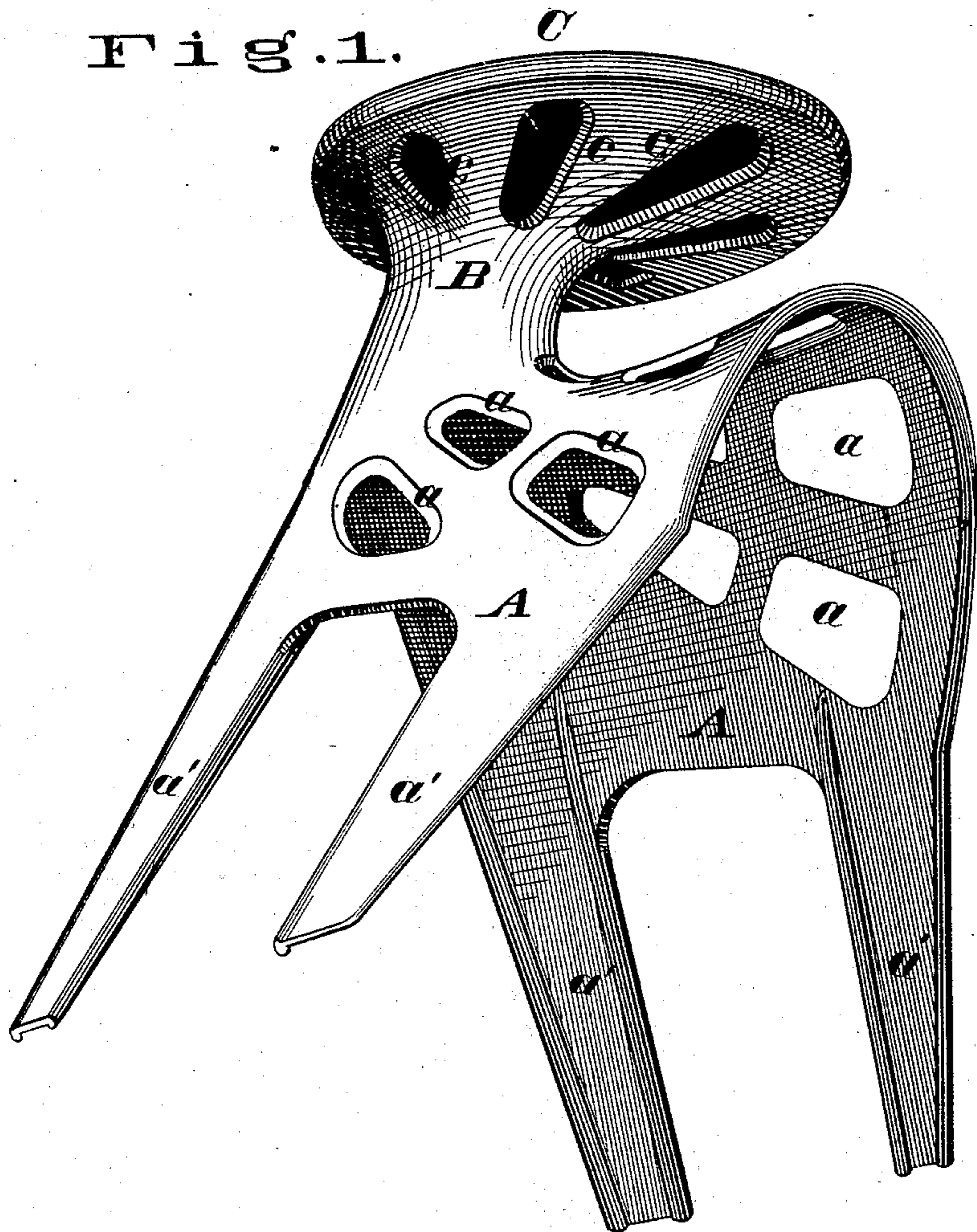


C. D. MOODY.
Saddle-Tree Forks.

No. 219,408.

Patented Sept. 9, 1879.

Fig. 1.



Attest.

Charles Pickles
Charles D. Moody

Inventor.

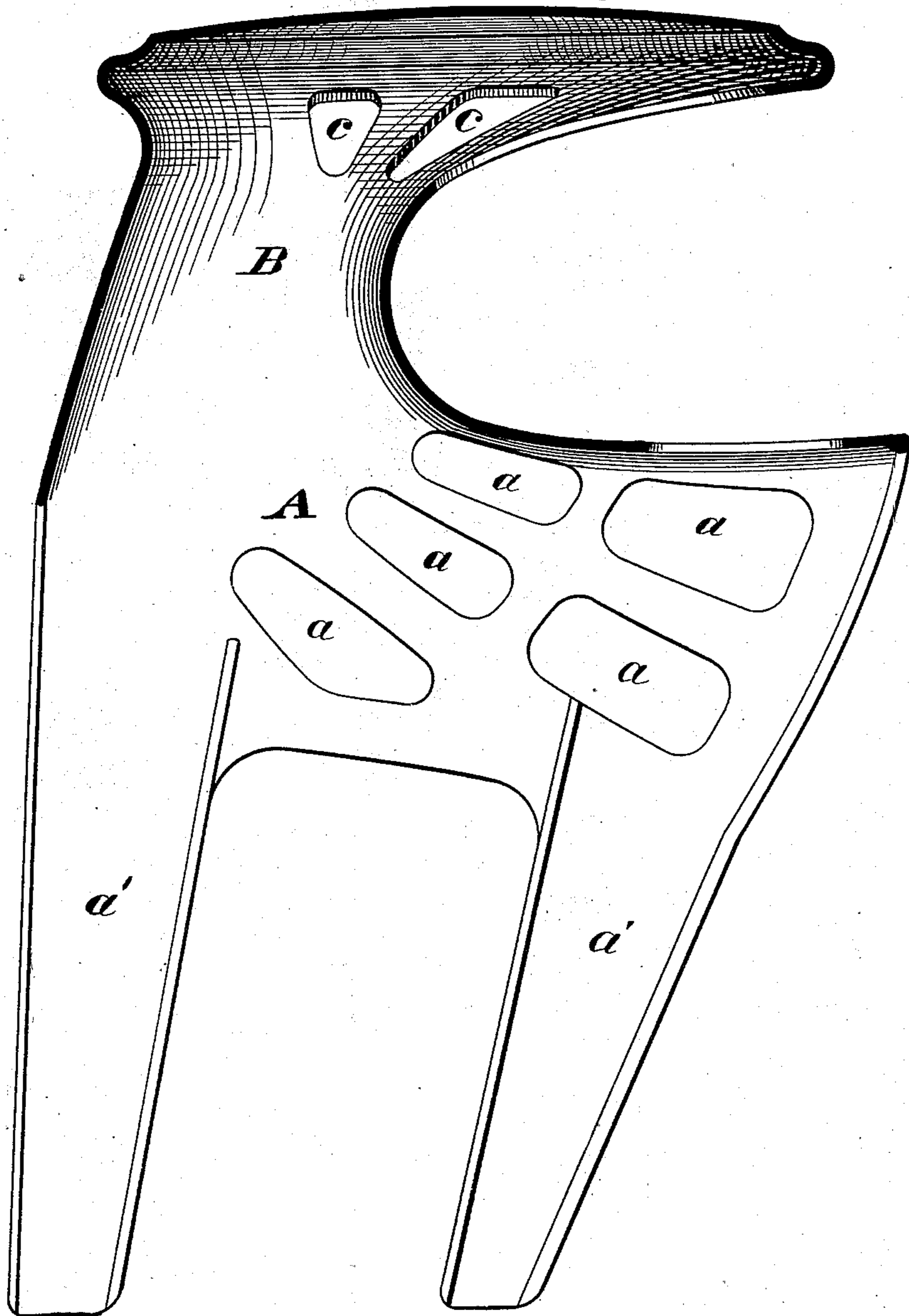
Chas. D. Moody.

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Fig. 2. c



Attest.

Charles Pickles
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Inventor.

Chas. D. Moody.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES D. MOODY, OF ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI.

IMPROVEMENT IN SADDLE-TREE FORKS.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. **219,408**, dated September 9, 1879; application filed July 17, 1879.

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, CHARLES D. MOODY, of St. Louis, Missouri, have made a new and useful Improvement in Saddle-Tree Forks, of which the following is a full, clear, and exact description, reference being had to the annexed drawings, making part of this specification, in which—

Figure 1 is a view, in perspective, of the improvement; and Fig. 2, a longitudinal vertical section.

The same letters denote the same parts.

The present invention is an improvement in that class of saddle-tree forks having a high pommel terminating in a broad projecting cap—a construction extensively used by parties herding cattle.

Such forks, to withstand the strains of the lasso, must necessarily be quite strong. The custom has been to make the fork proper and pommel-neck in one piece and of metal, and the cap in another piece and of wood, and to attach it to the pommel-neck and hold it in place thereon by means of the usual rawhide that is stretched over the fork.

To lighten the construction the pommel-neck is made hollow and open at its upper end, upon which the cap rests. This construction is objectionable in this: if the horse, while saddled, rolls over, there is a liability of the cap being broken or loosened in its place. This also is liable to occur in the rough usage that a saddle is often subjected to, or from the lasso being caught around the cap. The construction also is expensive.

To provide a strong, durable construction that can withstand all the various strains that in practice are put upon it, as well as one that can be readily made, is the aim of the present improvement.

It consists in casting the projecting cap of metal, hollow, and in one piece, with perforations to support the core in casting and give lightness to the cap; and, further, in a saddle-

tree fork having its fork, neck, and cap cast in one piece of metal, the neck and cap being made hollow, and the cap having perforations to support the core in casting and give lightness to the cap.

A represents the fork proper; B, the pommel-neck, and C the cap. The fork A is of the usual shape. The neck B and cap C are both made hollow to lighten the construction, which otherwise would be impracticably heavy. For the same reason the fork, as shown at *a*, may be perforated at various places. The shell of the cap is also perforated at *c c*, partly to lighten it, but also to enable the core, as the fork is cast, to be better supported, for the entire fork is of metal and made at a single casting. Thus a very durable and also light fork is very readily obtained. The cap is not liable to be broken away at its edges, or to be dislodged from the neck. The expense, also, of a separate cap and of attaching it to the neck is avoided. It also enables the fork to be used without the rawhide covering, as heretofore has been essential, for a finished construction can be made by simply fastening the fork to the tree. The fork can also, as by nickel-plating, be given any desired finish.

I claim—

1. In a saddle-tree fork, substantially as described, the projecting cap C, cast hollow, of metal, and having perforations *c*, to support the core in casting and give lightness to the cap, as set forth.

2. The saddle-tree fork, substantially as described, having fork A, neck B, and cap C, cast in one piece, of metal, said neck and cap being made hollow, and the cap being provided with perforations *c*, for supporting the core in casting and giving lightness to the cap.

CHAS. D. MOODY.

Witnesses:

CHARLES K. PICKLES,
D. W. C. SANFORD.