

(No Model.)

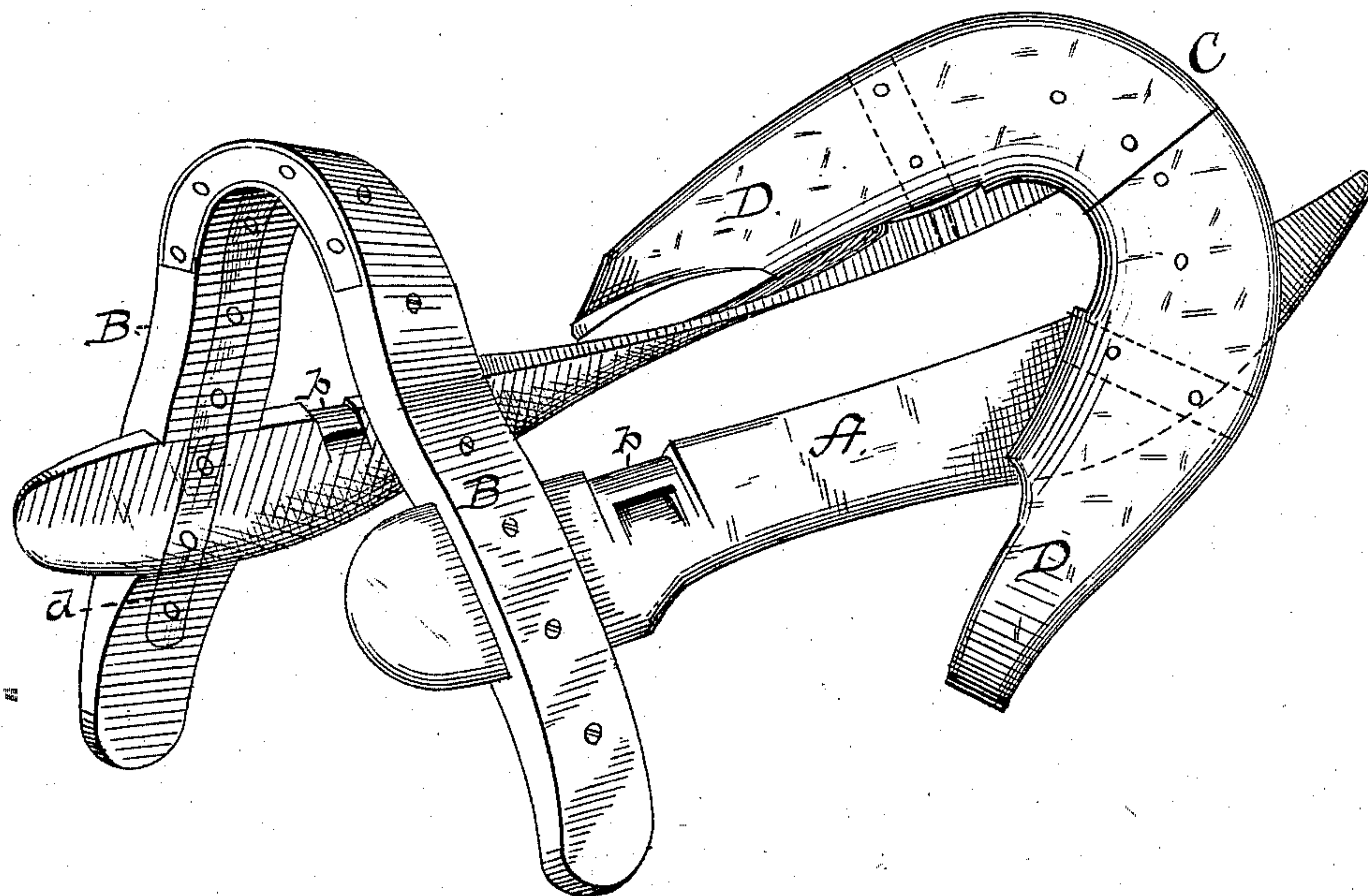
2 Sheets—Sheet 1.

W. R. WILBOURN.
RIDING SADDLE.

No. 270,270.

Patented Jan. 9, 1883.

Fig. 1.



Witnesses;

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W. J. Hutchinson*

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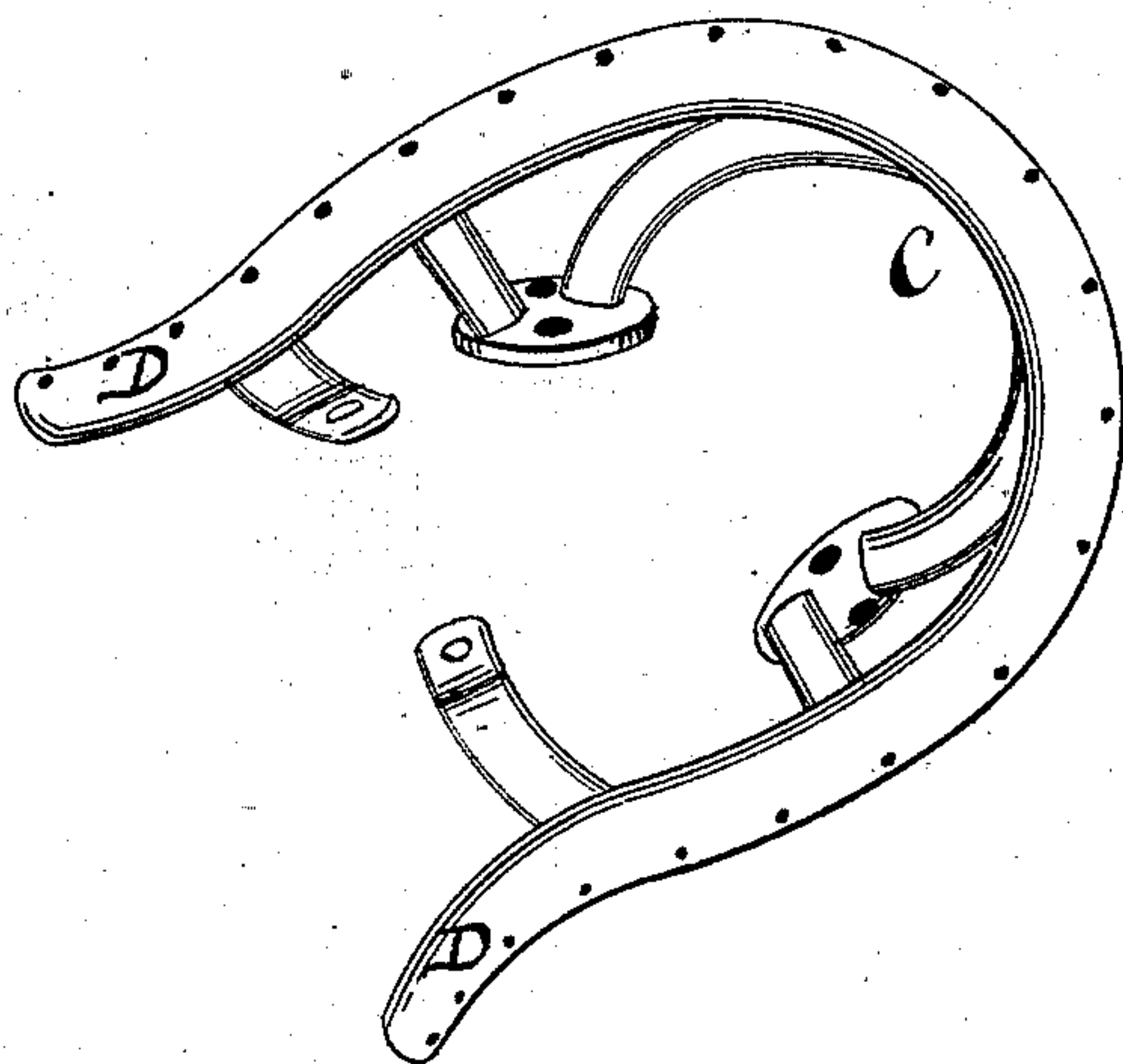
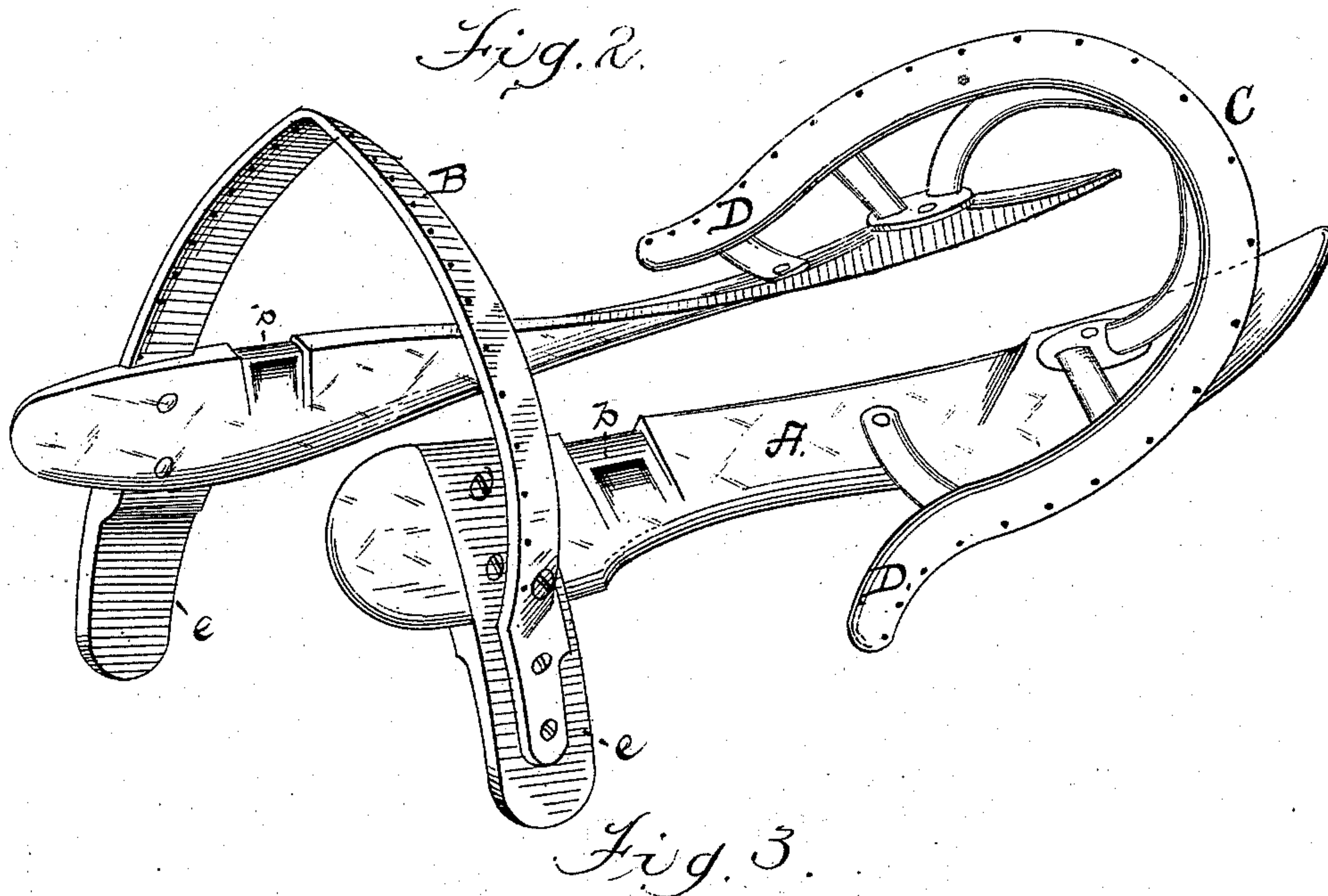
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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

WILLIAM R. WILBOURN, OF LEXINGTON, VIRGINIA.

RIDING-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 270,270, dated January 9, 1883.

Application filed November 9, 1882. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, WILLIAM R. WILBOURN, a citizen of the United States of America, residing at Lexington, in the county of Rock-
5 bridge and State of Virginia, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Saddle-Trees; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled
10 in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

This invention, which relates to saddle-trees, has for its main objects to form a more perfect seat for the rider and to provide the cantle with
15 side extensions projecting below the side bars, forming thigh-supports.

My invention consists in the novel construction and arrangement of parts, as will be hereinafter more fully set forth, and pointed out in
20 the claims.

Figure 1 of the accompanying drawings is a perspective view of a saddle-tree the members of which are made of wood. Fig. 2 is another perspective view of a saddle-tree the pommel
25 and cantle of which are made of metal, and Fig. 3 is a perspective view of a cantle made of metal.

In the annexed drawings, the letter A represents the side bars, formed with openings *b*
30 for stirrup-straps. In some cases the side bars will be provided with the ordinary rectangular metal loops for the stirrup-straps.

The letter B represents two arched pieces, united at the center by means of metal cross-
35 ties to form the pommel, and re-enforced by the gullet *d*, as seen in Fig. 1 of the drawings. In Fig. 2 the pommel B is shown as made of metal, and attached to the pendants *e* of the side bars by means of screws or their equivalents.
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The letter C represents the cantle, made curved, so as to secure a concave seat-surface to fit nicely the shape of the rider. The cantle in this case terminates with ends that curve
45 toward the front outwardly, downward, and rearwardly, as shown, to form supports or rests D for the thighs of the rider. These supports, in connection with the seat, extending forward to the side arches of the pommel, where it is
50 made fast, form soft concaves for the muscles of the limbs.

It will be observed by reference to Figs. 1 and 2 of the drawings that the rigid thigh-supports of the cantle extend below the side bars of the tree, so as to secure a full support
55 to each leg and prevent the common tired feeling in the legs of the rider, as on ordinary saddles; also, these curved extensions of the cantle enables the rider to seat himself in the saddle more firmly and erect, thereby securing a
60 graceful position.

The saddle-tree in Fig. 1 of the drawings is intended to be fitted with the ordinary straining-web and "ground-seat" to secure an easy
65 and elastic seat, and at the same time prevent the rider from coming in contact with the edges of the side bars. A saddle-tree with a wide opening—preferably about four and one-half inches at the middle, five and one-half inches
70 at the front end, and six inches at the rear end, although it may be slightly more or less—between the side bars, and padded, does not in use rest on the horse's backbone, nor make his back sore, which latter is often the case from the use
75 of the ordinary saddles.

The parts herein described composing the saddle-tree may be made of any suitable material, or made of metal and wood, suitably arranged to secure the desirable strength and
80 firmness, and the free ends of the cantle, extending below the side bars, do not require to be fastened to skirts for support, as is now required in some classes of riding-saddles.

What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—
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1. In a saddle-tree, the combination, with side bars, A, of a cantle having its opposite free ends curved outwardly and downward, and extending below the side bars of the tree,
90 substantially as shown and described.

2. The saddle-tree consisting of the following members, to wit: the side bars, pommel, and cantle having its opposite free end curved outwardly and downward and extending below the side bars, substantially as shown and
95 described.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

WM. R. WILBOURN.

Witnesses:

J. M. YZNAGA,
D. D. KANE.