W. J. SESSIONS.

COMBINED SADDLE AND BACK BAND.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 30, 1911.

1,040,035. Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

Fig 1.

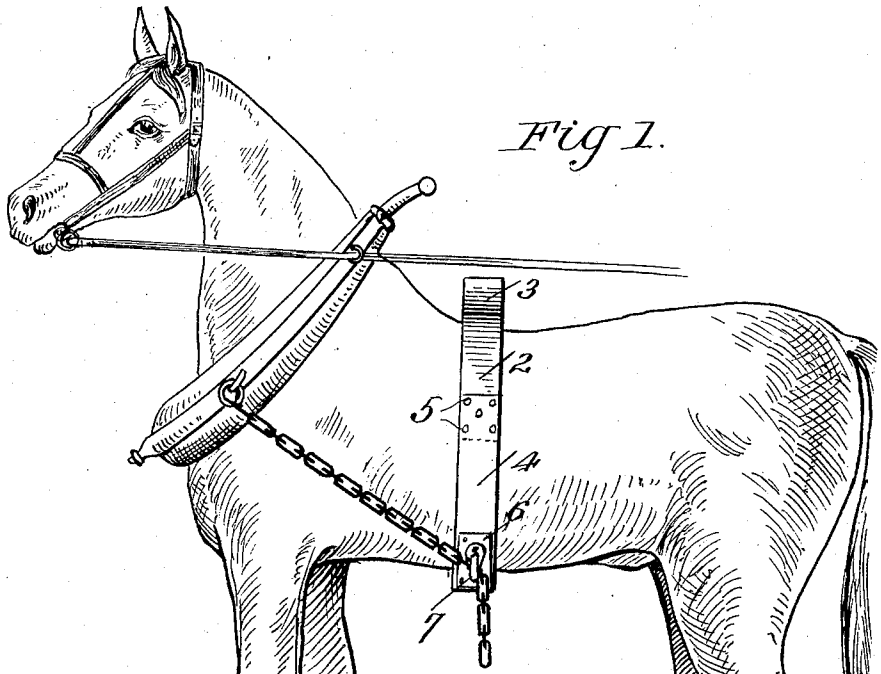


Fig. 2.

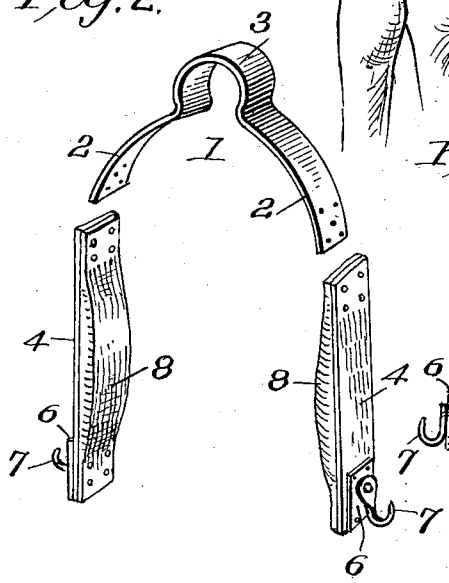
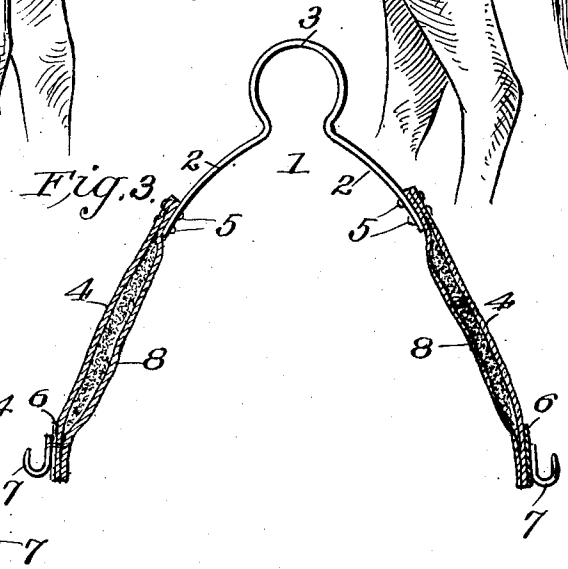


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

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WILLIAM J. SESSIONS, OF DESOTO, GEORGIA.

COMBINED SADDLE AND BACK-BAND.

1,040,035. Specification of Letters Patent. Patented Oct. 1, 1912.

Application filed January 30, 1911. Serial No. 605,590.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM J. SESSIONS, a citizen of the United States, residing at Desoto, in the county of Sumter and State of Georgia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Combined Saddles and Back-Bands; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain new and useful improvements in combined back-band and saddle for plow and wagon harness.

It is well understood by farmers that harness of the kind referred to, involves as a general rule, a band of webbing or other suitable woven fabric adapted to rest upon the back of the animal and provided at the free ends with suitable hooks to interlock with the chain or other traces. Back-bands of this character by reason of the constant frictional movement over the spine of the animal soon produce sores and galls. To overcome this difficulty, it has been suggested to substitute a back-band composed of wood for the canvas or woven band, but it has been found from experience that the wooden band skins the sides of the animal and they are therefore used but little, or if used at all, are soon discarded.

My invention has for its object to provide a combined back-band and saddle which will overcome all of the above enumerated disadvantages and which shall be simple and economic of construction and readily repaired when the flexible band becomes worn.

With these ends in view, my invention consists in the details of construction and arrangement hereinafter explained.

In order that those skilled in the art to which my invention appertains may know how to make and use my improved back band and saddle, I will proceed to describe the same, referring by numerals to the accompanying drawing, in which—

Figure 1 is a view showing the band and saddle applied to a draft animal. Fig. 2 is a perspective view of the saddle and back band before being secured together, and Fig. 3 is a central vertical section of the back band and saddle in connected condition.

Similar reference numerals indicate like parts in the several figures of the drawing.

1 is a saddle composed of a single piece of comparatively thin sheet steel bent into the form shown, to produce two vertically curved portions 2, 2, adapted to rest upon the back of the animal, and a central raised portion 3, adapted to bridge and occupy a position above and out of contact with the back bone or spine of the animal.

4, 4 are two bands, or straps of canvas or other suitable material adapted to be secured by rivets 5, or otherwise, to the curved portions 2, 2, of the saddle, and provided at their free ends with a thin plate of steel 6, to which is riveted, or otherwise secured, a hook 7, adapted to interlock with a link of a trace chain, or to embrace and support any other kind of a trace. The bands, 4, 4, are preferably padded throughout their extent, as shown at 8, and, being pendent from the extremities of the saddle and of a flexible character, swing in any direction and readily adapt themselves to the movements of the animal.

From the construction shown and described, it will be obvious that when the flexible portions of the device become worn and require replacement, they may be removed from the saddle and the hooks removed from their ends and new webs supplied and fitted in place. The band portions being of light flexible material and adapted to swing freely in all directions are not apt to injure the animal by friction and the saddle portion of the device being raised above the back bone or spine of the animal, permits the free circulation of air between the saddle and back of the animal.

The structure as a whole is simple and economical in construction and is readily repaired at a minimum expense, as the saddle portion is practically indestructible and may be used over and over again with new bands.

The hooks at the lower extremities of the bands, are preferably pivoted, at their upper ends, as shown, to the plates by which they are attached to the bands, and therefore are free to vibrate upon said pivots.

The saddle being constructed of thin spring steel, readily adapts itself to the backs of different animals, and the combined saddle and bands are also comparatively light, while at the same time possessing the necessary strength.

Having described the construction and

advantages of my improved combined saddle and back-band, what I claim as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent is—

In a device of the nature described, a combination of a saddle consisting of a sheet of metal having a central portion rising above the spine of an animal and curved extensions formed thereon and conforming in shape to the sides of the animal and adapted to rest thereagainst, flexible bands connected to the said curved extensions of the saddle, said bands adapted to swing forward and backward and hooks located upon the bands to movably support traces or the like substantially as and for the purposes set forth.

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

WILLIAM J. SESSIONS.

Witnesses:
W. B. LUKE,
A. W. PATTERSON.