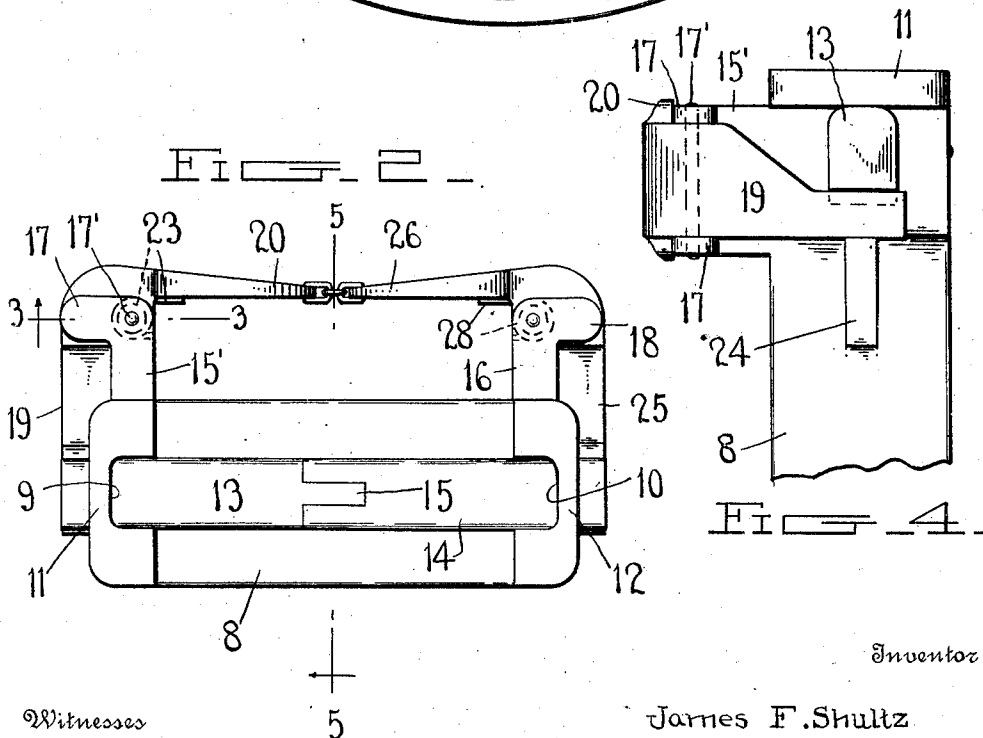
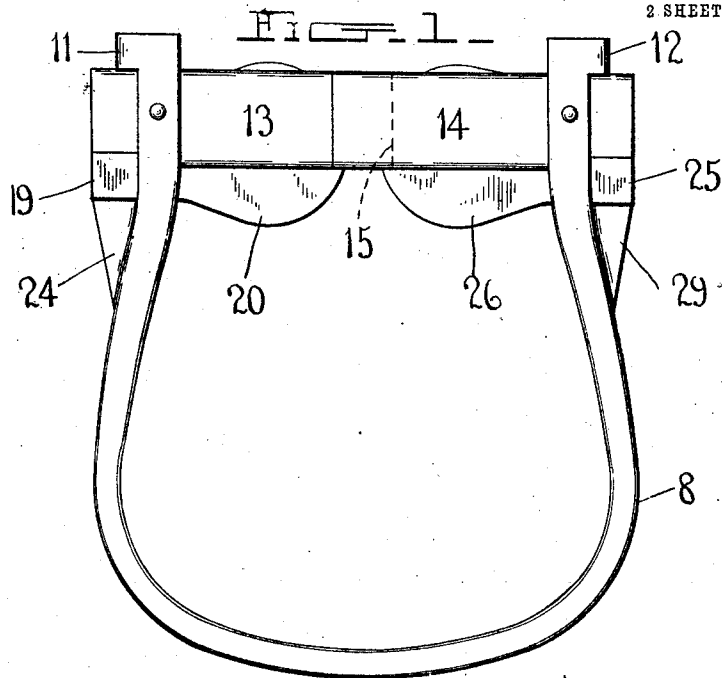


J. F. SHULTZ.
SADDLE STIRRUP.
APPLICATION FILED OCT. 21, 1909

976,406.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

2 SHEETS-SHEET 1.



Witnesses
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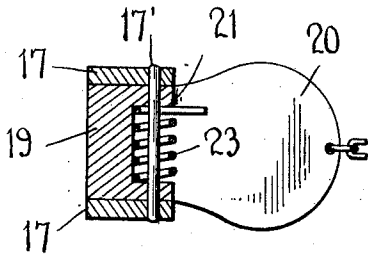
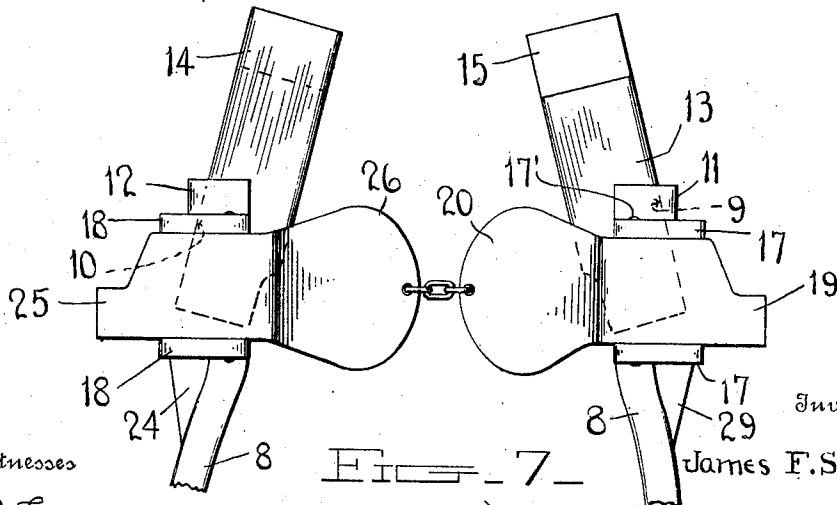
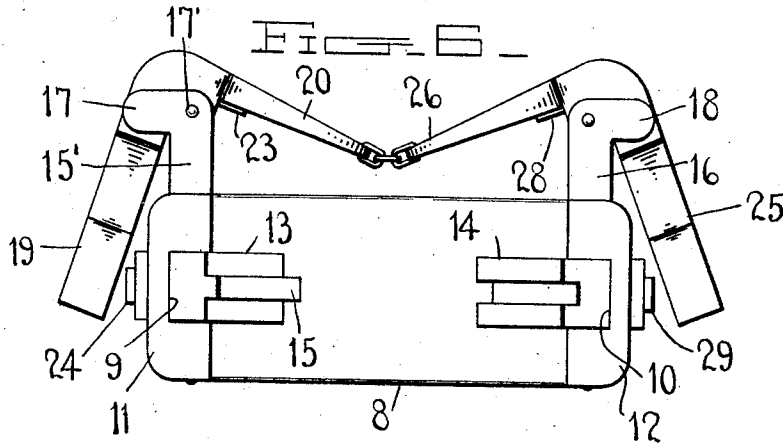
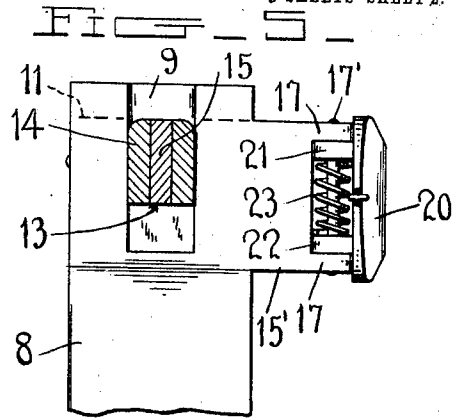


Fig. 1 -



Witnesses

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Fig. 4 -

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. SHULTZ, OF CODY, TEXAS.

SADDLE-STIRRUP.

976,406.

Specification of Letters Patent.

Patented Nov. 22, 1910.

Application filed October 21, 1909. Serial No. 523,829.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, JAMES F. SHULTZ, a citizen of the United States, residing at Cody, in the county of Waller, State of Texas, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Saddle-Stirrups; 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.

This invention relates to saddle stirrups and particularly to that class which are adapted to be automatically detached from the stirrup strap in case the rider is thrown.

To this end the object of the invention resides in the production of a stirrup of the type named which will comprise improved mechanism adapted to be actuated by the movement of the foot of the rider for releasing the engagement between the stirrup strap and the hanger bar of the stirrup and thus provide against the possibility of a person thrown from a horse being dragged and seriously injured.

With the above and other objects in view the invention consists in the details of construction and in the arrangement and combination of parts to be hereinafter more fully described and set forth in the claims.

In describing the invention in detail reference will be had to the accompanying drawings in which like characters of reference indicate like parts in the several views, and in which,

Figure 1 is a front elevation of a stirrup constructed in accordance with the invention; Fig. 2, a top plan view; Fig. 3, a section on the line 3—3 of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a fragmental side elevation of the stirrup; Fig. 5, a section on the line 5—5 of Fig. 2; Fig. 6, a view similar to Fig. 2 showing the position of the parts when actuated by the foot of a thrown rider; and Fig. 7, a fragmental rear elevation of the stirrup with the various parts in the position shown in Fig. 6.

Referring to the drawings, 8 indicates the stirrup frame having formed therethrough at each terminal corresponding slots 9 and 10. Projecting outwardly from each terminal of the frame are flanges 11 and 12 which bridge the slots 9 and 10 respectively at their upper ends. Disposed in the slots 9 and 10 respectively and pivotally connected with the stirrup frame are the sections 13 and 14 of the hanger of the stirrup. The section 13

has its inner end provided with a vertically disposed tongue 15 while the section 14 has formed therethrough a vertically disposed groove adapted to receive said tongue when the sections are disposed end to end in alignment. The length of the slots 9 and 10 is such as to permit the inner end of said sections to move upwardly for a purpose to be hereinafter described, a corresponding downward movement of the inner ends of said sections being prevented by the engagement of their respective outer ends with the flanges 11 and 12.

Projecting from the front face of the stirrup frame and secured thereto in any suitable manner (preferably by forming same integral with the frame) are the lugs 15' and 16; the lug 15' having formed thereon the spaced ears 17, while the lug 16 is likewise provided with corresponding spaced ears 18.

Journaled between the ears 17 is a locking and releasing device comprising a locking member 19 which is normally adapted to be disposed directly beneath the outer end of the section 13 of the hanger bar; said locking member, when normally disposed serving to prevent any upward movement of the inner end of the section 13 by reason of the engagement of the outer end of said section therewith. Formed with said locking member 19 and disposed transversely of the stirrup, when the locking member 19 is in normal locking position is a tripping toe 20. Projecting inwardly of the locking member 19 is a pair of spaced ears 21 and 22 which lie between the ears 17 of the lug 15'. The journal bolt 17' which pivotally connects the locking and releasing device with the lug 15' passes through the ears 17 of the lug and ears 21 and 22 of the locking and releasing device; and a torsional spring 23, is disposed around said journal bolt and constantly tends to move and hold the locking and releasing device in position to prevent any upward movement of the inner end of the section 13 of the hanger bar. Projecting laterally from the stirrup frame is a lug 24 which serves to sustain the locking member 19 when excessive strain is transmitted thereto by the section 13, due to weight applied to the stirrup.

As the locking and releasing device which is journaled between the ears 18 is identical, both in operation and structure with the locking and releasing device journaled between the ears 17, a detail description there-

of will be omitted herein; it being sufficient to say that same is disposed oppositely to the locking and releasing device just described and comprises a locking member 25 and a tripping toe 26 positioned at substantially right angles to the locking member. A torsional spring 28 constructed precisely as spring 23 serves to normally move and hold the locking member directly beneath the outer end of the section 14 of the hanger bar of the stirrup whereby any upward movement of the inner end of said hanger bar is normally prevented. A supporting lug 29 similar to lug 24 and serving exactly the same office is positioned directly beneath the lower end of the slot 10.

The operation of the stirrup is as follows: Assuming the parts to be in the position shown in Fig. 1 it will be readily seen that the locking member 19 is disposed beneath the outer end of the section 13 of the hanger bar, while the locking member 25 is disposed beneath the outer end of the section 14, and that by reason of the engagement of the outer end of said sections with the locking members 19 and 25 respectively the inner ends of said sections are locked against upward movement and that when the stirrup strap is looped around said section the stirrup will be positively supported thereby. However, should the rider be thrown in the use of the stirrup the toe portion of the foot will move upwardly and rearwardly and engage the tripping toes 20 and 26 and cause said toes to be moved rearwardly, which will in turn throw the locking members 19 and 25 outwardly from beneath the outer ends of the sections 13 and 14 of the hanger bar. The strain of the stirrup strap on the sections 13 and 14 will then cause said sections to rock on their pivots so that their inner ends are moved upwardly and away from each other and effect the detachment of the stirrup from the strap and prevent the rider being dragged and seriously injured.

What is claimed is:—

1. In a stirrup, the combination of a stir-

rup frame, a hanger bar comprising a pair of sections pivoted respectively to opposite sides of the frame, the outer ends of each section projecting beyond the outer face of the frame, a locking member pivoted to each side of the frame for movement in a horizontal plane, each of said locking members comprising a pair of angularly disposed arms, one of said arms being adapted to engage the outer end of the adjacent section of the hanger bar when said locking member is disposed in one position to hold said section against movement on its pivot, and the other arm extending across the stirrup frame and constituting a tripping toe, and means constantly tending to move said locking member on its pivot so as to force the first named arm into engagement with the end of the adjacent section of the hanger bar.

2. In a stirrup, the combination of a stirrup frame, a hanger bar comprising a pair of sections pivoted respectively to opposite sides of the frame, the outer ends of each section projecting beyond the outer face of the frame, a locking member pivoted to each side of the frame for movement in a horizontal plane, each of said locking members comprising a pair of angularly disposed arms, one of said arms being adapted to engage the outer end of the adjacent section of the hanger bar when said locking member is disposed in one position to hold said section against movement on its pivot, and the other arm extending across the stirrup frame and constituting a tripping toe, and spring actuated means constantly tending to move said locking member on its pivot so as to force the first named arm into engagement with the end of the adjacent section of the hanger bar.

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

JAMES F. SHULTZ.

Witnesses:

THOS. BALLARD,
W. H. LEE.