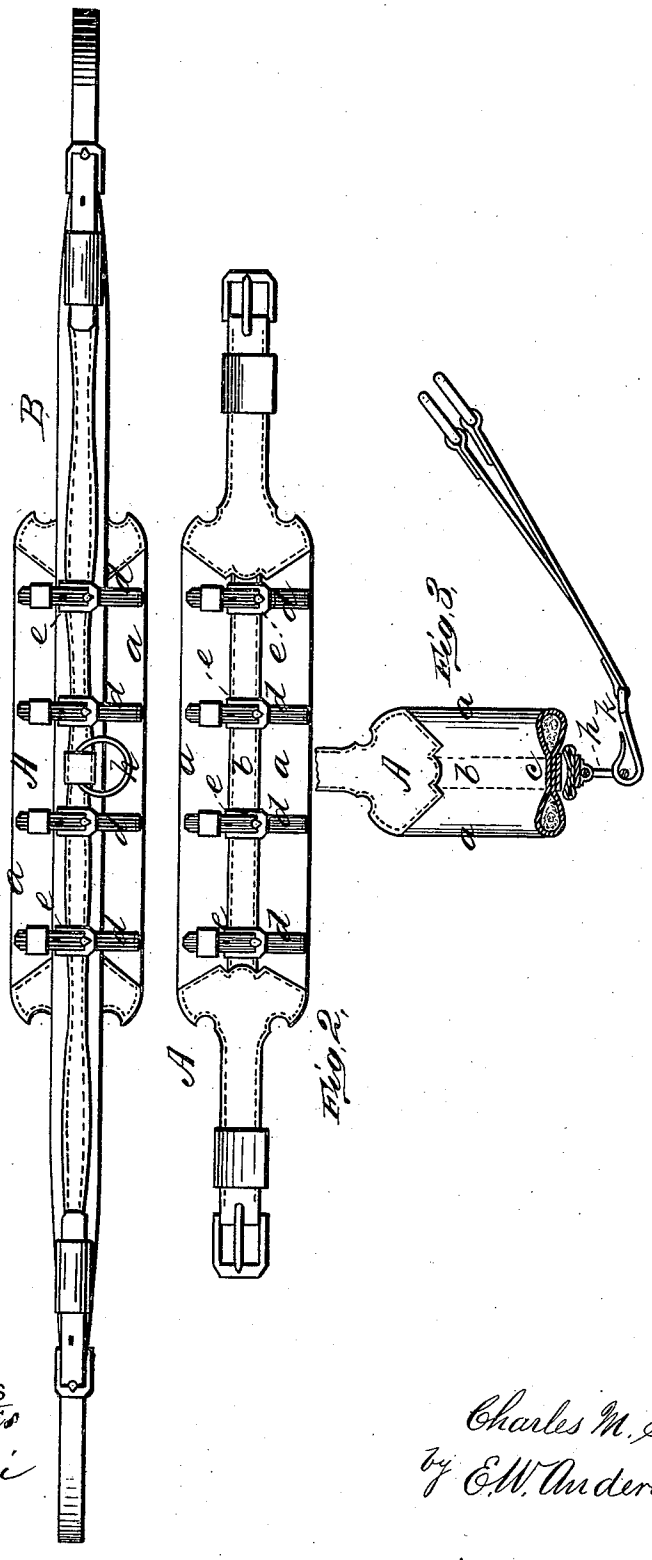
C. M. SANFORD.
Girth for Harness.

No. 199,318. Patented Jan. 15, 1878.



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IMPROVEMENT IN GIRTHS FOR HARNESS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **199,318**, dated January 15, 1878; application filed November 24, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES M. SANFORD, of Hauppauge, in the county of Suffolk and State of New York, have invented a new and valuable Improvement in Road and Track Girths for Horses; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description of the construction and operation of the same, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making a part of this specification, and to the letters and figures of reference marked thereon.

Figure 1 of the drawings is a representation of a plan view of the padded girth and center strap combined. Fig. 2 is a bottom view of the padded girth. Fig. 3 is a sectional view of the padded girth.

This invention has relation to road and track girths for horses; and it consists, mainly, in the construction and novel arrangement of the padded saddle-girth and the belly-band, connected therewith by suitable straps or fastenings, confining it in the middle depression between the edge pads of the girth, as hereinafter fully shown and described.

The object of this invention is to provide a convenient girth which will obviate chafing and render breeching unnecessary, which will have its two main portions so connected together that they will not dangle about in harnessing or unharnessing, although they can be easily separated when necessary, and which will always lie true, and cannot become crossed under the horse's belly.

In the accompanying drawings, the letter A designates the shorter part or saddle-girth, and B the long strap or belly-band, the two forming, when constructed as hereinafter described, my road and track girth. The saddle-girth is made with edge cushions *a* of soft material, separated from each other by the middle portion *b*, which is flat, and forms a depression between the edge pads, as indicated at *c* in the sectional view of the drawings. The ends of the saddle-girth are finished with the usual buckles or other fastenings, and at suitable distances apart on the exterior surface of the saddle-girth are secured small bridging-straps *d* and buckles *e*.

The belly-band B is of the usual construction and length. It may be padded slightly, if thought advisable. It should be of the proper width to fit neatly in the depression *c* of the saddle-girth, between the edge cushions, which are designed to keep the belly-band in position therein, as well as to provide a protected or padded surface next the horse. When in place the cross-straps or fastenings of the saddle-girth are secured, and the two bands thereby connected together in such a manner that they cannot become crossed or disarranged under the horse, and cannot dangle separately in harnessing or unharnessing. To the belly-band a ring, *h*, is attached for the martingale, the latter being provided with a snap-hook *k*, as a fastening. This snap-hook fastening is very convenient, and it is not liable to chafe, as the horse is protected by the wide saddle-girth, from which the belly-band and its ring cannot escape.

With my girth a horse can be harnessed in less time than in the usual mode. Breeching need not be employed in driving. This renders the harness cooler in summer and prevents chafing in the winter, which is a matter of much importance, especially with clipped horses.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The saddle-girth A, having the edge cushions *a* and middle depression *c*, and provided with the transverse bridge-fastenings, substantially as specified.

2. The combination, with the saddle-girth A, having the edge cushions, middle depression between said cushions, and bridge-straps, of the belly-band A, fitting in said depression and confined by said bridge-straps, substantially as specified.

3. The girth herein described, having transverse bridge-strap, the belly-band confined between the padded sides of the saddle-girth, and provided with a ring for the martingale attachment, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the above I have hereunto subscribed my name in the presence of two witnesses.

CHARLES M. SANFORD.

Witnesses:

WILMOT M. SMITH,

THERON L. SMITH.