

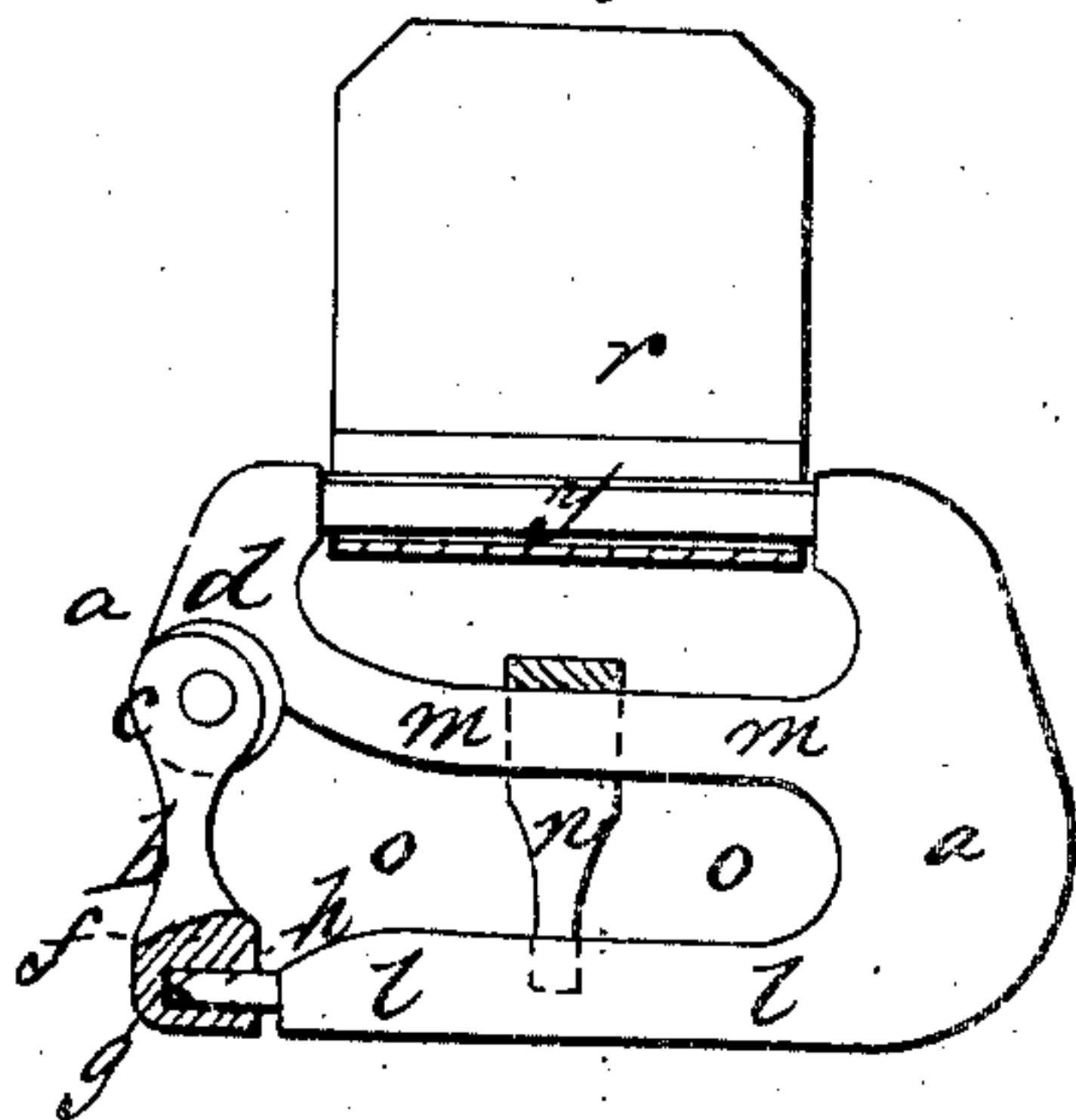
*C. H. Wellman,*

*Riding-Stirrup Fastening.*

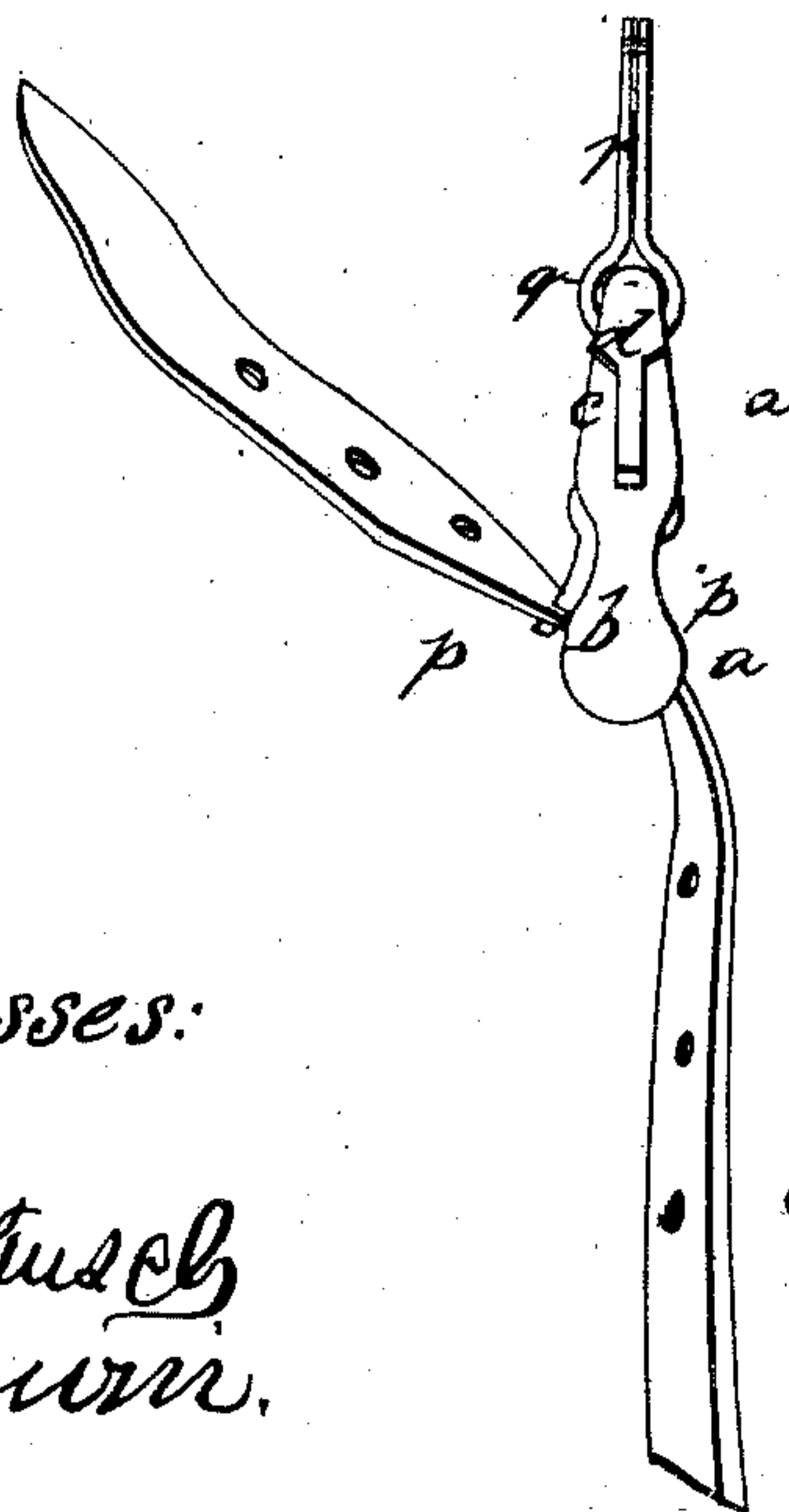
*N<sup>o</sup> 49813.*

*Patented Sep. 5, 1865.*

*Fig. 1.*



*Fig. 2.*



*Witnesses:*

*Geo. Tusch  
Jas. Brewin.*

*Inventor:*

*C. H. Wellman  
By *Munroe*  
*att'y**

# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

C. H. WELLMAN, OF NEW YORK, N. Y.

## IMPROVED STIRRUP-FASTENING.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 49,813, dated September 5, 1865.

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, C. H. WELLMAN, of No. 932 Broadway, in the city, county, and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Fastening for Stirrup-Straps to 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 make and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, forming part of this specification.

The present invention has for its principal object the production of a fastening for stirrup-straps to saddles, which, if the horse should stumble and fall, would enable and allow the straps to be readily disconnected therefrom, thereby relieving the rider's feet and leaving them free of the saddle, whereby much of the danger of serious injury to life and limb is prevented.

By my improvement this result is accomplished; and it consists in hinging one side of a buckle-frame, and at its upper end, to and upon the main portion of the same, through the opening in which buckle the upper end of the stirrup-strap is passed and secured at any point, according to the position desired for the stirrup, by inserting a sliding pin or hook, moving upon the upper cross-piece of the buckle-frame, in the proper aperture therefor. The buckle has a swinging tongue or plate, by which it is secured to the saddle in the usual position therefor, and in any proper manner.

In the use of the buckles above described, if the horse should fall, throwing the rider forward, by the natural pulling of his feet upon the stirrup-straps and against the hinged sides of the buckles, they are thereby swung open, allowing the straps to pass out of the same, while at the same time they disengage themselves from their hooks or pins, thus leaving the feet of the rider free of the horse.

In accompanying plate of drawings my improvement is represented, Figure 1 being a side view of the buckle with the stirrup-strap detached, and Fig. 2 a view of one end of the buckle, showing its hinged portion and the stirrup-strap inserted therein.

*a a* represent the buckle-frame, made of any suitable shape and size, and of any proper metal or other material, one end, *b*, of which is hinged by its upper end, *c*, to and upon the

main portion *d* of the buckle-frame *a*, its lower end, *f*, when it is closed, passing over and upon, by its socket *g*, the projecting stud or pin *h* of the lower side piece, *l*, of the frame *a*, as seen in section in Fig. 1.

Upon the cross-bar *m* of the frame *a* the upper end of a hook or pin, *n*, is placed so as to freely play back and forth thereon, and without becoming disconnected from the same, the lower end of which comes below the under side of the frame *a*, and bears against the same, when the stirrup-strap is placed within the opening *o* of the buckle and the hook inserted within the desired aperture of the same, as seen at *P* in Fig. 2, securely holding the stirrup-strap therein.

To and upon the upper cross-piece, *q*, of frame *a* a swinging tongue-piece or plate, *r*, is hung, by which tongue-piece the buckle, with its hinged end, is fastened to the saddle, and in its usual position, by any proper means.

By forming a stirrup-strap buckle as above described, in case of any accident to the horse the strap becomes instantly disengaged therefrom by simply pulling upon the same with the feet in such a direction as will cause it to bear against the hinged side of the same, which consequently flies open, allowing the strap to pass freely out of the buckle, sliding its hook upon its bearings, and finally necessarily disengaging itself therefrom, when the foot is perfectly free and independent of the saddle or the horse, as is evident without further description, and the advantages of which have been hereinbefore stated.

My improved strap-fastening may be adapted for other purposes than that particularly described, and therefore I do not intend to limit myself to its use for that alone.

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

The combination, with a sliding hook or pin, of a buckle, made of any desired size and shape, a hinged or pivoted side, arranged and operating together substantially in the manner described, and for the purposes specified.

The above specification of my invention signed by me this 20th day of March, 1865.

C. H. WELLMAN.

Witnesses:

M. M. LIVINGSTON,  
A. E. BEACH.