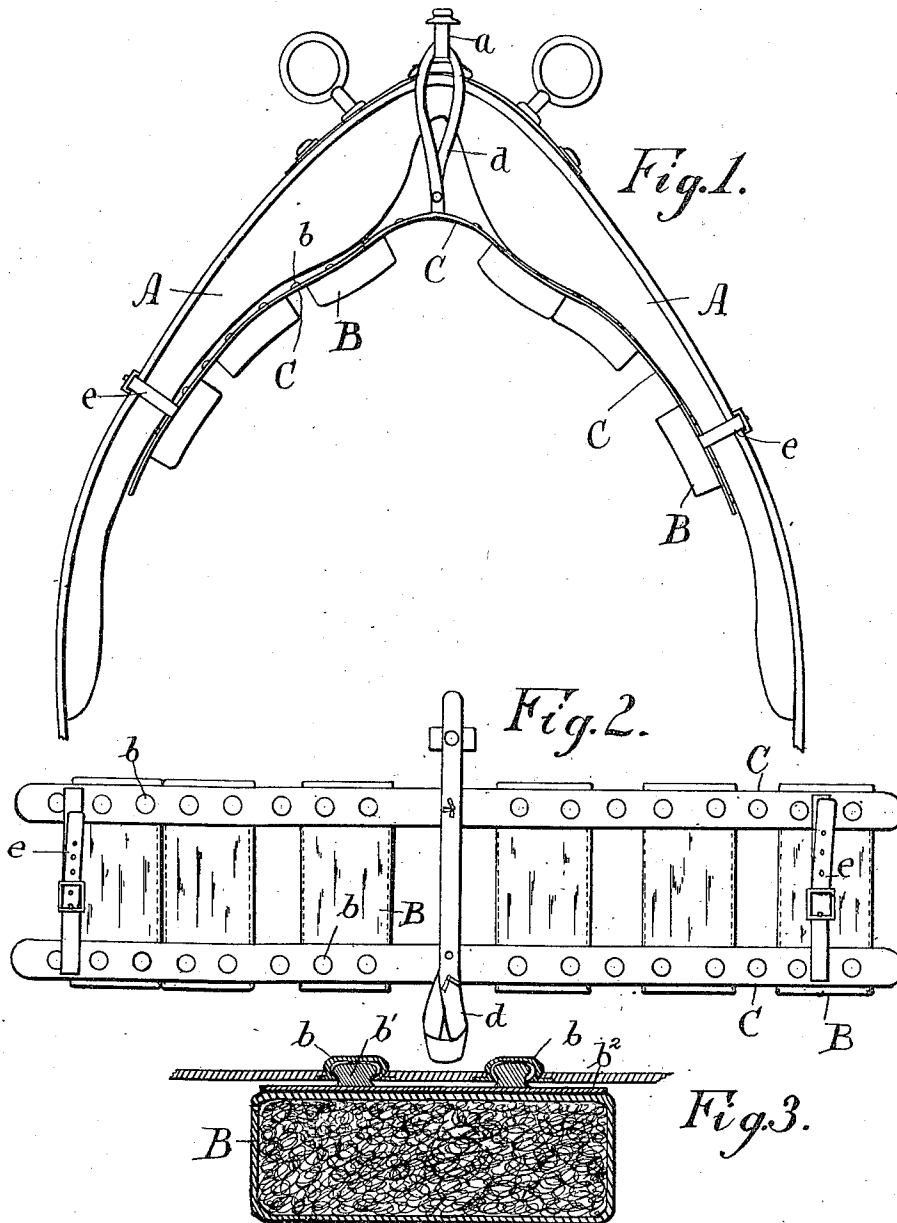


D. H. CARRIGAN.  
HARNESS PAD.  
APPLICATION FILED JUNE 11, 1910.

1,013,586.

Patented Jan. 2, 1912.



Witnesses:  
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M. Ray Taylor.

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by S. M. Bates  
Att.

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

DANIEL H. CARRIGAN, OF PORTLAND, MAINE.

HARNESS-PAD.

1,013,586.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Jan. 2, 1912.

Application filed June 11, 1910. Serial No. 566,343.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, DANIEL H. CARRIGAN, a citizen of the United States of America, and a resident of Portland, in the county of Cumberland, State of Maine, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harness-Pads, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to pads or bearing devices such as are used under harness saddles to relieve the pressure of the saddle on the backs of horses.

Heretofore harness pads have been made of felt or other yielding material and they were secured to the saddle in such a way as to be fixed in one position. It frequently happens that the horse's back becomes sore from the chafing of the saddle in some tender spot and it is desirable to relieve the pressure at that spot. If this is not done the sore grows rapidly worse as the saddle continues to chafe.

The object of my invention is to construct a bearing device which is capable of being so adjusted as to distribute the bearing so as to avoid sore and tender spots. This I accomplish by making up a bearing device composed of separate individual pads joined together by a flexible member as a strap, the pads being detachably connected to the flexible member so that they may be shifted about to avoid tender places.

I illustrate my invention by means of the accompanying drawing in which—

Figure 1 is an elevation of a harness saddle showing my bearing device in position, Fig. 2 is a plan of the bearing device in an extended position, and Fig. 3 is a section through one of the individual pads.

A represents a harness saddle such as is used upon work horses, *a* being the water hook.

My pad is designed as are other pads of this class to be interposed between the saddle and the horse's back. It is composed of a series of individual pads as B, each being preferably oblong in shape with a stiff plate *b*<sup>2</sup> on the upper face. The pad proper may be made up in any suitable manner but as I prefer to make it, it is made of a layer of felt covered with cotton ticking. The ticking is hard and practically non-absorbent so that it can be kept clean by scraping, and the felt forms a cushion which gives softness to the pad. The plate *b*<sup>2</sup> may be of leather or numerous thicknesses of duck or

it may be made up in any suitable manner. On the top of each of the individual pads B there is a pair of fastening devices by which the whole series of pads is secured to one or more flexible straps C. As shown, I make use of two straps C and make the connection between the straps and the pad by means of ball and socket fasteners, two of the fastener members being secured at each end of each pad and corresponding members being secured to the straps. As shown, I secure the ball members *b*<sup>1</sup> on the pad and the socket members *b* to the strap.

The pads and the fasteners are so spaced that there will be more than one position in which each pad may be fastened so that any sore or tender place on the back of the horse may be avoided.

Means are provided for securing the bearing device to the saddle and as shown, a loop *d* is secured to the two straps C and passes over the water hook. A strap *e* at each end of the device fastens around the saddle and holds the ends in place.

The advantage of my pad is that the individual pads may be moved about to avoid sore and tender places on the horse's back, they may be removed and cleaned and the whole construction is simple and may be cheaply made.

An important feature of applicant's pad device is the independent adjustment of the pads thereof while the device and saddle are in position on the animal. Any pad can be removed and shifted up or down according to the location of the sore to be protected. It is not necessary to remove the saddle and pad device from the animal, because the snap fasteners permit of the ready detachment of the pads from the base member and an equal ready attachment of the pads thereto, there being no straps to unfasten or fasten. It will be observed that the fastening sockets on the base member are spaced apart in two rows with a distance between adjacent sockets less than the width of the individual pad members, and there are more socket fastening elements on the base member than there are stud fastening elements on the pads, so that the pads can be adjusted to different positions. If a sore is of considerable area, two adjacent pads can be moved apart, one upwardly and the other downwardly and yet all the pads will be in use to give the same area of bearing surface. In sectional pad devices, as hereto-

fore proposed, the sections of the pad are wholly removable in order to leave a gap, whereas in the present device, the sections of the pad are merely shiftable to different positions to provide a gap large enough for sores of different sizes, and furthermore, in applicant's device, the sections are shiftable a distance only a fraction of their width so that small, as well as wide gaps, can be obtained at any desired point in the pad device.

I claim:—

The combination of a piece of harness, with a detachable pad device therefor comprising a base member, a plurality of pads individually mounted thereon and separately detachable and attachable so as to be

shiftable while the harness piece and pad device are in position on an animal, rows of fastening elements on the base member, the space between adjacent fastening elements in each row being less than the width of the pads, and fastening elements on the pads for detachably engaging appropriate fastening elements on the base member, there being a greater number of fastening elements on the base member than on the pads.

In witness whereof I have hereunto set my hand this 9th day of June, 1910.

DANIEL H. CARRIGAN.

Witnesses:

S. W. BATES,

ELEANOR W. DENNIS.

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