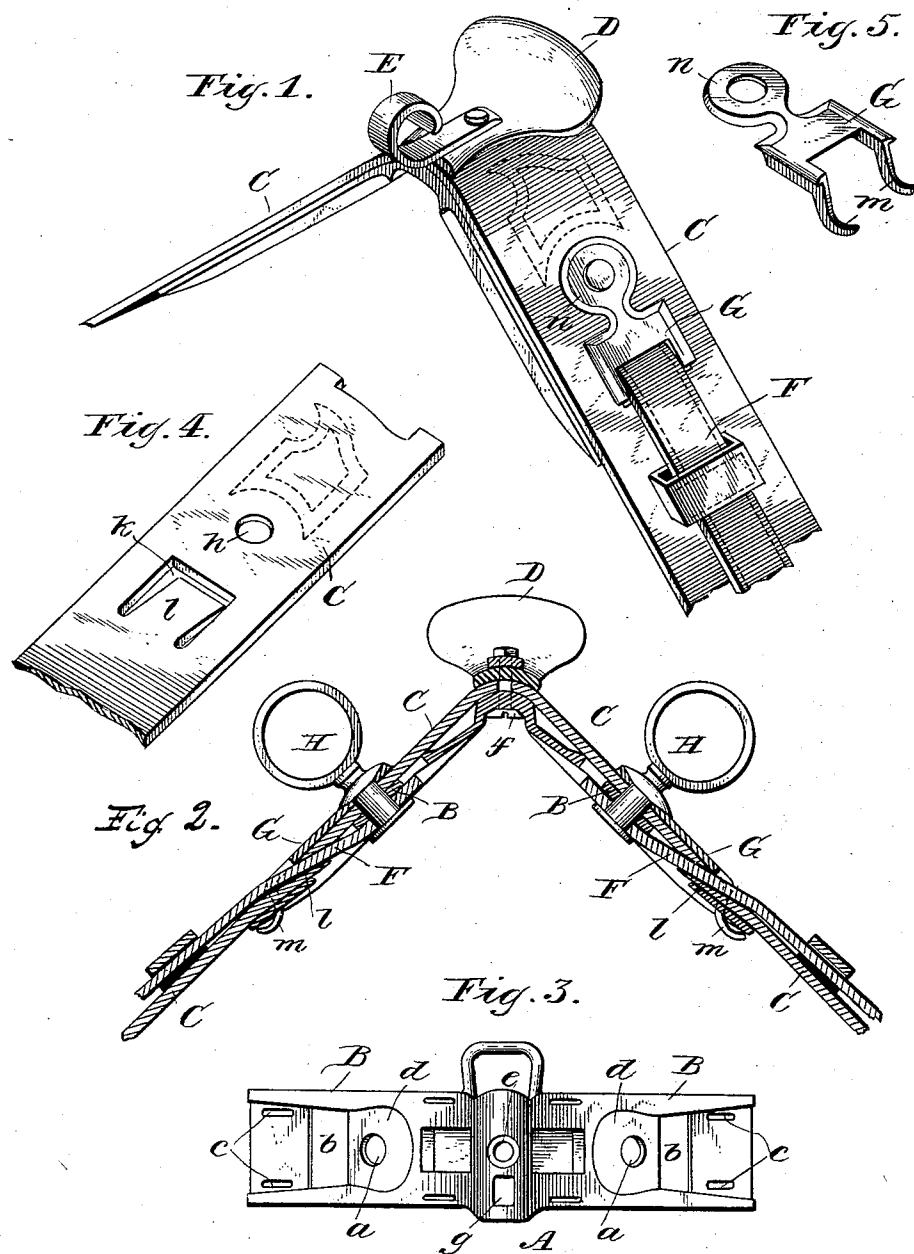


(No Model.)

L. DUFF.
GIG SADDLE.

No. 471,634.

Patented Mar. 29, 1892.



Witnesses.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEON DUFF, OF CINCINNATI, OHIO.

GIG-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 471,634, dated March 29, 1892.

Application filed November 16, 1891. Serial No. 411,994. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, LEON DUFF, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cincinnati, in the county of Hamilton and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Gig-Saddles, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

My invention relates to that class of gig-saddles in which a metallic tree is employed stamped or cast in the proper shape with suitable openings for the attachment of the various parts to form the finished saddle; and it consists of a novel construction and formation of the tree and retaining-plates, whereby a simple, cheap, and durable saddle is obtained without the use of jockeys and with very much less expense and labor than has hitherto been required, both in the cost of material and in the degree of skilled labor necessary to put the various parts together for the finished article.

It is the purpose of my invention to so construct the saddle-tree that the usual jockeys may be dispensed with, if desired, and so that the parts can be put together by the merest boy without the employment of skilled labor, and so that it will be no longer necessary, as hitherto, to put the parts together at the factory, but the back-bands and retaining-plates can be packed separately, and thus both space is economized and the danger of scratching or marring in the shipment the highly-polished and plated parts is avoided.

In the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective view of the gig-saddle complete, except the terrets. Fig. 2 is a central cross-section of the same with terrets. Fig. 3 is a top plan view of the gig-saddle tree. Fig. 4 is a perspective view of one of the saddle skirts or flaps. Fig. 5 is a perspective view of one of the retaining-plates.

Like letters of reference indicate identical parts in all the figures.

A is the tree-frame for the saddle, preferably stamped or cast from suitable metal, all in one piece. The side bars B B of this tree are cut or stamped to receive the skirts, back-bands, retaining-plates, and terrets, as follows: *a a* are circular openings for the reception of the terrets; *b b*, rectangular openings

for the insertion of the back-bands; and *c c*, eyes to receive the hooks on the retaining-plates, and *d d* are depressions to receive the upper part of the retaining-plates.

C C are the skirts or flaps of the gig-saddle, the upper ends of which are cut, as shown, so as to fit under the saddle-seat D, this seat being secured to the tree in the usual way through the opening *e* by screw *f*, while the check-hook E is secured through the opening *g*.

A circular opening *h* is cut in each skirt, through which the terret can pass to secure the skirt to the tree, and a short distance below this opening a slit *k* is cut, so as to form a tongue *l*, through which slit the back-band can be passed.

F F are the back-bands, and G G the retaining-plates, by which, in connection with the terrets H H, the parts are all fastened together, the bands having circular openings in their upper ends, by which they may be secured.

The tree A having been cast or stamped into the shape described, the parts are then readily put together, as follows: The skirts are placed on the tree with their upper ends under the seat D, so that the openings *h* will come opposite the openings *a a* of the tree. The back-bands F F are then passed in through the slits *k* in the skirts, pressing down the tongues *l l*, and in behind the side bars B B of the tree until the openings in the ends of the bands also come opposite the openings *a a* and *h h*. The hooks *m m* of the retaining-plates G are then passed through the lower ends of the slits *k* and through the eyes *c c* in the tree. The upper portion *n* of these plates G are then pressed down over the openings *h* and all the parts secured by the terrets H H, the recesses *d d* being formed in the side bars to receive these circular portions *n n* of the plates, so that when the plates are secured the edge of the circular portion may sink into the leather and thus make a better finish. It will be seen from this construction that the plates G G take the place of the jockeys and that all the parts can be stamped in quantities, so that every part will fit smoothly and perfectly and can be readily and easily put together by the ordinary workman. In addition to this, where the plates G G are highly plated or polished, if the saddles were put together and packed

in complete condition these plated parts would be very apt to become marred or scratched, while with my improvements the readiness and ease with which the parts can be put together enables me to pack the polished plates in separate boxes and thus to avoid this danger of scratching.

Instead of the hooks *m m* on the plates *G G*, by which they are secured to the tree, screws might be employed, passing through the plates and tree; but the hooks simplify the construction somewhat and I prefer their use.

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

1. In a gig-saddle, the combination, with a saddle-tree provided with openings to receive the back-bands and saddle-skirts having corresponding openings and back-bands inserted through said openings, of outside retaining-plates *G G*, having hooks at their lower ends with openings in the skirts and eyes in the tree to receive same, and terret-openings through all of said parts with terrets to secure same together, substantially as shown and described.

2. In a gig-saddle, the combination, with the

tree, skirts, and back-bands, of outside retaining-plates *G G*, provided with upper circular openings for the insertion of the terrets, central flat portions cut away at their lower ends and bent to form hooks and openings through the skirts and eyes in the tree to receive said hooks, with terrets inserted through said tree, skirts, back-bands, and retaining-plates to secure same together, substantially as shown and described.

3. In a gig-saddle, the combination, with a saddle-tree provided with openings *a a* and *b b* and saddle-skirts having openings *h h* and *k k* to receive the terrets and back-bands, of outside retaining-plates *G G* with upper circular openings to receive the terrets and central flat portions cut away to form hooks *m m* with eyes *c c* in the trees to receive said hooks, and terrets inserted through said terret-openings, whereby the whole may be secured together, substantially as shown and described.

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