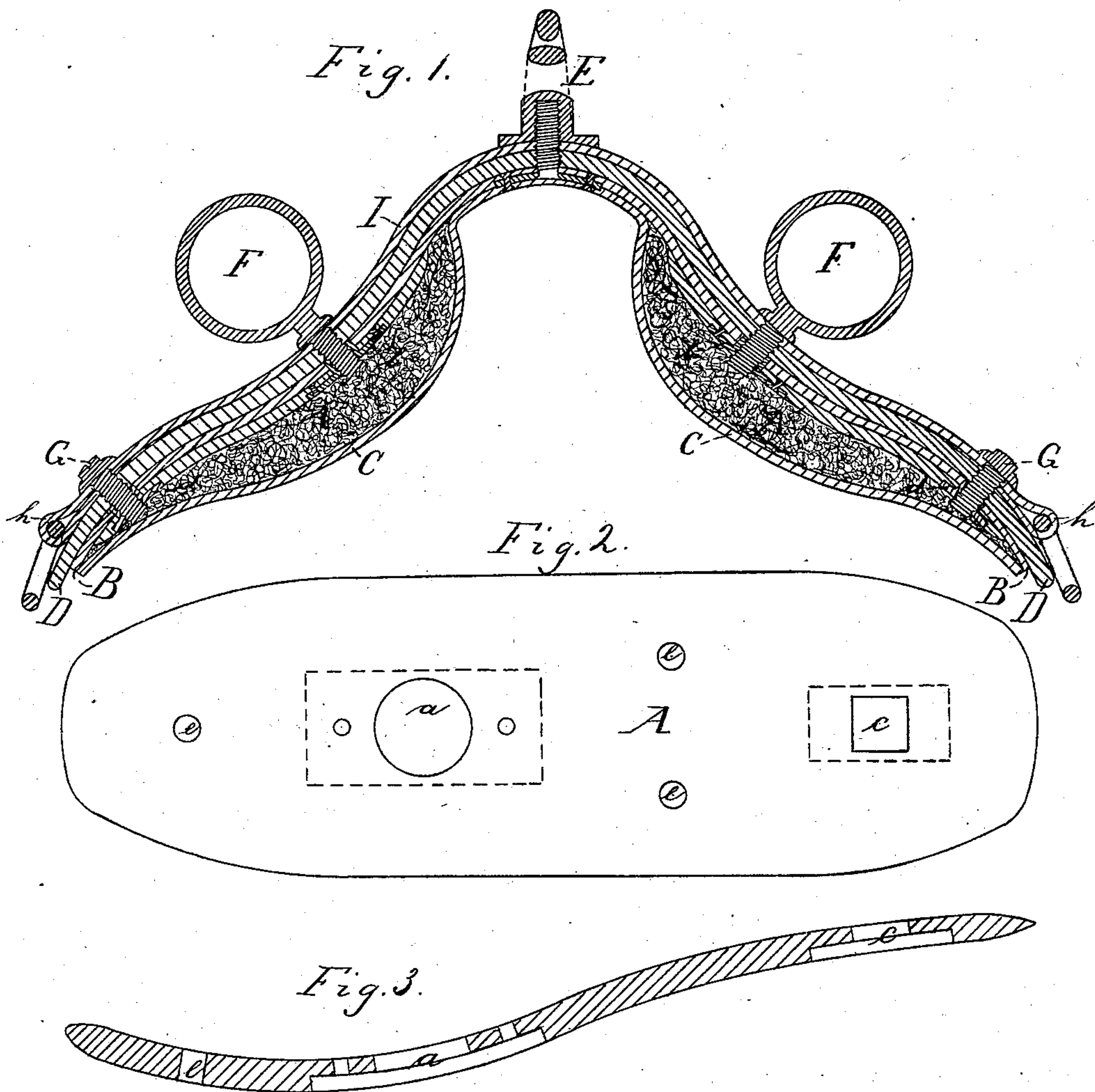


(No Model.)

P. J. VEHLEN.  
HARNESS SADDLE.

No. 255,218.

Patented Mar. 21, 1882.



WITNESSES —  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

PETER J. VEHLLEN, OF MICHIGAN CITY, INDIANA.

## HARNESS-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 255,218, dated March 21, 1882.

Application filed January 18, 1882. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, PETER J. VEHLLEN, of Michigan City, in the county of La Porte and State of Indiana, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Harness-Saddles; and I do hereby declare that the following is a full, clear, and exact description thereof, reference being had to the accompanying drawings, and to the letters of reference marked thereon, which form a part of this specification.

This invention relates to the construction of harness-saddles, and more particularly to devices for stiffening the saddle-flaps, so as to retain their desired shape, and to make the pads bear uniformly upon the sides of the horse's back.

The invention consists in stiff iron plates of such shape as the saddle-flaps are to have, and which are secured under the skirting above and inside of the pads by the terret and end screws, the nuts for which are placed in recesses formed in said plates for that purpose.

In the accompanying drawings, Figure 1 represents a sectional view of a harness-saddle having my improvements; Fig. 2, a plan view of my improved saddle-plate, and Fig. 3 a longitudinal section through the center of the same.

Like letters designate corresponding parts in all the figures.

A denotes the plates, preferably made of cast or malleable iron. These plates are formed to have a curved shape, as shown on the drawings, are about of equal thickness, with their edges chamfered, and each has a hole, *a*, with an oblong socket, into which the terret-nut *b* is inserted and secured by rivets, and a square hole, *c*, with an oblong socket for inserting the screw-nut *d*. Besides, several holes, *e*, are provided for sewing or riveting said plate A to the skirting B.

C are the pads that are formed to the skirting below the plates A, and conceal said plates entirely.

D D are the saddle-flaps. I is the saddle-strap.

E is the check-rein hook, secured upon the hip portion of the saddle in the usual manner.

F F are the terrets, the screw-shanks of which are passed through holes in the saddle-flap and skirting and entering the nuts *b*; and G G are screws that are also passed through punch-holes in the saddle-flap and enter nuts *d*. To the ends of the saddle-strap I loops *h* are formed in the usual manner, which hold rings for connecting the traces.

As will be noticed, a harness-saddle thus constructed—that is, stiffened under the flaps and elastic in the middle—will accommodate itself to the back of any horse, will clear the hip of the horse's back, and will bring the pressure or weight where the horse can best bear it.

For gig-saddles I intend to use similar plates, A, each having a loop formed in its end for connecting the girth.

What I claim is—

In a harness-saddle that is flexible over the back of the horse, the stiff iron plates A, having socketed holes *a* and *c* for the terret and screw nuts, and being secured under the skirting B of flaps D of the saddle, as and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

PETER J. VEHLLEN.

Witnesses:

F. W. KASEHAGEN,  
E. H. FROMMANN.