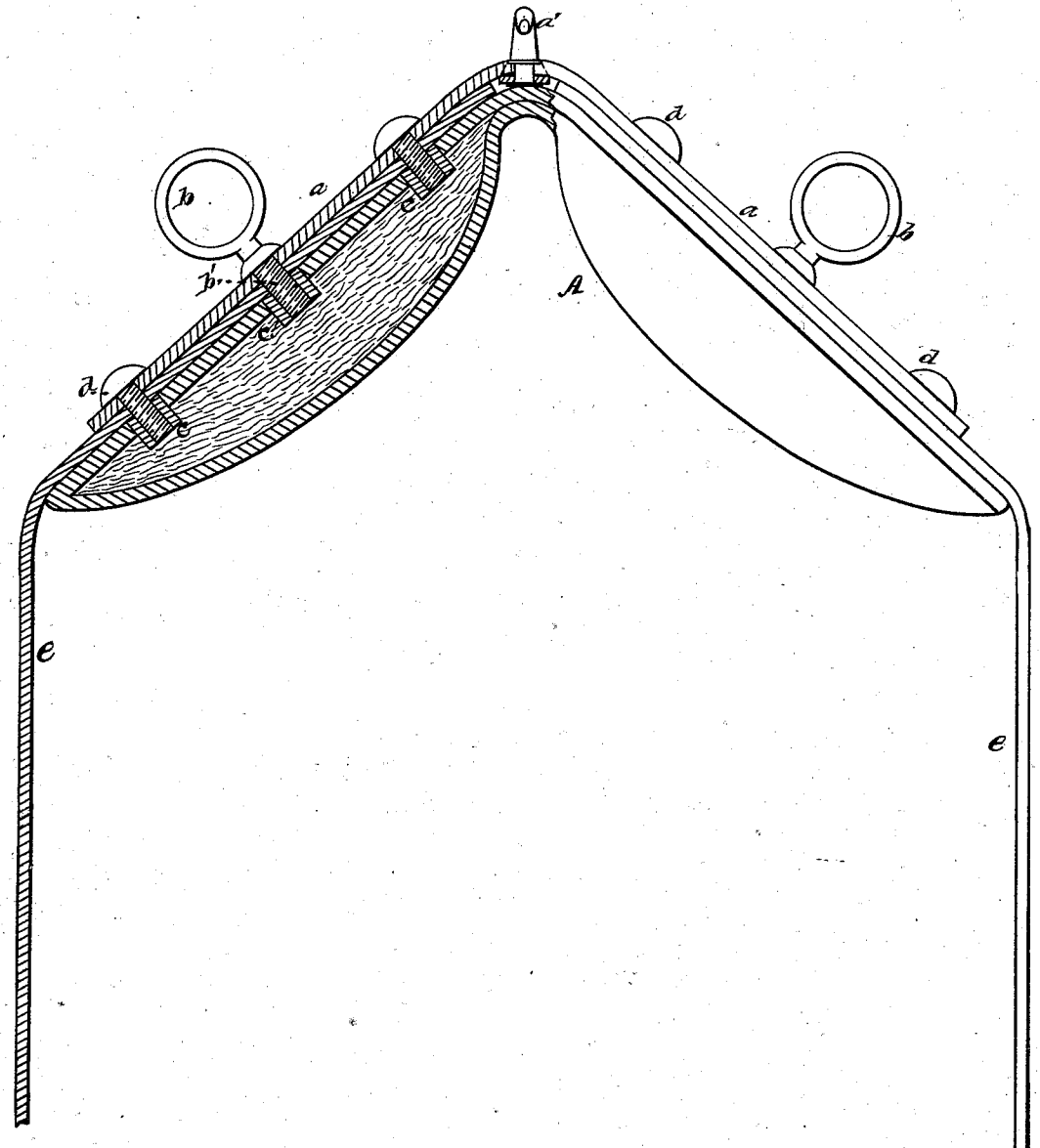
J. F. BEST.

HARNESS-SADDLE.

No. 191,917. Patented June 12, 1877.



WITNESSES

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

JAMES F. BEST, OF GALVA, ILLINOIS.

IMPROVEMENT IN HARNESS-SADDLES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **191,917**, dated June 12, 1877; application filed March 19, 1877.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, J. F. BEST, of Galva, in the county of Henry and State of Illinois, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harness-Saddles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, which will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification; and in which the figure illustrates a view of my improved harness-saddle partly in section and side view.

This invention relates to a certain improvement in harness-saddles, by which the skirt is shortened or lengthened, and it consists of means for producing that result, substantially as hereinafter more fully set forth.

As heretofore practiced, in shortening the skirt, it had to be rolled or looped up, requiring a greater or less number of fastenings, time, and trouble, besides rendering its appearance bungling, &c. My invention, in addition to obviating these disadvantages, also lessens the amount of leather used in the manufacture of the skirt, which, of course, economizes in expense, &c., and can also be readily lengthened.

In the annexed drawing, A refers to the saddle, upon which is secured a strap or piece of leather, *a*, to which is attached the check-rein hook *a'*, and through which the terrets *b b* pass, entering and secured in the saddle A by screws or threaded shanks *b' b'* and threaded sockets *c c*, fastened in the saddle. Through this strap *a* also pass screws *d d*, secured in place in like manner in similar threaded or screw sockets, *c c*. Beneath the strap *a* are placed two other straps, *e e*, which constitute the skirt, depending from the saddle, and provided at their lower ends with buckles or other means for forming a connection with the trace, &c. The straps or skirt *e e* are also provided, commencing from their upper ends, with a number of holes, as seen in the sectional portion of the figure, through which the screws *d d* and terrets *b b* pass, by which the skirt may be shortened or lengthened, as required. These holes or apertures are so arranged as to coincide with and receive the terrets and screws *d d*, and may be multiplied when it is desired to take up the skirt or straps *e e* to a greater extent than that shown in the figure. By thus adjusting the skirt, it will be seen that there will be no superfluous leather to be rolled or looped up out of the way and fastened to the saddle, avoiding the skirt, &c., having a bungling appearance, and also lessening the amount of leather used in making the skirt, promoting cheapness and simplicity. To adjust the skirt, remove the screws *d d* and terrets *b b*, and lower or elevate the skirt-straps *e e*, as required, when the skirt will be shortened or lengthened, after which reinsert the screws and terrets, and the operation will be complete, and the saddle ready for use.

The buckles connecting the skirt or straps *e e* to the traces may be connected to said straps by metallic clips.

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

In a harness-saddle, the skirts or straps *e e*, having a series of apertures adapted to register with screws *d d*, and the terret-screws for the purpose of rendering said skirts or straps adjustable vertically, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own, I hereunto affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

JAMES F. BEST.

Witnesses:

AUGUSTUS E. ALLEN,

EUGENE O. SUTPHIN.