate adapted to engage the bar in the yoke, a bar across the outer end of the plate, a loop in said bar, an upper jockey-plate provided with a tongue adapted to engage the recess in the yoke and cover the hook, and a projection on the end of the upper plate adapted to engage said loop.

3. In a device of the character described, a jockey consisting of a lower plate provided with openings through which it is secured to the pad, a bar across the plate near its outer end and provided with a loop, a spud set on opposite sides of one of the openings, in combination with an upper plate of substantially the same width as the lower plate and secured upon the lower plate, and a projection on the upper plate adapted to engage

the loop on the bar and hold the skirt on the spuds over an opening in the lower plate.

4. In a device of the character described, a jockey consisting of a lower plate provided with a bar across its outer end, a loop in said bar, spuds in said plate, a skirt provided with openings adapted to be engaged by the spuds in the plate, in combination with an upper plate provided with a projection adapted to engage said loop and hold the plate upon the spuds over the skirt.

5. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess therein, a bar attached to the yoke and disposed across the recess, a lug on said bar, a lower jockey-plate, a hook on said plate adapted to engage the bar in the yoke and an upper jockey-plate provided with a recess therein adapted to be engaged by the lug on the bar of the yoke.

6. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess therein, a bar attached to the yoke and disposed across the recess, a lug on said bar, a lower jockey-plate, a hook on the plate adapted to engage the bar in the yoke, an upper jockey-plate provided with a recess therein adapted to be engaged by the lug on the bar of the yoke, and a tongue at one end of the upper plate adapted to engage the recess in the yoke over the bar and with the hook fill the recess, whereby the hook is concealed and the recess in the bar is filled flush with the upper surface of the yoke and jockey.

7. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess therein, a bar disposed across the recess, a lug on said bar, a lower jockey-plate, a hook on said plate adapted to engage the bar in the yoke, an upper jockey-plate provided with a recess in its end adapted to be engaged by the lug on the bar of the yoke, a skirt, and means for holding the outer end of the upper plate in engagement with the lower plate with the skirt between.

8. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess, a bar across the recess attached to the yoke, a lug on the bar, a lower plate, a hook on the lower plate adapted to engage the bar in the yoke, a bar across the outer end of the lower plate, spuds on the lower plate, a skirt secured on the spuds, in combination with an upper plate provided with a recess in its end adapted to be engaged by the lug on the bar of the yoke, and a projection on the outer end of the upper plate adapted to engage the bar on the lower plate over the skirt and hold the skirt upon the spuds.

9. In a device of the character described, a yoke provided with a recess in its end, a bar in said recess, a jockey consisting of a lower plate provided with openings through which the plate is secured to the pad, a hook on said lower plate adapted to engage said bar in the yoke, a bar across the upper or rear end of

the lower plate and provided with a loop, a
spud upon each side of one of the openings, a
skirt provided with holes adapted to be en-
gaged by the spuds, an upper jockey-plate
5 provided with a tongue at its forward end
adapted to engage the recess in the yoke over
the hook, and a projection on its outer end
adapted to engage the loop and hold the skirt
in engagement with the spuds.

10 10. In a device of the character described,
a lower plate provided with openings through
which it is secured to the pad, a spud set
upon the opposite sides of one of the open-
ings in said plate, a bar connecting the upper
15 edges of the plate near the outer end and
provided with a loop, an upper plate resting
upon and secured to the lower plate, a pro-
jection on the upper plate adapted to engage
the loop and a shoulder on the upper plate
20 adapted to engage the bar over the loop and
hold the plate from longitudinal movement
outward.

11. In a device of the character described,

a yoke provided with a recess therein, a bar
in the recess integral with the yoke a jockey 25
consisting of two plates the lower of which is
provided with a hook adapted to engage the
bar in the yoke and hinge the jockey to the
yoke, an upper plate of substantially the
same width and resting upon the lower plate 30
and of substantially the same thickness at its
upper end as the end of the yoke adapted to
be set in close contact with the end of the
hook to hold the hook in contact with the bar,
and a tongue on the upper end of the plate 35
adapted to enter said recess in the yoke over
the hook and with the hook fill the recess in
the yoke whereby the yoke and the jockey
shall present the appearance of an unbroken
upper surface and the jockey a single plate. 40

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

CASPER H. GRINGS.

Witnesses:

M. M. CADY.

B. KENNEDY.