T. H. POWELL.

HARNESS SADDLE.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1912.

1,037,982. **Patented Sept. 10, 1912.**

Fig. 1,

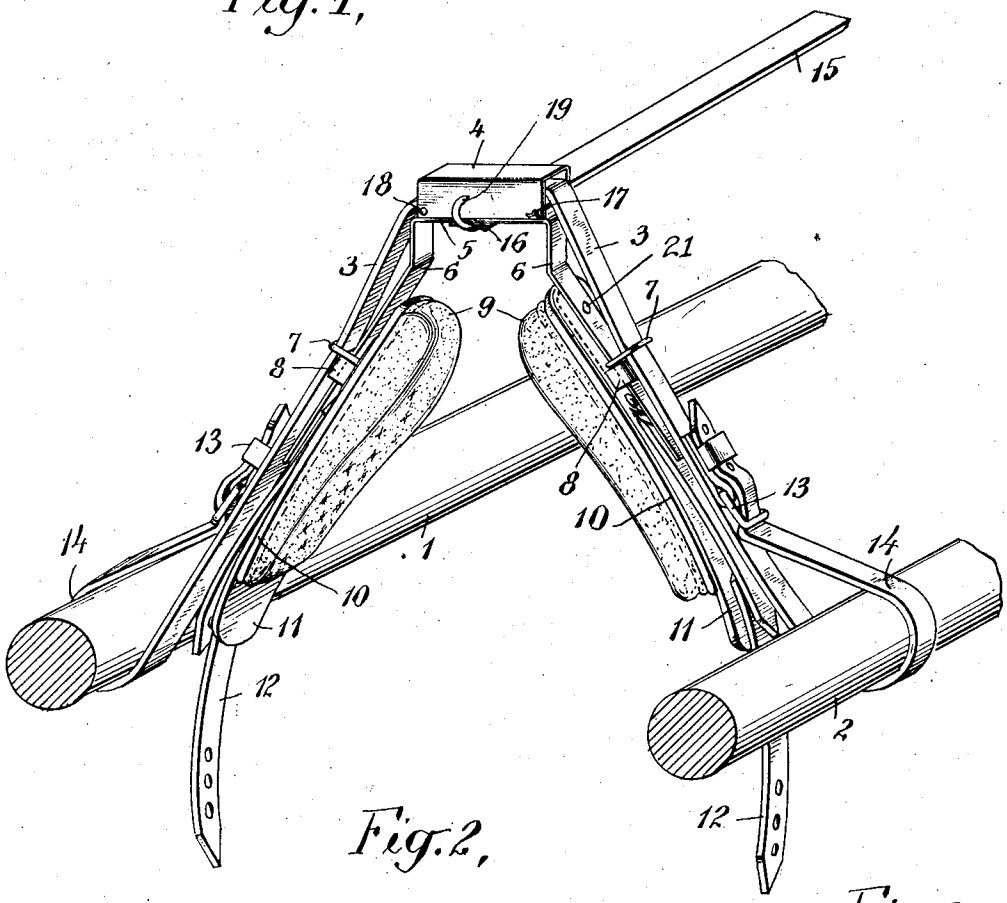


Fig. 2,

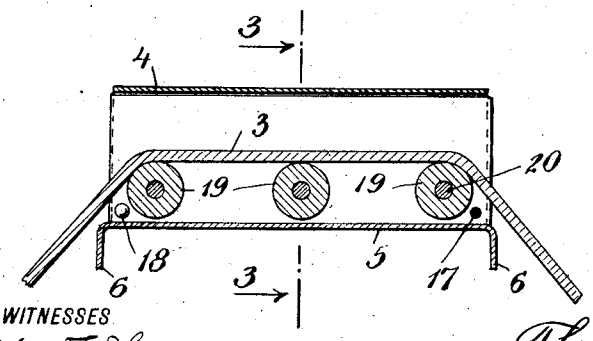
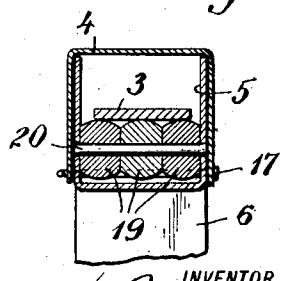


Fig. 3,



WITNESSES

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HARNESS-SADDLE.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, THOMAS H. POWELL, a citizen of the United States, and resident of the borough of Brooklyn, county of Kings, city and State of New York, have made certain new and useful Improvements in Relation to Harness-Saddles, of which the following is a specification, taken in connection with the accompanying drawing, which forms part of the same.

This invention relates especially to harness saddles in which the shaft loops are connected to a single strap or shaft bearer passing up over the saddle and so arranged as to shift longitudinally with respect thereto, the shaft bearer passing over suitable rolls or anti-friction devices arranged in a guide box mounted on a yoke connected to the saddle pieces.

In the accompanying drawing showing an illustrative embodiment of this invention, Figure 1 is a perspective view showing the saddle and connected parts. Fig. 2 is an enlarged longitudinal section through the guide-box; and Fig. 3 is a transverse section thereof along the line 3—3 of Fig. 2.

The saddle may have any desired construction and may as indicated be provided with suitable pads 9 connected to the saddle pieces 10 which may have the flaps 11 extending downward therefrom for connection with the surcingle straps 12 by which the saddle may be firmly held in position on a horse in the usual way. These saddle pads are preferably connected together so as to be held in proper position by a suitable yoke of metal or other sufficiently rigid material which may rise above the back of the horse so as not to come into contact therewith. This yoke may be formed of a suitable strip of metal 6 connected to the saddle pieces by suitable rivets, such as 21, and also loops such as 8, if desired. A suitable guide-box or member may be supported on this yoke in any desired way and may if desired be formed by bending up suitable projections integral with the top of the yoke so as to form the rectangular sectional guide-box 5 as shown in Figs. 2 and 3. If desired, a suitable cover such as 4 may be used in connection with this guide-box and may if desired be hinged thereto by a suitable hinge pin 18 and normally held in the closed position indicated by a retainer 17 which may be in the form of a split pin as indicated. The breeching strap 15 and check rein hook 19 may be secured to the yoke in any desired way as by riveting them thereto by the rivet 16, for example. The shaft bearer or strap 3 passes loosely through this guide-box and may if desired be guided by suitable guides or metal loops 7 on the saddle pieces so as to maintain it in proper position with respect thereto. The shaft loops 14 of any desired length to properly support the shafts 1 and 2 of the vehicle may be formed on each end of this strap by buckling its ends into the buckles 13. The shaft bearer is thus free to move longitudinally with respect to the saddle and thus the movement of the saddle on the horse's back and consequent chafing which frequently occurs in heavy trucking work is greatly minimized or entirely prevented.

The guide-box may, if desired, be provided with suitable anti-friction devices, such as rolls over which the shaft bearer runs, a suitable arrangement being indicated in Figs. 2 and 3 as comprising the series of pins 20 mounted in the guide-box upon which the rolls 19 may be loosely mounted so as to materially promote movement of the shaft bearer or strap 3 with respect to the saddle under conditions of service the outer rolls being preferably adjacent the ends of the guide-box as indicated so as to allow the strap to run free after leaving these rolls.

Having described this invention in connection with illustrative embodiments, forms, proportions, materials and arrangements of parts, to the details of which disclosure the invention is not of course to be limited, what is claimed as new and what is desired to be secured by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claim:

In harness saddles, saddle pieces provided with pads, a substantially rigid yoke formed of metal strip firmly secured to said saddle pieces, a guide box formed at the top of said yoke, a removable cover pivotally connected with said guide box and normally held in closed position, a series of pins

mounted in said guide box, a series of anti-friction rolls mounted on each of said pins, guides mounted on said saddle pieces and a shaft bearer provided with adjustable shaft loops to engage both shafts of the vehicle and extending through said guides and said guide box to freely move longitudinally under conditions of service and thereby minimize chafing movements of the saddle.

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