

*S. W. Barker,
Horse-Blanket.*

Nº 74.742.

Patented Feb. 25. 1868.

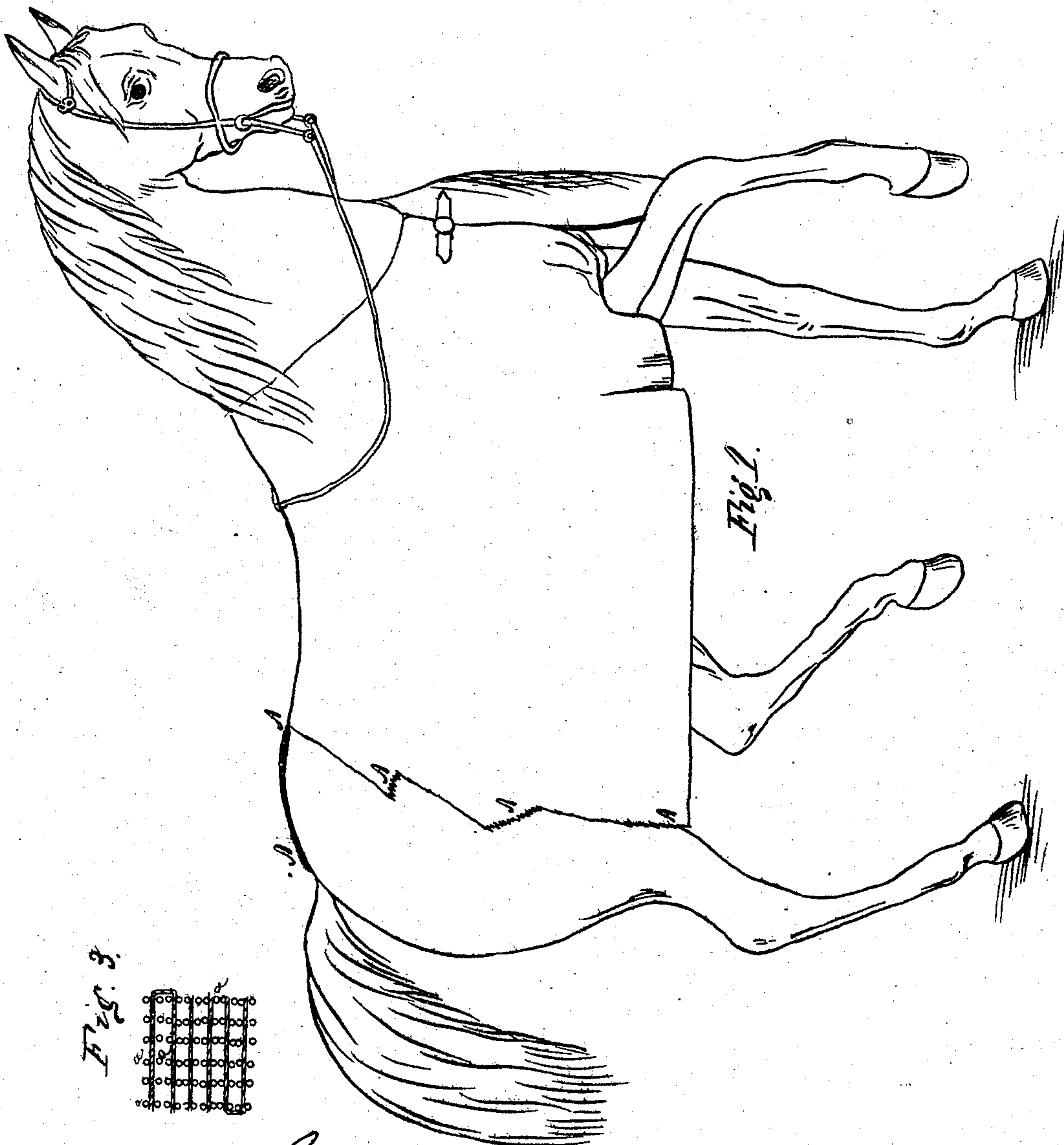
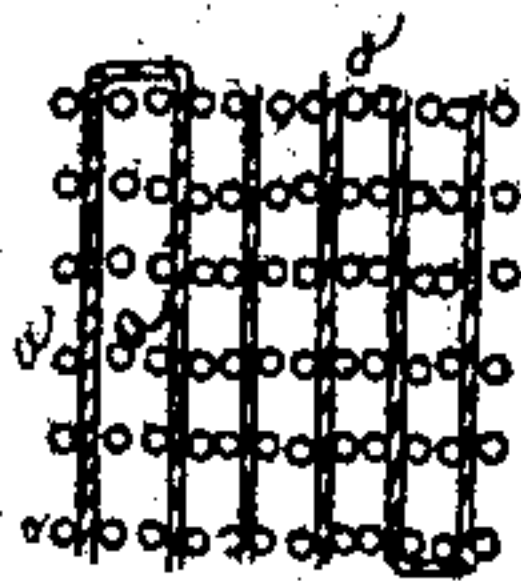


Fig. 3.



Witnesses

*Charles H. Kinyon
J. H. Corsee*

Fig. 2.



Inventor Seth W. Barker

by his Atty

Isaac A. Bruneau

United States Patent Office.

SETH W. BAKER, OF PROVIDENCE, RHODE ISLAND.

Letters Patent No. 74,742, dated February 25, 1868.

IMPROVED HORSE-BLANKET.

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, SETH W. BAKER, of the city and county of Providence, and State of Rhode Island, have invented a new and improved Manufacture of Blankets for Clothing Horses, and for other purposes; and I do hereby declare that the following specification is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, making part of the same, in which—

Figure 1 represents my improved blanket upon a horse, showing, by a section at A A, the thickness and porosity of the fabric.

Figure 2 is a section of the fabric in the direction of the length of the warp, the lines *a a* being the warps, and the dots the divided filling-threads.

Figure 3 is a cross-section of the fabric, in which the lines indicate the overlaying shoots of filling-threads, and the dots the divided warps.

Similar letters indicate corresponding parts in all the figures.

My said invention consists of a blanket, manufactured or made up in the ordinary way, of a thick cellular spongy fabric, composed of a number of sets of warps interwoven with a number of overlaying shoots of filling-threads of cotton or other suitable material, without fulling or nap, to provide for the free evaporation of animal perspiration, as well as to afford a requisite warmth of clothing.

My improved blanket is designed chiefly as an article of clothing for horses, for which purpose it is essential, on account of the excessive perspiration of the animal, that the blanket should be capable of rapidly absorbing and evaporating the perspiration, as well as to keep the animal warm after exercising, and it is manifest that the ordinary woollen blanket, which is fullled and napped to render it close and woolly, is not capable of absorbing and evaporating the perspiration as freely as a fabric composed of a thick net-work of distinct cotton threads woven loosely, and with a sponge-like texture; on the contrary, it is abundantly proved, by practice, that the woollen blanket becomes wet and "full," and confines the perspiration in the animal's coat, so that the body cools without drying, and the animal, in consequence, takes cold and becomes diseased, whereas, if the blanket would rapidly absorb the perspiration like a sponge, and allow it to evaporate freely therefrom, the heat of the animal's body would soon dry its hairy coat, and there would be no liability of taking cold. It has, in fact, been the practice heretofore to use a large sponge to absorb the perspiration from the animal's coat before applying the woollen blanket, and I have, by the use of this peculiar fabric, succeeded in combining the absorbent qualities of the sponge with the warmth and protection of a blanket.

The material which I prefer to use in the manufacture of the fabric of my improved blanket is cotton, on account of its superior absorbent properties and its cheapness, and the facility with which it can be worked and the manufacture adapted to well-known machinery now in use for working this fibre. I, however, do not confine myself to the use of cotton, but design to employ flax or tow or other suitable fibre.

Yarns or threads of such fibre being produced in due form by the ordinary processes of spinning and twisting of the numbers, say, of five and a half single ply for the filling, and from twenty to twenty-two three ply for the warps. I beam or wind the yarns or threads upon the yarn-beam in sets of two, three, four, five, or more distinct warps, and by means of a Greenhalgh or Crompton-loom, (so called,) or other suitable weaving-machinery, furnished with the requisite mountings of harnesses to operate a number of sets of warps, I interweave loosely in plain cloth the several sets of warps, by means of continuous shoots of the filling-thread, the loose intertwining of which forms interstitial cells or pores, from which the fabric derives its properties of warmth, absorption, and evaporation, as above specified, and shown in fig. 2.

In manufacturing this fabric for blankets, I propose to weave a variety of colors in checks, plaids, stripes, and other fanciful and ornamental designs, as well as plain white or mottled grounds, with headings of colored stripes, or otherwise, woven, or, if desired, they may be printed in fanciful designs and figures, as may be most desirable to the trade.

A blanket may be made of this fabric in the usual form, by cutting the fabric to suit the figure of the horse, or, if the blanket be woven square, or in the usual form in which blankets are woven, and confined by

means of the surcingle to the horse's body, owing to the spongy and yielding nature of the fabric, it will adapt itself to the shape of the horse, and so absorb the moisture from all parts of its coat which it covers.

A blanket of this fabric can be easily washed and dried. It is more durable than the ordinary woollen one, and can be afforded at about one-half the cost.

I do not claim the woven fabric herein described, the same having been previously patented by John Gujer, May 18, 1858, used for various other useful purposes.

What I claim, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

A horse-blanket, manufactured or made up of the fabric herein described, as a new article of manufacture.

S. W. BAKER.

Witnesses:

ISAAC A. BROWNELL,

WILLIAM BROWNELL.