

S. S. Spurgin,
Riding Saddle,
N^o 63,322. Patented Mar. 26, 1867.

Fig. 1.

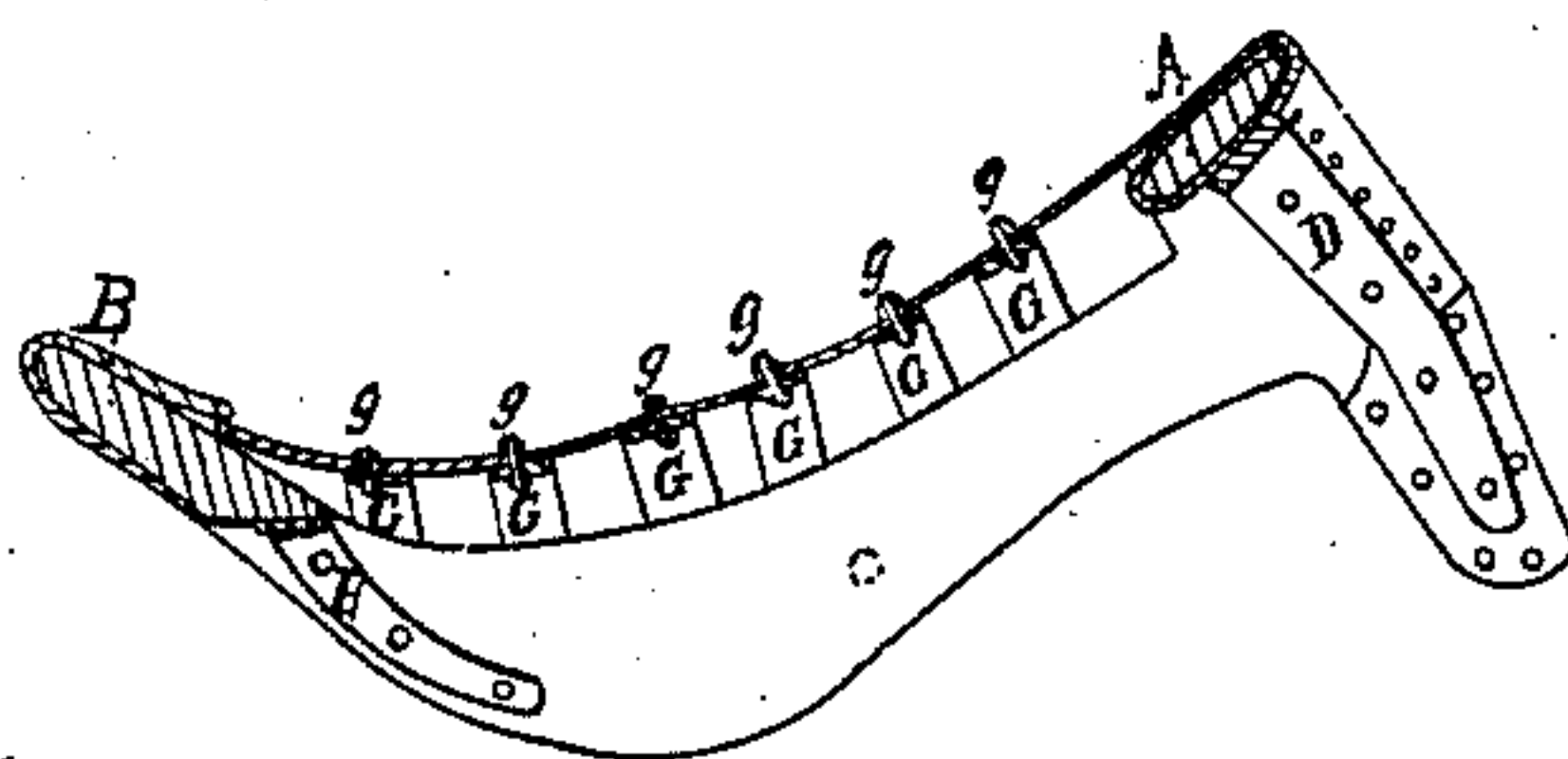


Fig. 2.

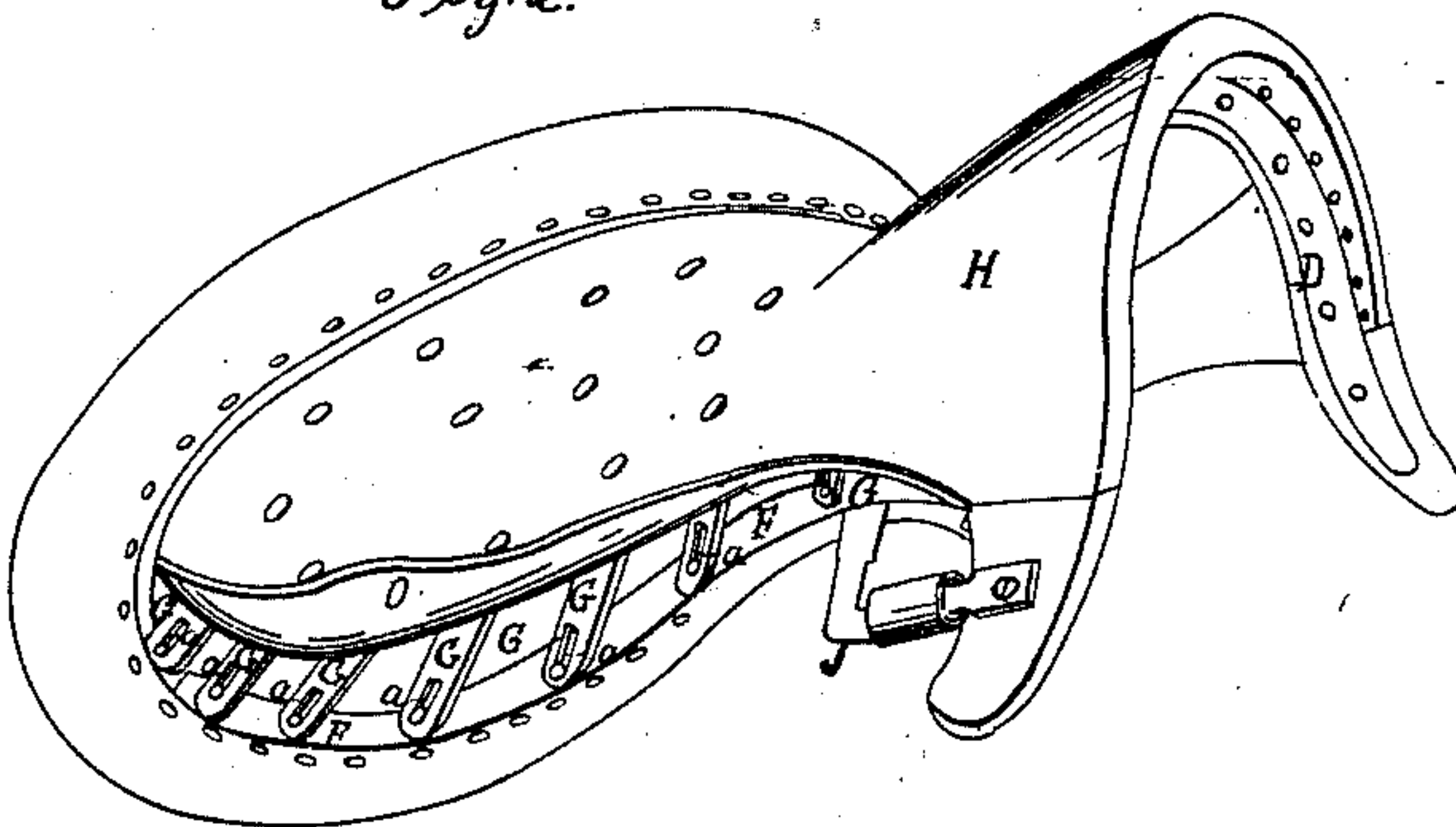
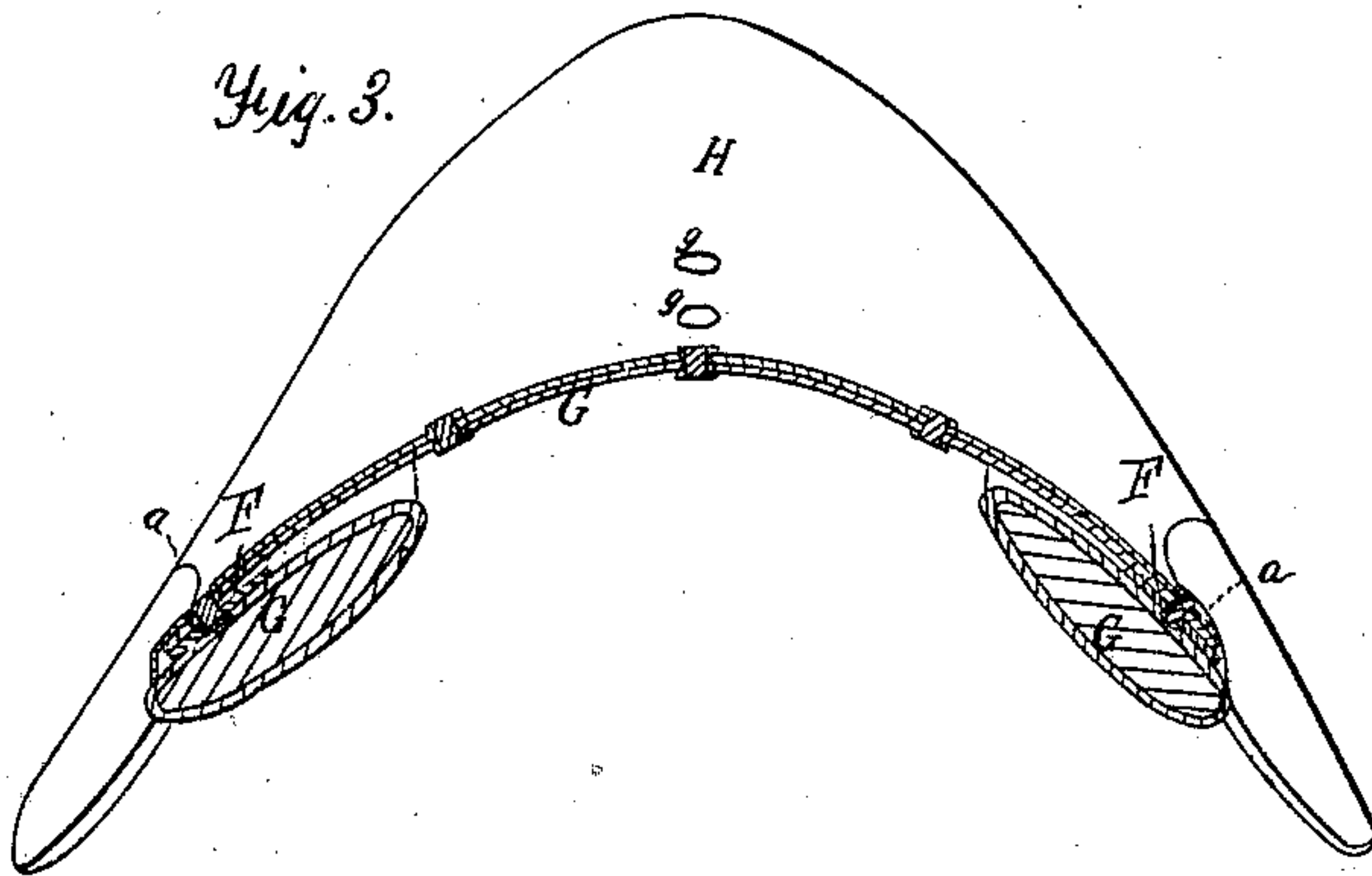


Fig. 3.



Witnesses:
Edward H. Knight.
John C. Kemon.

Inventor:
Samuel S. Spurgin.

United States Patent Office.

SAMUEL S. SPURGIN, OF JACKSONVILLE, ILLINOIS.

Letters Patent No. 63,322, dated March 26, 1867.

IMPROVED RIDING-SADDLE.

The Schedule referred to in these Letters Patent and making part of the same.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Be it known that I, SAMUEL S. SPURGIN, of Jacksonville, Morgan county, State of Illinois, have invented a new and useful improvement in Saddles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the nature, construction, and operation of the same, sufficient to enable an expert skilled in the art to which it appertains to construct and use the same, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, which are made part of this specification, and in which the same figures refer to similar parts.

Figure 1 is a vertical longitudinal section.

Figure 2 is a perspective view.

Figure 3 is a vertical transverse section.

The elastic membrane which is strained between the pommel and cantle, and supports the seat, is fastened to and upon the springs, whose ends rest upon the side-plates.

In the drawings, A represents the frame of the pommel, and B that of the cantle, C being the connecting side-plates of leather which join the two. The pommel has a strengthening iron strap, D, which is riveted thereto, and the cantle is similarly provided with a strap, E. The upper portion of each side-bar has a plate, F, upon which rest the ends of the arched springs, G G, which support the elastic membrane, H, which is strained from the pommel to the cantle, and supports the padded seat, which is not shown in the drawings. The strained membrane H is by preference composed of India rubber, and may be partially vulcanized. It is bent around the edge of the pommel, as shown in figs. 1 and 2, and tacked beneath the arch. Along the side-plates and upon the cantle it is tacked by its edge, and at such a tension that it becomes smooth and fits closely upon springs G G, to which it is attached by rivets *g*. The springs G are riveted to the membrane H at their mid-lengths, and at their ends rest upon the metallic plate on the side-bars C, the slots *a*, in the springs G, permitting the longitudinal motion of the springs as they are compressed by the weight of the rider, while the screws *b* keep the springs in their proper position. J is the loop from which the stirrup-strap is suspended, and is attached to the pommel and side-bar respectively. The cantle is covered with a roll of leather, which is sewn thereon. The strained membrane H forms an elastic support for the seat, and when it is pressed expands as the springs collapse; if the membrane be of non-elastic material, it will tear loose, and it is of but little use to provide yielding springs unless the strained membrane be elastic, so as to yield with the springs.

By the mode of attaching the membrane H to the pommel, the latter is not weakened, as in those saddles which derive a part of the elasticity of the seat from springs placed within a hole bored in the pommel.

The upturned edge of the membrane H, in fig. 2, exposes the mode of arranging the springs G on the side-plates. This arrangement affords elasticity between the springs, as they are not united, but have free play forward and backward to the extent permitted by the membrane H, to which they are severally attached, each spring acting independently of the others.

This arrangement is adapted to any kind of trees, such as Spanish, half Spanish, Somerset, or other trees for men's saddles, and also to trees for ladies' saddles, the membrane in each case acting as the "straining" of the tree, and forming a basis for the seat.

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

The arrangement in the saddle of the springs G G, supported on the side-plates, and the elastic straining piece H, fastened to the springs and to the pommel and cantle respectively, substantially as described.

SAMUEL S. SPURGIN.

Witnesses:

EDWARD H. KNIGHT,

SOLON C. KEMON.