(No Model.)

A. C. LAMBETH.

RIDING SADDLE.

No. 342,111. Patented May 18, 1886.

Fig. 1.

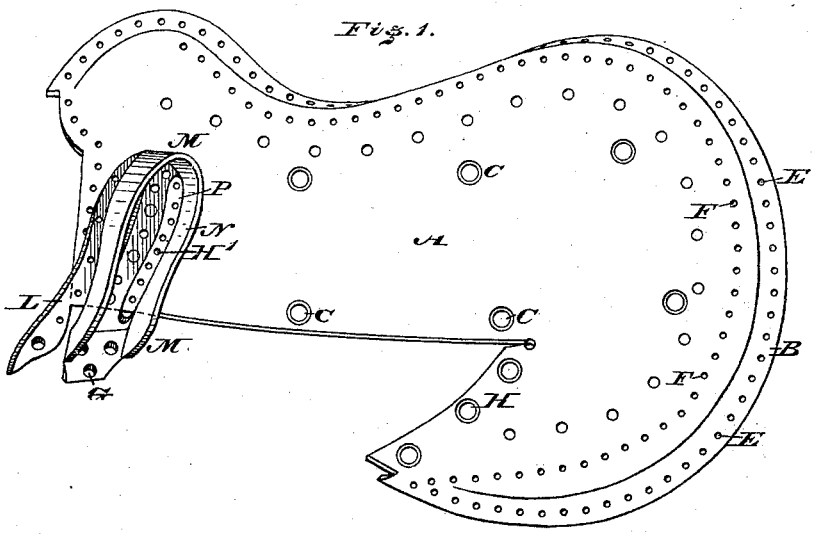


Fig. 2.

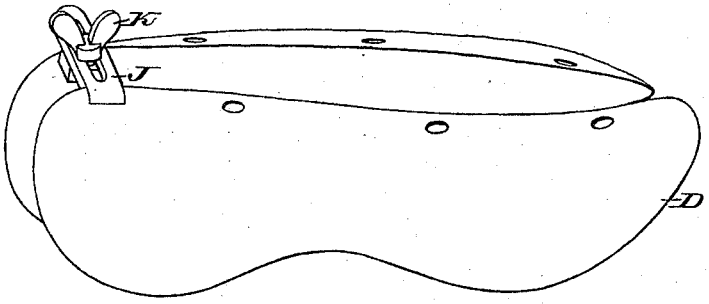
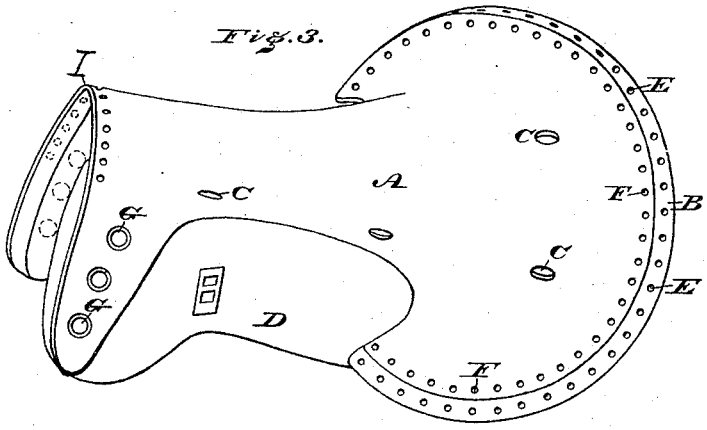


Fig. 3.



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RIDING-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 342,111, dated May 18, 1886.

Application filed January 18, 1886. Serial No. 188,950. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, ALEXANDER C. LAMBETH, a citizen of the United States, residing at Denver, in the county of Arapahoe, State of Colorado, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Riding-Saddles, which improvement is fully set forth in the following specification and accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 represents a perspective view of the deck for a lady's saddle embodying my invention. Fig. 2 represents a perspective view of adjustable bars. Fig. 3 represents a perspective view of the deck for a man's saddle embodying my invention.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts in the several figures.

My invention consists of the deck of a riding-saddle, formed of perforated rolled-steel plate stamped in form by dies, whereby the same is light, strong, and durable, and comfortable in service.

It also consists in forming the deck with a bent or crimped rim, whereby the strength of the same is increased.

It also consists in providing the deck with means for building up the seat at the cantle and head, and attachment of rolls, puffs, &c.

It also consists of the supporting-bars of the deck made adjustable to animals of different sizes and contours.

Referring to the drawings, A represents a deck for a saddle, the same being constructed of rolled sheet-steel formed of a single piece of material stamped, as hereinafter described, of the desired shape for a lady's or man's saddle. The outer edge of the deck is bent downward, producing a rim crimp or corrugation B at said edge, whereby the said edge is strengthened.

Owing to the elastic nature of the material and to the deck being formed of a single piece stamped into the proper shape, the same, while yielding to pressure, easily resumes its original shape, thereby readily conforming itself to the action of the animal and its rider, and thus can be used with greater ease to both. The gullet I, being a part of and integral with the rest of the deck, is permitted to rise and fall, owing to the spring of the bars, and also to spread, thereby conforming to the movements of the animal, and thus prevent chafing or bruising of the withers.

C represents a number of perforations in the deck, whereby the latter is screwed or bolted to the bars D of the saddle.

E represents a row of perforations in the rim of the deck, whereby the latter may have the ground-work of the saddle secured to it, and F represents a row of perforations in the deck adjacent to the rim, whereby the roll and puff of the saddle may be secured in position. Openings G are also formed in the front or head end of the deck, whereby it may be secured to the contiguous part of the bars, and other openings may be formed in the deck according to requirements—for instance, the opening H in the side extension of the lady's saddle, Fig. 1, and those for connection on the scroll-horn thereof.

The bars D are connected by a slotted piece, J, which is attached to one of the bars and receives a screw or bolt, K, which is fitted to the other bar. By this provision, when the screw or bolt K is loosened the bars may be adjusted in width in accordance with the size and contour of the back of the animal for which a saddle is required. When the adjustment is accomplished, the screw or bolt is tightened and the bars retain their adjusted position. The deck is then screwed to the bars, and it will be seen that a properly-fitted and a nicely setting saddle is produced.

In practice I take a piece or plate of sheet-steel, heat the same to red heat, and place the same on the lower die or bed of a pair of dies, whose working faces are of the form of the deck to be made. The upper die is then lowered or closed and subjected to hydraulic or other pressure, whereby the shape of the dies is imparted to the plate, the same being that of the deck, which is curved, having the head of the gullet and the rear of the cantle somewhat raised. The deck may have a central slot between the bars thereof, which adds to the spring or elastic nature of the same, and thereby allows the gullet to more readily respond to the action of the horse.

The perforations may be made prior or subsequently to the shaping operation or at the

same time. In the latter case suitable pins and openings are formed in the two parts of the die.

It is evident that the off horn of a lady's saddle formed of the same piece and integral with the rest of the deck and constructed of the material and in the manner herein described would be of an elastic and springy nature, thus possessing the advantage of readily yielding, thereby preventing the easy tiring of the right limb of the rider.

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

1. As an improved article of manufacture, a saddle-deck consisting of a single sheet of steel stamped or pressed into the configuration of the saddle-seat, and adapted for attachment substantially as set forth.

2. As an improved article of manufacture, a deck for riding-saddles, composed of single piece of sheet-steel stamped or rolled to conform to the outlines of the upper portion of a saddle, and provided with attaching-perforations, and having a rim or flange, substantially as set forth.

3. The combination, with the foundation or side bars of a saddle, of a sheet-steel deck stamped or pressed into the configuration of the saddle-seat, and provided with perforations for attaching purposes, substantially as described.

4. The deck A, having perforations C, in combination with bars D, one of which has a slotted piece, J, attached thereto, and the other having the screw K secured to the same, substantially as and for the purpose set forth.

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