

(No Model.)

V. D. HART.
RIDING SADDLE.

No. 481,945.

Patented Sept. 6, 1892.

Fig. 1.

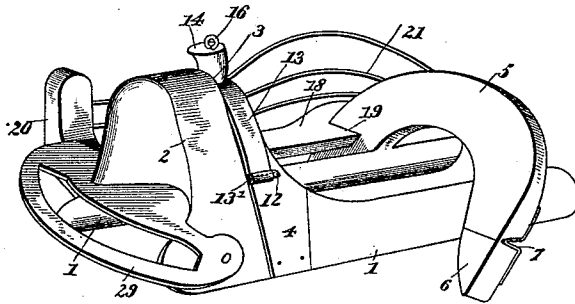


Fig. 2.

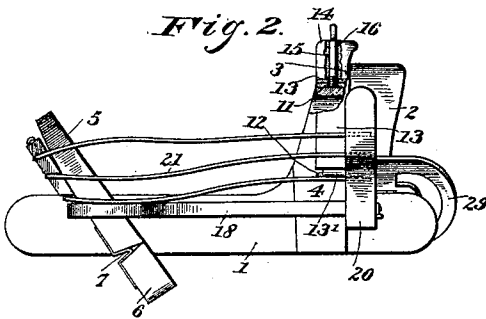


Fig. 3.

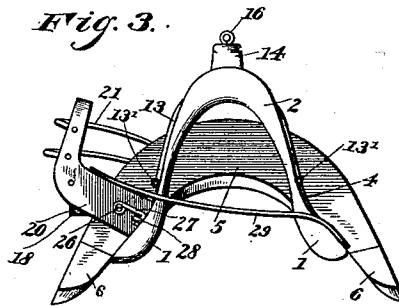
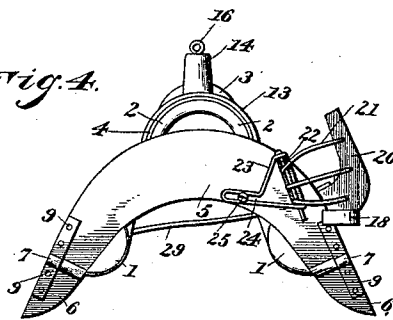


Fig. 4.



Witnesses;

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

VERNON D. HART, OF ADDISON, WEST VIRGINIA.

RIDING-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 481,945, dated September 6, 1892.

Application filed December 16, 1891. Serial No. 415,245. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, VERNON D. HART, a citizen of the United States, residing at Addison, in the county of Webster and State of West Virginia, have invented a new and useful Combination Riding-Saddle, of which the following is a specification.

This invention relates to improvements in saddles, the objects in view being to provide what might be properly termed a "combination-saddle" and to so construct the same as to be readily adapted for use as an ordinary riding-saddle, a herding-saddle, or as a side-saddle.

A further object of the invention is to so construct the saddle as to increase the strength and durability of the same and to render greater comfort to the rider or occupant.

Other objects and advantages of the invention will appear in the following description, and the novel features thereof will be particularly pointed out in the claims.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a perspective of a saddle constructed in accordance with my invention. Fig. 2 is a side elevation and partial section of the same. Fig. 3 is a front elevation. Fig. 4 is a rear elevation.

Like numerals of reference indicate like parts in all the figures of the drawings.

In practicing my invention I employ a pair of opposite longitudinally-disposed half-round straight wooden bars 1, connecting them near their front ends by a pommel-arch 2, beyond the lower end of which the bars 1 extend, thus constituting a tree. The pommel arch at its rear edge is recessed, as at 3, which recess is partially filled by a metallic arched connecting-strap 4, secured to the arch of the pommel and to the opposite sides 1 of the tree.

5 designates the cantle of the saddle, the same being half-round or semicircular, as is usual, and is secured to and embraces the opposite side bars 1 near their rear ends. To the lower front corners of the cantle-extension depending sections 6 are secured or hinged, by means of the leather covering of the cantle or otherwise, if desired, and between the ends of the cantle and the upper ends of the sections there are interposed V-shaped spring-plates 7, which yieldingly support the cantle-sections in line with the cantle. The utility

of these extensions and their advantages may be readily recognized in that it will be seen that the rider seated in the saddle has his legs partially supported by the cantle-sections, which yield to any great pressure and serve to diminish the jar from horse to rider, whereby considerable comfort is experienced by both.

The metal strap 4 is provided at its apex with a perforation 11, and at opposite sides of the same with a pair of forwardly-disposed prongs 12. This strap 4, which, as before stated, covers the bottom of the recess 3, is embraced by a removable inverted-U-shaped pommel-horn 13, the opposite ends of which terminate in loops or eyes 13', which removably engage the before-mentioned prongs 12. The pommel-arch embracing-plate 4 has a threaded opening 11, and the same registers with a corresponding opening formed at the center of the pommel-horn 13 and the horn 14 rising therefrom, and passing through the said perforations is a pin 16, threaded at its lower end to removably engage with the pommel-arch embracing-strap 4.

It will be seen from the above that by means of the pin 16 the horn 14, so essential in herding cattle, may be applied to the saddle and rigidly locked thereon, and that by removing the pin 16 from the horn the horn and its support may be removed from the saddle, and thus the latter left as an ordinary riding-saddle.

I have further provided an attachment for the saddle, adapted to be used either with or without the horn, whereby it is adapted for ladies' use; or, in other words, the saddle is converted into what is commonly termed a "side-saddle."

In constructing the attachment I employ a side bar 18, which has its rear end recessed, as at 19, so as to embrace the right side of the cantle. The front end of the bar 18 is connected to a supporting-horn 20, of substantially-L shape, and a series of curved wires, forming a guard 21, are connected at their front ends to the supporting-horn 20, and at their rear ends are connected to a pintle 22. The opposite ends of the pintle are connected pivotally to a V-shaped eye 23, the angle of which is shaped to form a neck 24, designed to embrace a headed stud 25, extending from the

rear side of the cantle. To the horn 20 there is pivoted, as at 26, a hook 27, the free end of which is swung into engagement with an eye 28, projecting from the pommel-arch 2 of the saddle.

In applying the attachment for converting the saddle into what is commonly termed a "side-saddle" the widest portion of the eye 23 is first introduced over the headed stud 25 and the eye drawn outwardly, so that its narrow neck portion 24 embraces the stud. The attachment is now swung to the front until the inner end of the horn 20 abuts against the pommel-arch, after which the hook 27 is swung into engagement with the eye 28. It will be seen that the attachment when in position affords a convenient and comfortable support for the rider, who mounts in the usual way, the right knee resting between the horn 20 and the pommel-arch and the lower extremity of the limb passing across the shoulders of the horse.

In order to prevent any possible soiling of the habit of the rider, a shield 29, of leather or other material of a suitable nature, may have its ends secured to the opposite sides of the tree and its intermediate portion arched over the neck of the animal. A support is thus furnished for the entire length of the limb and the security of the rider greatly increased.

Having described my invention, what I claim is—

1. The herein-described improved saddle, the same comprising a cantle, cantle sections or extensions hinged at their front upper corners to the front lower corners of the cantle and depending therefrom, and springs for normally supporting the extensions in line with the cantle, substantially as specified.

2. The herein-described improved saddle, the same comprising the opposite side bars, the arched cantle embracing and secured to the same, the cantle sections or extensions, the leather hinges connecting the sections at their upper front corners to the lower front corners of the cantle, and the V-shaped metal springs interposed between the meeting edges of the cantle and the sections, substantially as specified.

3. The herein-described improved saddle, the same comprising the opposite side bars, the pommel-arch connecting the side bars, and the

inverted-U-shaped pommel removably mounted on the arch and provided with a horn, substantially as specified.

4. The herein-described improved saddle, the same consisting of the opposite sides, the recessed pommel-arch connecting the two, the inverted-U-shaped metal strap embracing the recess and having the central threaded opening and its ends terminating in loops, prongs mounted on the metal strap with which the loops engage, a horn perforated longitudinally and rising from the pommel, and a pin passed removably through the horn and threaded in the pommel-arch embracing metal strap, substantially as specified.

5. The combination, with the saddle comprising the inverted-U-shaped cantle, of the described improved side-saddle attachment, the same consisting of an L-shaped horn, a curved guard secured at its front end to the horn, and devices for removably connecting the rear end of the curved guard to the cantle of the saddle and the horn to the side of the same, substantially as specified.

6. The combination, with the saddle, the stud located at the rear end thereof and the eye at the front end, of the herein-described attachment, consisting of the bar 18, recessed at its rear end to embrace the cantle, the L-shaped supporting-horn 20, connected to the front end of the bar, the hook pivoted to the horn and adapted to engage the eye of the saddle, the curved guard 21, secured at its front end to the horn, the pintle connected to the rear end of the guard, and the V-shaped eye 23, pivoted at its terminals to the pintle and at its angle provided with the reduced neck for engaging the stud of the saddle, substantially as specified.

7. The combination, with the saddle comprising the inverted-U-shaped cantle, the side attachment connected to the pommel and cantle and consisting of a curved guard, and an L-shaped supporting-horn at the front end of the same, of the shield 29, secured to the front of the saddle, substantially as specified.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my own I have hereto affixed my signature in the presence of two witnesses.

VERNON D. HART.

Witnesses:

C. W. BENEDUM,
J. C. ELBON.