

(No Model.)

F. J. BRINGHAM.
LEATHER ARTICLE.

No. 545,573.

Patented Sept. 3, 1895.

Fig. 1.

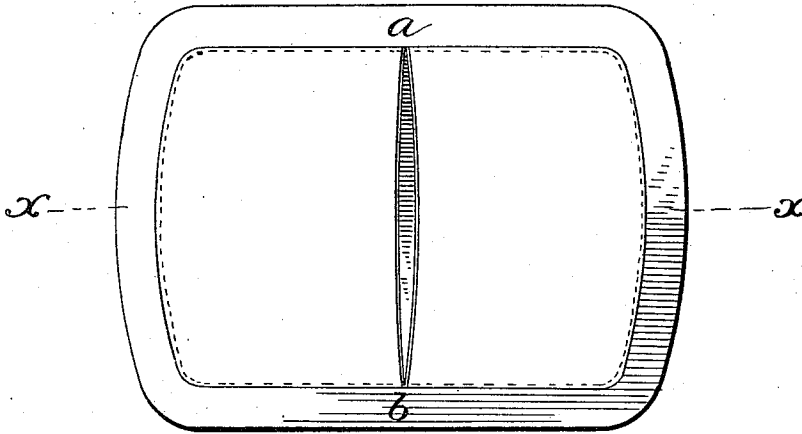


Fig. 3.

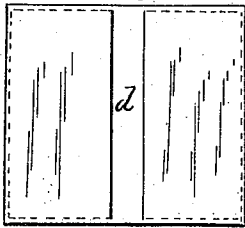


Fig. 4.



Fig. 5.



Fig. 2.



Fig. 6.

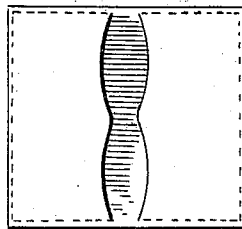
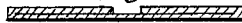


Fig. 7.



Attest
Thaddeus M. Adams
F. L. Middleton

Inventor
Friend J. Bringham
by Geo. L. Spru
Att'y.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

FRIEND J. BRINGHAM, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, ASSIGNOR TO THE SEAMLESS LEATHER COMPANY, OF ILLINOIS.

LEATHER ARTICLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 545,573, dated September 3, 1895.

Application filed January 9, 1895. Serial No. 534,391. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FRIEND J. BRINGHAM, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Leather Articles, of which the following is a specification, reference being had therein to the accompanying drawings.

My invention relates to articles of leather, and in the present application I have shown the leading feature of the invention as applied to a saddle or collar pad for horses, a book-cover, and a pocket-book.

The object sought to be accomplished is to produce such articles cheaply and out of leather not heretofore available for this purpose, and which shall at the same time be durable.

My invention is illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 shows a plan view of the upper side of a collar-pad. Fig. 2 is a sectional view on line *x x* of Fig. 1. Figs. 3, 4, and 5 show the application of the invention to a book-cover, and Figs. 6 and 7 show its application to a pocket-book.

Referring to Fig. 2, the pad may be cut out of a piece of thin or cheap leather, such as from the under parts of the animal, and I make a transverse cut on the upper side at a point intermediate between the ends and preferably at or near the middle, the cut extending part way through the leather and not quite to the margins, as shown at *a b*. I then by a suitable instrument split the leather from this cross-cut toward both ends, leaving an uncut margin bounded by the dotted line on all sides. This margin should be of considerable width, as shown, in order to form a suitable rounded or properly-padded surface. Into the two pockets thus formed I introduce the padding *c*, which may consist of a scrap or scraps of waste leather and which extends from end to end, as shown in Fig. 2.

In pads as heretofore formed the stitching is especially exposed to wear, and when the pad is composed of parts stitched together, as they have heretofore been made, the stitching is liable to wear out first and the pad thereby comes to pieces before it fairly wears out. In the construction shown I have avoided

this difficulty, as well as improved the flexibility and softness of the pad, by avoiding the use of stitches. The opening may be closed in any suitable way, if found desirable. It is sometimes desirable to have these pads soft and flexible, and in this case the padding is of soft material. In other situations it is essential that the pad be stiff and rigid, and in such cases the padding may be of stiffer material.

In applying the invention to the manufacture of book-covers I form the pockets in each end of the leather, but make two incisions, as shown in Figs. 3 to 5, having a center portion *d*, which, when the pockets are expanded, assumes the condition shown in Fig. 5, giving strength to this part of the cover, which receives the pressure from the back of the book. No padding is used, as of course the leaves of the cover enter into and fill the pockets.

In Figs. 6 and 7 I show a pocket-book made in the same way. I take a single piece of leather, cut out from its upper side a central piece, as shown, and then split the leather on each side, leaving margins, so as to form a pocket in each side, and when the leather is folded on the central line, with the pockets face to face the pocket-book is complete.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A leather article having a seamless margin and a seamless back, a central slit extending partially through the thickness of the leather of less length than the width of the leather, and pockets formed in the upper face of said article and extending in opposite directions from said central slit, substantially as described.

2. A seamless leather article having an intact margin and an intact back, pockets in its upper face extending in opposite directions from a central slit and a filling in said pockets bridging the central slit, substantially as described.

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

F. J. BRINGHAM.

Witnesses:

HENRY E. COOPER,
JAMES M. SPEAR.