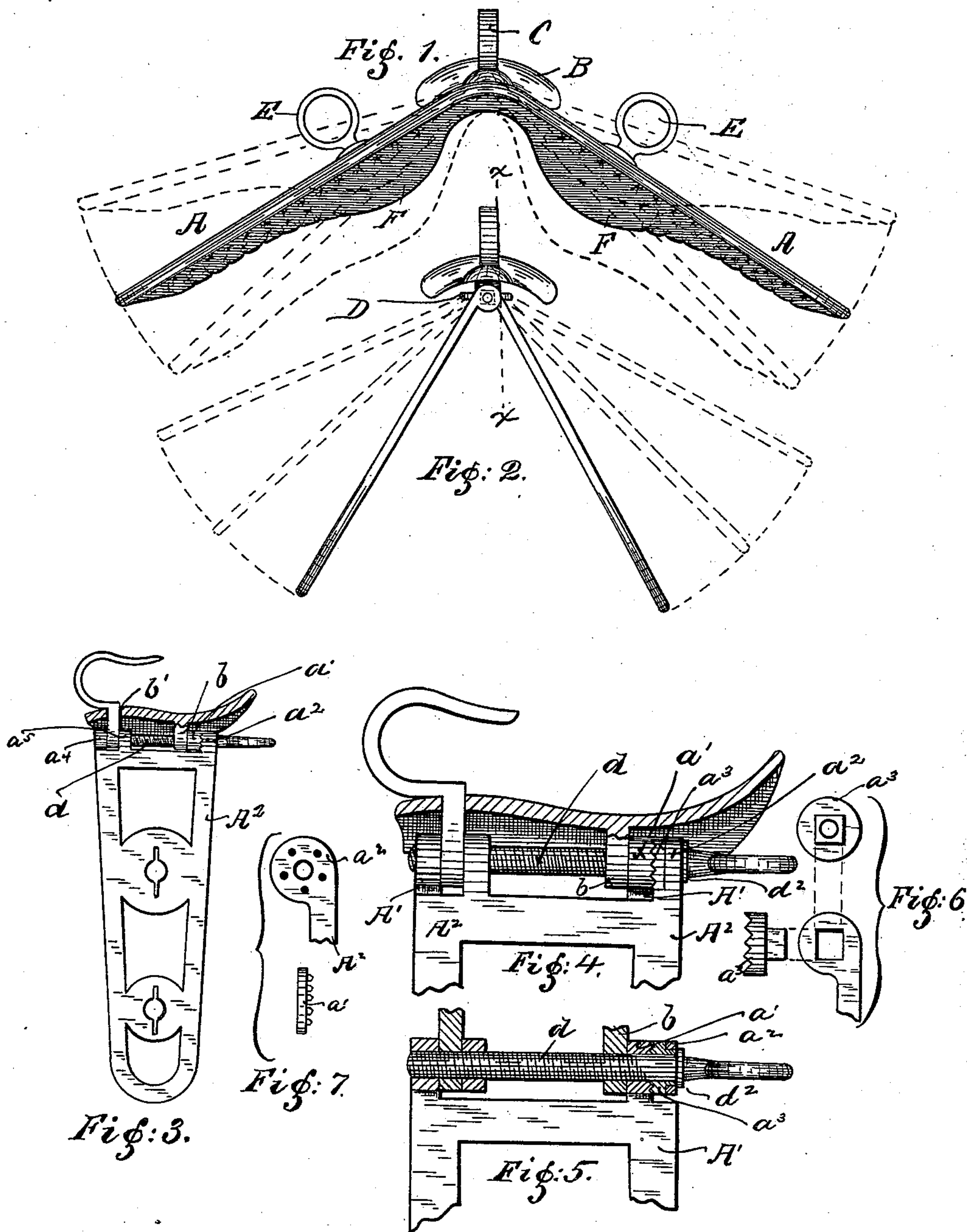


(No Model.)

F. M. FRIEGEL.
GIG SADDLE.

No. 450,067.

Patented Apr. 7, 1891.



WITNESSES:

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FREDERICK M. FRIEGEL, OF NEW PALESTINE, ASSIGNOR OF ONE-HALF TO
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GIG-SADDLE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 450,067, dated April 7, 1891.

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To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, FREDERICK M. FRIEGEL, a citizen of the United States, residing at New Palestine, in the county of Hancock and State of Indiana, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Adjustable Gig-Saddles; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

The invention relates to improvements in harness and to that part commonly known as the "gig-saddle."

The objects of this invention are, first, to construct a gig-saddle that may be adjusted to the backs of horses of different sizes; second, that will prevent galling the animal's back, and consequently that will be more comfortable to the animal; third, that will be inexpensive to manufacture, durable in construction, and that may be adjusted quickly and without difficulty, and by fitting closely to the horse's back will present a more elegant appearance than has been attainable with gig-saddles as heretofore constructed.

Another object is to provide an adjustable gig-saddle that will be rigid when set and will retain its position until again adjusted.

A further object is to provide novel and effective means for attaching the crupper-loop and check-hook.

The above objects are accomplished by the mechanism illustrated in the accompanying drawings, in which—

Figure 1 is a view in front elevation of a gig-saddle constructed in accordance with this invention, the other parts of the harness not being shown; Fig. 2, a front elevation of the gig-tree, showing the saddle and check-hook attached; Fig. 3, a vertical section through the line $x x$, Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a detail in vertical section through the same plane as Fig. 3, and shows a modified construction; Fig. 5, a detail in vertical central longitudinal section of modification same as shown in Fig. 4, and Fig. 6 additional details of same; Fig. 7, details of a modified construction in which the meeting faces are provided with a series of pins and holes instead of corrugations.

Similar letters refer to similar parts throughout the several views.

A represents the gig-tree; B, the saddle; C, the check-hook; D, the crupper-loop; E, the turrets, and F the pads.

The gig-tree A is constructed of two plates A' and A^2 with upwardly-projected lugs interlocking for a joint and fastened together by a pin d , on which they turn when it is desired to adjust the distance between the two plates. The pin d also passes through the lug b , integral with the saddle and projected downward from the under side thereof and secures the saddle to the gig-tree.

The meeting faces of the lugs a' and a^2 on the plates A' and A^2 , respectively, are corrugated radially, so that on being pressed closely together an immovable joint will be formed and any desired position of the gig-tree rigidly maintained. To secure a close contact between the faces of the lugs a' and a^2 , the lug b on the saddle B is made to bear against the lug a' and tightly impinge the lug a' between the lugs b and a^2 . This is accomplished by forming the shoulder d^2 on the pin d , so as to bear against the outer face of the lug a^2 when the pin is in position and by screw-threading the hole through the lug b to receive the pin, and by revolving the pin in the proper direction the lug b will be drawn tightly against the lug a' , forcing it over firmly against the lug a^2 .

In the construction of the check-hook the lower end is bent down approximately at right angles, and is secured to the gig-saddle by projecting the bent end through a slot b' in the saddle until the lower end of the hook rests between the lugs a^4 and a^5 of the gig-tree plates. The hook is securely fastened in this position by passing the pin d through a suitable hole in the end of the hook. A threaded hole will preferably be provided in the hook to receive the threaded pin. This construction will have a tendency to keep the hook from wearing loose by the action of the checkreins thereon, and will serve as a lock to keep the pin from working loose by the action of the back-strap on the crupper-loop. The gig-trees are covered with leather, and the pads F, of usual construction, are secured

to the under sides of the gig-tree in the usual manner. The turrets E will be screwed or riveted to the plates.

For convenience in casting the plates A with corrugations on the inside of the lug a^2 it may be desirable to make a two-part lug, as shown in Figs. 4, 5, and 6. In this construction the inner section a^3 has the corrugations on one side and a square-shaped lug a^5 on the side opposite adapted to fit into a corresponding opening a^6 in the section a^4 . By this construction the section a^3 , with the corrugations, may be cast separately and fitted into place, where it will operate substantially in the same manner as a one-piece lug.

In Fig. 7 a series of equidistant pins in the lug a' are made to engage a corresponding series of holes in the lug a^2 and is a modification of the construction in which corrugations are used.

The operation of my improved gig-saddle is at once apparent. By turning the threaded crupper-pin d the hinge may be sufficiently loosened to allow the gig-tree to be adjusted, and by tightening with the screw d the desired position will be retained.

I claim—

1. In an adjustable gig-saddle, the section A' , having the upwardly-projected lugs a' and a^4 near the upper opposite corners of the section, the section A^2 , having the upwardly-projected lugs a^2 and a^5 on the upper opposite corners of the section, the meeting faces of the lugs a' and a^2 being corrugated or otherwise roughened for the purposes described, the saddle B, having the downwardly-projected lug b with a screw-threaded hole there-through, the check-hook C, having the shank b' , adapted to be inserted through a suitable opening in the front end of the saddle into a position between the lugs a^4 and a^5 and having a screw-threaded hole therethrough, in

combination with the crupper-loop D and screw-threaded pin extension d , projected through both the front and rear series of lugs, whereby the locking faces of the lugs a' and a^2 may be brought into close contact and the several parts connected in a substantial manner.

2. In a gig-saddle, the gig-tree A in two parts A' and A^2 , hinged together at the upper ends, the hinge-lugs a' and a^2 , the lug a^2 being formed in two parts for the greater convenience in casting, the lugs a^4 and a^5 , the crupper-loop D, having the screw-threaded pin-extension d , and the saddle B, having the lug b , all combined and arranged substantially as described, and all connected by the pin d , as specified.

3. In a gig-saddle, the saddle B, having the downwardly-projected lug b and an opening through which the shank of the check-hook is projected, the check-hook C, having a downwardly-projected shank adapted to be inserted through the opening in the saddle, the adjustable gig-tree A in two sections A' and A^2 , having lugs a' and a^2 with interlocking meeting faces, and the lugs a^4 and a^5 , and the threaded crupper-pin d , having the shoulder d^2 , said pin adapted to be projected through holes in the lugs a' a^2 and a^4 a^5 and through the shank of the check-hook and to engage the screw-threaded hole in the lug b , whereby the lugs a' and a^2 may be impinged between the lug b and shoulder d^2 , and whereby from the continuation of the pin d through the entire series of lugs a solid and durable construction is obtained.

Intestimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

FREDERICK M. FRIEGEL.

Witnesses:

DAVID FAIR,
ROBERT FAIR.