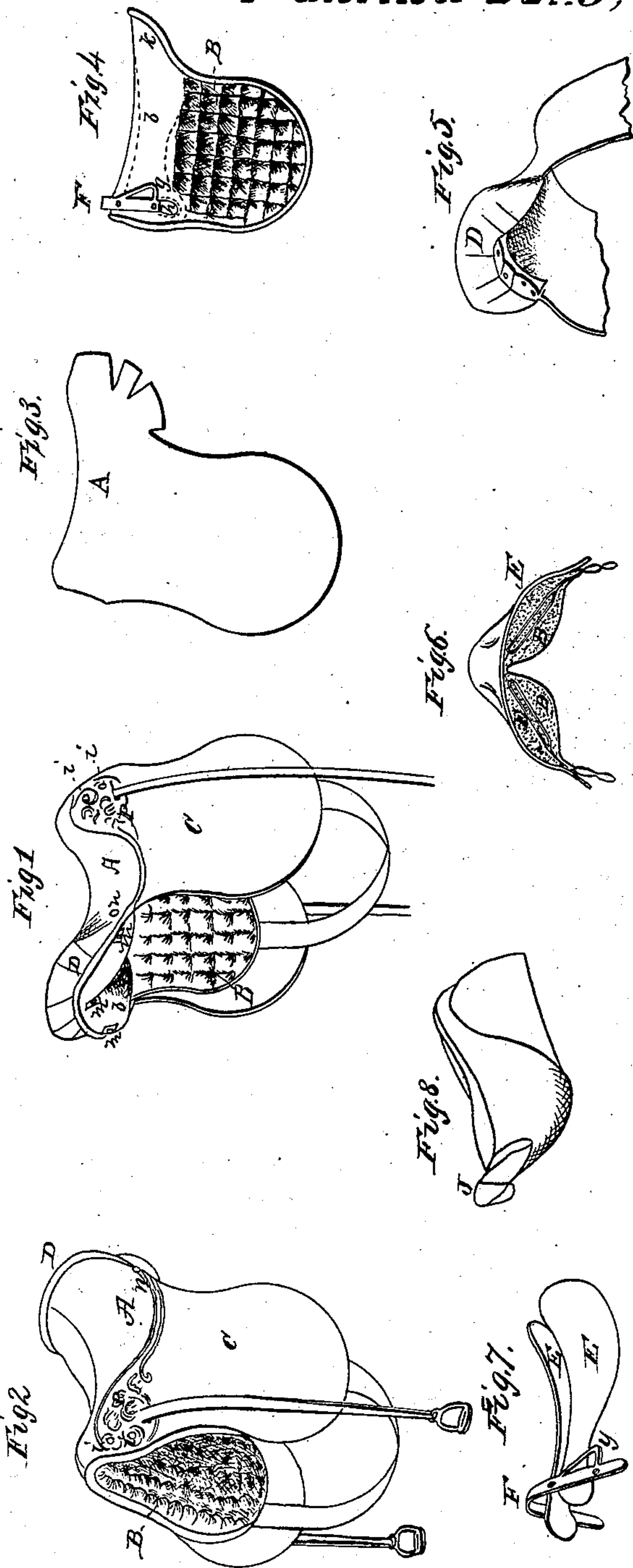


*L. Hall,*  
*Riding Saddle,*  
*No 5,830,*  
*Patented Oct. 3, 1848.*





# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

LEVI HALL, OF ADRIAN, MICHIGAN.

## SADDLE-FRAME.

Specification of Letters Patent No. 5,830, dated October 3, 1848.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, LEVI HALL, of Adrian, in the county of Lenawee and State of Michigan, have invented a new and Improved Method of Constructing Riding-Saddles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making a part of this specification.

Figures 1 and 2, are perspective views of a saddle constructed by my improved method, and Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7, represent the component parts thereof in detail.

Similar letters indicate like parts in all the figures.

The nature of my invention consists in constructing saddles in such manner that I am enabled to dispense with the use of saddle trees of ordinary construction and also in forming the seat and skirts of the saddle of only two pieces of leather, united by a seam running lengthwise through the center of the seat.

The two pads B, B, shown by Figs. 4 and 6, form the basis of a saddle constructed by my improved method; these pads are stayed and kept in proper shape by the side boards E, E, passing longitudinally through the pads, and dividing them nearly in the center, as shown in Fig. 6; the pads are stuffed on the under sides of the side boards with curled hair, or other suitable material, and such a shape given to the under sides of the pads thereby, that they will perfectly adapt themselves to the back of a horse. The portion of the pads above the side boards, are given such a shape by stuffing, as to perfectly adapt them to the seat of the rider. An iron arch piece F, rests upon and is secured to the front ends of the pads and keeps them in a proper position; the stirrup loops g, project from the rear side of F, as shown in Fig. 4.

The seat A, and the skirts C, C, forming the entire cover of the saddle, are composed of two pieces of leather. Fig. 3, represents the form of one of these pieces as cut from the hide. To the portion of each piece of leather that forms one half the seat, is given the proper shape by wetting it and stretching it upon one portion of the forming block, represented by Fig. 8; and allowing it to remain till it becomes dry and hard.

When the two pieces of leather have been thus prepared, they are sewed together, and the portion of each that embraced the cantle portion J, of the forming block, is nailed to a cantle D, corresponding in shape therewith, as represented by Fig. 5. The saddle cover and cantle thus combined, are placed upon and secured to the pads B, B, as follows. The cantle D, rests upon the projecting rear portions k, of the pads, beyond the rear ends of the side bars, and is secured thereto by the bolts m, m, m, passing up through the pads into the cantle; the cantle serving to keep the rear ends of the pads in a proper position.

The front portion of the saddle seat A, is secured to the arch piece F, by the bolts or rivets i, i, passing up through the apertures in the legs of F, through the leather, and are headed down upon the same, as shown in Figs. 1, and 2. The front extremity of the crown of the seat A, is stitched to the front ends of the pads B, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2.

The girth straps are stitched to the under side of the skirts at p, as shown in Figs. 1 and 2. The stirrup leathers pass out through apertures in the skirts, as also shown in the same figures. In this manner the various parts of a saddle are formed and combined with each other by my improved method or process. A pommel of any shape that may be desired may be screwed into the crown of the arch piece F; or the horns for a lady's saddle may be secured to the crown of the arch piece, by means of screws, nuts and apertures, in any suitable manner. In constructing ladies' saddles by my improved method, I shall make use of a forming block in a single piece, and make the seams at the sides of the seat, so that I may be enabled to form the seat of velvet, plush, or other suitable material; the seat will however be first formed of thick leather and the thinner material placed over it. The shape of the forming block for ladies' saddles will of course differ from that used for gentlemen's saddles, and the seats of ladies' saddles will require more padding.

Saddles constructed by my improved method or process, cost much less and will be more durable than those constructed in the usual manner; and it is believed that they will be much easier to the horse and



rider in consequence of the flexibility of the pads. By the old plan of constructing saddles, eight pieces of leather are required in forming the cover; viz, four skirts, two  
5 drawdowns, throat piece, and seat; by my improved method I make use of but two pieces of leather in forming the saddle cover, which causes a great saving in stock; the making the seat of the same thickness  
10 as the skirts also greatly increases its durability. The iron arch piece side boards and wooden cantle made use of by me, cost less than the common saddle tree. The straining web, straining cloth, seat cloth,  
15 and tacks, made use of in the usual manner of constructing saddles, are all dispensed with in my improved method. The labor required in constructing saddles by my improved process, is much less than is required  
20 by the old plan of constructing saddles.

Having thus fully described my improved method or process of constructing saddles,

what I claim therein as new and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. The forming a saddle by the combina- 25  
tion of the pads B, B, the metallic arch piece F, the cantle D, and covering A, C, substantially in the manner herein set forth; by which I am enabled to dispense with the ordinary saddle tree and other parts above 30  
enumerated.

2. I also claim the staying and giving the proper stiffness to the pads by means of the side boards E, E, placed within the same, substantially in the manner herein set forth. 35

3. I also claim the construction of the cantle separate from the frame and combining it with the covering of the seat and with the pads substantially in the manner herein described.

LEVI HALL.

Witnesses:

R. W. WHITNEY,  
JOSHUA DAVIS.