(No Model.)

E. L. McCLAIN.

HARNESS PAD CAP.

No. 454,656. Patented June 23, 1891.

Fig. 1.

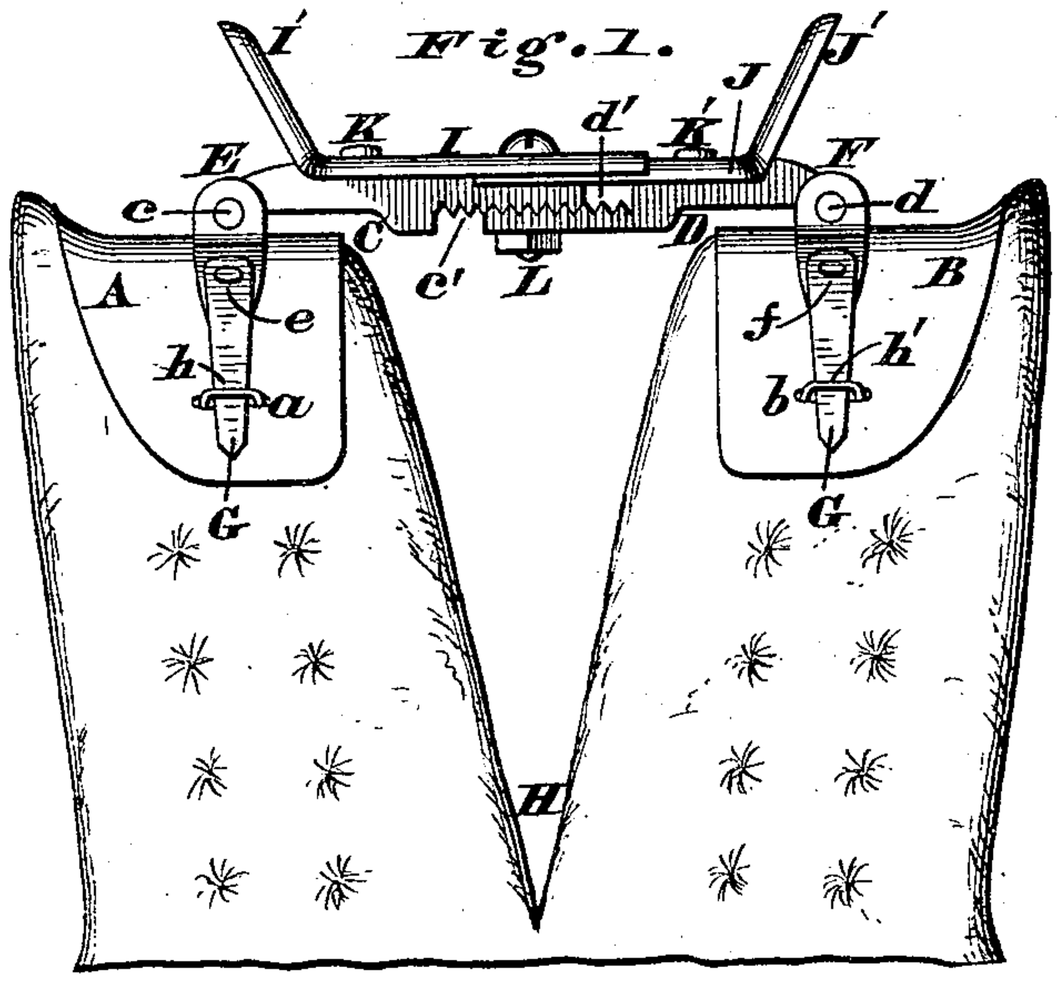


Fig. 5.

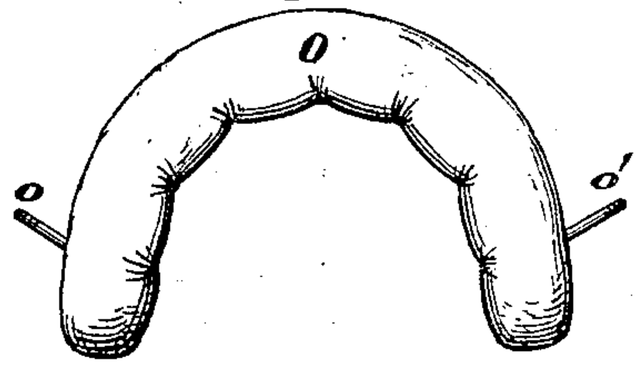


Fig. 6.

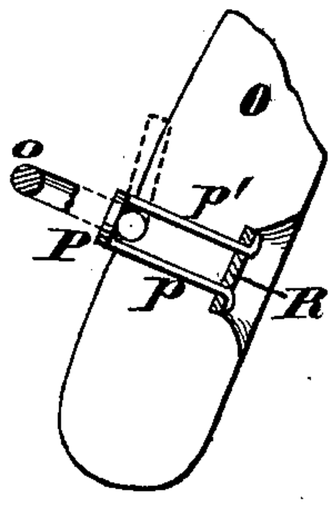


Fig. 2.

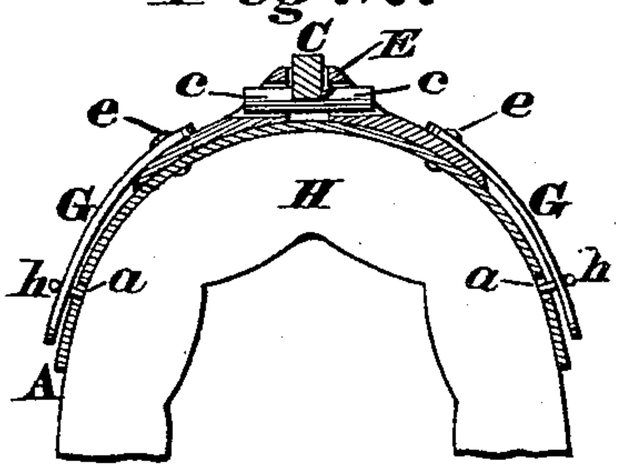


Fig. 3.

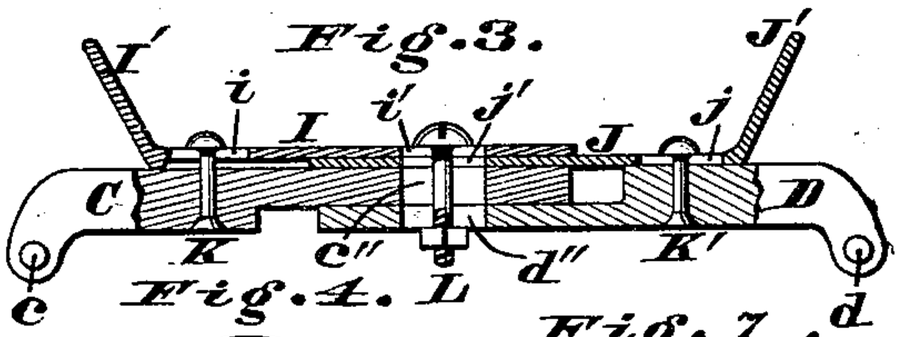


Fig. 4.

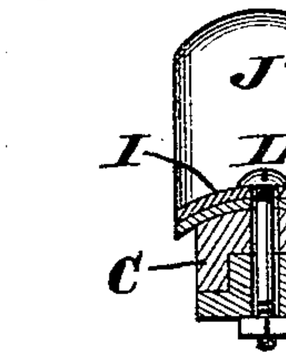


Fig. 7.

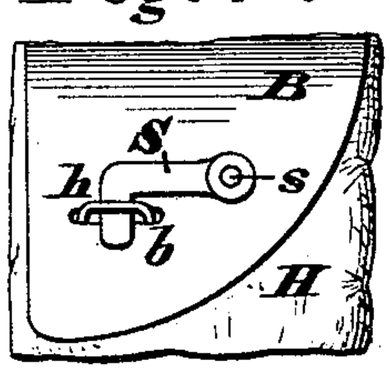


Fig. 8.

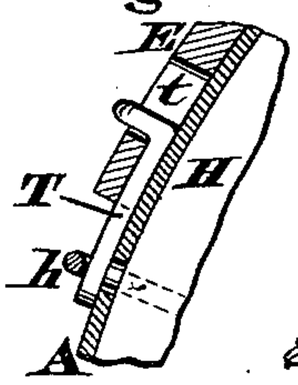
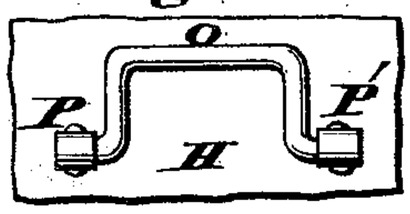


Fig. 9.



Attest.
Arthur Moore
Samuel McInnis.

Inventor.
Edward L. McClain.
by James K. Layman.
Atty.

UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD L. McCLAIN, OF GREENFIELD, OHIO.

HARNESS-PAD CAP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 454,656, dated June 23, 1891.

Application filed February 3, 1891. Serial No. 379,960. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD L. MCCLAIN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Greenfield, in the county of Highland and State of Ohio, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Harness-Pads; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, reference being had to the annexed drawings, which form part of this specification.

My present invention comprises various improvements in harness-pads, the details of which will be hereinafter more fully described, and then pointed out in the claims.

In the annexed drawings, Figure 1 is a side elevation showing the preferred form of my pads applied to an ordinary sweat-collar. Fig. 2 is a transverse section through the same. Fig. 3 is an enlarged longitudinal section through the bridge-bar and its attachments. Fig. 4 is a transverse section of said bar, taken in the plane of its retaining-bolt. Figs. 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 show different modifications of my invention.

Referring to Fig. 1, A and B represent counterpart halves or caps of one form of my pad, which caps are coupled together by a longitudinally-extensible bridge-bar composed of two sections C D, having near their ends pivots *c d*, and usually at their meeting surfaces corrugations or teeth *c' d'*, adapted to engage with each other in the manner shown, so as to prevent accidental separation of said sections. Pivots *c d* traverse holes in ears E F, secured to the caps A B by rivets *e f*, which latter also secure straps G in place, the free ends of these straps being adapted to pass through staples or loops *h h'*, projecting outwardly from the cushion or sweat-collar H. This collar is here shown as being divided at the top to permit it being made wider or narrower, as circumstances may suggest, which adjustment is facilitated by the longitudinally-extensible bridge-bar, above referred to. The loops or staples *h h'* pass through slots *a b* of the caps A B, which are usually composed of light sheet metal bent to the approximately-saddle shape shown. Adapted to be shifted longitudinally of the bridge-bar are two plates I J, having upturned ends I' J' and longitudinal slots *i i'* and *j j'*, (seen in Fig. 3,) the end slots *i j* being traversed by guiding-rivets K K', secured to the sections C D. The central slots *i' j'* are traversed by a retaining-bolt L, that passes through slots *c'' d''* of the bridge-bar. Furthermore, the sections C D of this bridge-bar are tongued and grooved together, as seen in Fig. 4, to prevent lateral shifting, and the plates I J are arched over this bar in the manner represented to form an easy bearing for the horse-collar proper, the projecting ends I' J' of said plates serving as stops that prevent the collar shifting either back or forth on the pad.

From the above description it is apparent the bridge-bar C D can be so adjusted as to cause the caps A B to approach each other or to be separated a greater or less distance, as occasion requires, and by properly shifting the plates I J their stops I' J' will bear snugly against the front and rear of the horse-collar, therefore there will be no danger of the collar working back and forth on the animal's neck, neither will it be necessary to provide the collar with straps or other complicated fastenings to engage with slots in the bridge-bar. These stops also enable the ready application to the pad of those collars which are put on the horse by slipping them directly over his head, or to collars that have fastening-straps and buckles at their lower ends.

Fig. 5 shows a small cushion O, one of which can be applied to each of the caps A B, thereby dispensing with the sweat-collar H, said cushion being provided with loops *o o'* to receive the straps or flexible tongues G. It is preferred to insert the ends of these loops within keepers *q q'*, (represented in Fig. 9,) which keepers have each a pair of prongs *p p'*, capable of being passed through the cushion H or O and then clinched against a washer R on the inner side of said cushion. (See Fig. 6.)

In Fig. 7 a hook S is pivoted to the cap B at *s* and is adapted to engage with a staple, as *h*, that projects from the cushion or collar and traverses a slot *b* of said cap.

In Fig. 8 the ear E is slotted at *t* to admit a sliding bolt T, that engages with the staple of cushion, thereby indicating that this fastening may be a rigid device instead of a flexible strap, as seen at G.

It is evident the above-described caps and

cushions are capable of a number of changes and adaptations to meet various emergencies—as, for example, the collar H (seen in Fig. 1) may be readily detached from the counterpart caps A B and drawn together at the top by strings or otherwise, and then used as a sweat-pad independently of said caps, the loops or staples being first turned down flat, as indicated by the dotted lines in Fig. 9, so as not to interfere with regular horse-collar. After being thus detached each cap can be furnished with a separate cushion similar to the one seen at O in Fig. 8, thereby dispensing with the sweat-collar H and affording a bridge-pad capable of being readily adjusted to clear any sore place on the horse's neck.

These improvements are not limited to the uses and changes herein described, but may be employed with great advantage in connection with gig-saddles and coach-harness generally, so as to elevate such parts of harness above any sore they might otherwise come in contact with.

I claim as my invention—

1. A pair of harness-pad caps coupled together by an extensible bridge-bar carrying a pair of independent longitudinally-adjustable collar-stops and a device for securing said bar and stops in position, substantially as herein described.

2. A pair of harness-pad caps coupled together by an extensible bridge-bar composed of two sections C D, slotted, respectively, at c'' d'' and having fixed guides K K′, in combination with the slotted collar-stops I I′ i i' J J′ j j', and fastener L, for the purpose herein described.

3. A pair of harness-pad caps coupled together by an extensible bridge-bar composed of two sections C D, notched on their meeting surfaces at c' d' and secured by a fastener L, for the purpose described.

4. A harness-pad cap provided with a pair of slots and a pair of flexible fasteners secured at one end to said cap, in combination with a detachable cushion having a pair of staples that are passed through said slots and then engaged with the free ends of said flexible fasteners, substantially as herein described, and for the purpose stated.

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

EDWARD L. McCLAIN.

Witnesses:

ALLEN HAINES,

J. C. STRAIN.