

No. 753,751.

PATENTED MAR. 1, 1904.

P. R. STERN,  
RIDING SADDLE.  
APPLICATION FILED APR. 30, 1903.

NO MODEL.

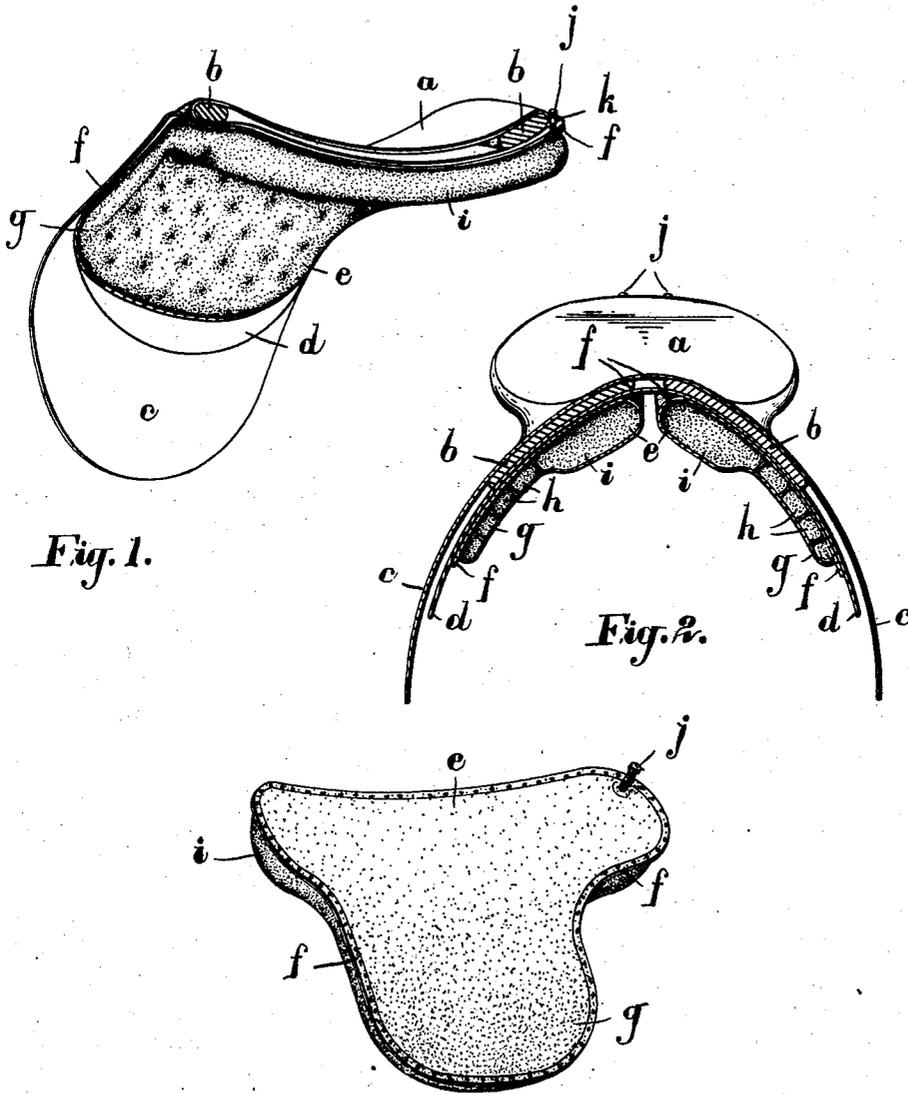


Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

Fig. 3.

Witnesses.

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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PHILIP ROLAND STERN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## RIDING-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 753,751, dated March 1, 1904.

Application filed April 30, 1903. Serial No. 155,081. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PHILIP ROLAND STERN, a subject of the King of Great Britain, residing at New York, in the State of New York, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Riding-Saddles, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to improvements in riding-saddles; and the object of the invention is to devise a yielding padding, whereby much comfort is afforded to the equestrian and the chances of sore back and irritability on the part of the horse greatly lessened, and which shall reduce the cost and labor in the manufacture of saddles and provide a cushion readily renewable; and it consists, essentially, of a pair of collapsible flat rubber cushions formed in the shape of an ordinary saddle-padding, a stiff leather lining extending continuously from the flap on one side of the saddle to the flap on the other side of the saddle and designed to form a backing for the said rubber cushions, the general arrangement and details of construction being hereinafter more particularly described.

Figure 1 is a longitudinal sectional perspective view of a saddle, showing one of the cushions. Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of a saddle having my device attached thereto. Fig. 3 is a detail of a rubber cushion.

Like letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in each figure.

*a* is the seat of the saddle supported on the frame *b*, and *c* represents the flaps depending from the said frame.

*d* is a stiff leather lining continuous from one side of the saddle to the other inside the flaps *c* and securely attached to the frame *b*.

*e* represents inflatable rubber cushions, having the rim or edge *f* therearound. The cushions *e* are thinner toward their lower ends *g* either by dividing into a plurality of chambers *h*, as shown, or in any other suitable manner. The upper ends *i* form the more yielding portions of the cushions:

*j* represents air-valves controlling the passage of air to and from the cushions *e*.

The cushions *e* are attached to the lining *d* with a solution of rubber or other suitable adhesive substance spread over their inner surface and further held, if necessary, by stitching through the rim or edge *f* to the said leather lining *d* at each side of the saddle, so that the upper ends *i* will be immediately under the seat of the saddle and spaced at a sufficient distance apart to allow for compression from a weight on the saddle. The lower ends *g* of the cushions extend downwardly on the stiff leather lining on each side. The valves *j* will protrude through at any suitable place, but preferably toward the back of the saddle immediately beneath the seat *a*. The outer periphery of the valve-casing is threaded to receive the correspondingly-threaded cap *k* to hold it in place.

This pneumatic padding for saddles is designed to replace the present hair padding and will be found to have many advantages both for the rider and for the horse, as it is much more yielding, and therefore in the event of any movement of the saddle from a loose girth or other causes the horse's back is not liable to be irritated to soreness. Besides this the comfort of the rider is materially increased, as in the horse changing gaits or, in fact, any irregular movement of the horse the jar on the rider will be materially lessened.

The advantages in manufacture are that the saddle-padding may be renewed in a few minutes, and the durability of a good rubber padding is superior to the present form, providing it is kept in a reasonably even temperature or suitably incased in a cloth covering.

It must be understood that these pneumatic cushions may be made in rubber-filled canvas or any other form of collapsible material which will retain the air.

What I claim as my invention is—

A riding-saddle comprising a frame, a seat and flaps supported thereby, a stiff lining se-

cured to the under side of the frame and extending downward on each side, and a pair of pneumatic cushions secured to the inner face of said lining, each of said cushions comprising a thin lower portion with parallel walls and a thicker upper portion, said cushion having projecting edge flanges for attachment to the lining, substantially as described.

Signed at New York, in the State of New York, in the United States of America, this 10 25th day of April, 1903.

PHILIP ROLAND STERN.

Witnesses:

WILLIAM A. McMAIN,  
ANDREW SANTORA.